

What is expected of parents and carers

- To encourage and support your child to lead a law abiding lifestyle.
- To encourage and support your child's attendance at school, college, training or work.
- To encourage and support your child's attendance at all YOT appointments.
- To meet with YOT Officers to hear about progress being made and consider steps you can take to prevent future offending.

Who comments on the Report?

The Report will be shown to you before you appear in Court. If you feel anything written about you is not true or fair, you should say so.

An opportunity will then be given to you or your legal representative to give your comments in Court.

The report will not be read aloud, although your Defence Lawyer may refer to the contents. The Court may also ask questions or comment on it.

The Pre-Sentence Report is an important source of information for the Sentencing Court.

If the Court is to have a fair picture of you, the Youth Offending Team Officer will need your co-operation.

Name of Calderdale YOT Officer:

Date of next court appearance:

For further information please contact:

Calderdale Youth Offending Team
3 Trinity Place
Halifax
HX1 1BD

Telephone
01422 368279

Fax
01422 368483

E-mail
info@calderdaleyot.org.uk

Equal Opportunities

At all times you have the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. This means the Youth Offending Panels and YOT staff will treat you fairly whatever your race, colour, sex, sexuality or disability. You are also expected to behave equally fairly towards other people.

Complaints Procedure

If you feel you have been treated unfairly or unreasonably by the YOT or Youth Offender Panels you can make a complaint. To do this, contact the Calderdale YOT Manager at the above address.

Data Protection

The Calderdale Youth Offending Team deals with personal data under the Data Protection Act 1998. Some of these may be sensitive such as criminal offences, proceedings and convictions. We may share some or all of them with other Council departments, our agents, service providers or other third parties. When involving any third party we shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that they will keep your personal data secure and treat it confidentially. If you are worried about giving us your personal details or about us sharing them with others, please discuss this with the member of staff who is dealing with your case. We will explain what you can do.

Accessibility

These information leaflets are available in a number of different formats and languages from our Halifax office, or from our website.

Calderdale
Youth Offending
Team

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Youth Offending
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Pre-sentence Report (PSR)

What it means to you



Making Calderdale Safer

What is a Pre-Sentence Report (PSR)?

It is an impartial Report requested by the Court, which gives information about you and your offence(s).

It is prepared according to National Standards set by the Youth Justice Board.

Why does the Court need a Report?

The Court has to decide on the most appropriate sentence for the offence you have committed. This is based on:

- The seriousness of your offence
- Your suitability for particular sentences

Some community sentences cannot be made unless a Report has been prepared.

Who writes the Report?

A Calderdale Youth Offending Team member from your area.

What meetings are needed?

The Youth Offending Team member who will interview you, probably on more than one occasion, will need to ask your relevant questions. This would normally involve discussions with your parents/carers at home.

If you are in custody, the Youth Offending Team member will visit you. If you are on bail, it is most important that you keep appointments to allow us the maximum time to prepare your Report.

The extent to which you participate will affect the quality of the Report.

Who else is contacted?

The Youth Offending Team member may also want to talk with other people who know you, such as your teachers, social worker, youth worker, family doctor, or with others who provide specialist services that could be helpful to you.

What does the Report contain?

It gives information about:

- The details and circumstances of your offence(s)
- The seriousness of your offence(s)
- An assessment of the consequences of the offence(s), including the impact of the victim
- An assessment of your attitude to the offence(s) and its consequence
- The risk of further offending
- Any personal circumstances which may be relevant to the offence(s)
- The suitability of any particular sentence.

Is the Report confidential?

Personal information acquired during the preparation of your Report will be treated with utmost care. However, the Youth Offending Team cannot guarantee to keep all the information confidential.

For example, if you disclose another offence, or there is a concern about the safety of other people, we will need to pass on the information. As far as possible, this action will be discussed with your first.

Who may see the Report?

- Yourself, your parents/carers
- Your solicitor/barrister
- The judge or magistrates
- The Court Legal Adviser
- The Crown Prosecution Service
- The Youth Offending Team staff at Court
- The Prison, if you are sent there
- Your Social Worker, if you have one

What we expect of you

During the time you are on a Court Order, or any other YOT Programme you must:

- Tell us if you change your address.
- Attend appointments on time.
- Attend appointments on your own unless with a Parent/Carer.
- Inform your Supervisor if you cannot attend an appointment.
- Accept the instructions of YOT Officers or Reparation Supervisors.
- As part of your Court Order you will also be required to attend for drug education sessions and a health assessment.

You must **NOT**:

- Attend with your friends.
- Come to any appointment under the influence of alcohol, drugs or substances, nor should they be in your possession.
- Fight, be violent or threaten violence, use insulting or abusive language, behave in a way that may offend YOT Officers, other young people or members of the public.
- Use a mobile phone during appointments.