

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE INTERVIEW?

Following the interview the Case Director or the Crown Prosecution Service will make a decision on the outcome of the case. The outcome for the detained person may be:

- the case may be dropped (NFA– no further action).
- bailed to return to the police station at a later date
- reprimand, final warning or an adult caution
- given a fixed penalty notice (only for 16 years plus)
- be charged, released and bailed to appear in court
- charged and detained in custody to appear before the next available court

IDENTIFICATION

- You should accompany the detained person through any fingerprinting, photographing and DNA swab procedures. These can be taken without consent.
- If you are asked to consent to other samples, then it is advisable the detained person consults with their solicitor.

BEFORE LEAVING

Check the returned property bag and countersign the property return form.



If you need advice, support or have any concerns please speak to the Custody Officer immediately.

You may find further information at:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/powers/custody/
<http://www.appropriateadult.org.uk/>

Information for parents, carers or others:

Acting as an Appropriate Adult



When a juvenile or a vulnerable adult is arrested (detained person) they are entitled to have an appropriate adult at the custody suite, as it is important to make sure that they get fair treatment. You may feel angry about what has happened but try to stay calm so that you are able to support him/her.

AS A PARENT/CARER YOU CAN USUALLY ACT AS AN 'APPROPRIATE ADULT' FOR THEM:

Your key role and responsibilities as an appropriate adult are:

- To help the detained person understand what is happening to them and why.
- To support, advise and assist the detained person, particularly during the police interview.
- To ensure the police are acting properly and fairly and with respect for the rights of the detained person .
- To assist with the communication with the detained person and the police.
- To ensure the detained person understands their rights.

THE RIGHTS OF THE DETAINED PERSON:

- To have someone informed of their detention
- To consult privately with a solicitor at any time. A Duty Solicitor can be PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE
- Consult the copy of the Codes of Practice (setting out the powers, responsibilities and procedures of the police)

ON ARRIVAL AT THE POLICE STATION:

You can ask to see the written custody record.

You should see the detained person privately and check the following:

- Ensure he/she is in a fit state to be interviewed – if not, you may ask for the interview to be delayed or request medical advice.
- Ensure he/she has been given his/her rights verbally and in writing and understands them –you will be asked to countersign these.
- Check that he/she understands why a solicitor should attend. You can overrule their decision and request a solicitor, although they can still refuse to see them.

Remember he/she is entitled to food and drink and warm clothing.

A duty inspector will review the detention of the detained person after 6 hours, then every 9 hours up to a maximum of 24 hours. A detained person may only be kept longer than 24 hours in serious cases and with the consent of a Superintendent or the court.

WHAT DO I DO DURING THE INTERVIEW?

- Your main role is to ensure the detained person understands the questions being asked and that the police do not ask questions in a way which is confusing, repetitive or oppressive.
- Be prepared to speak on tape and say your name and who you are e.g. “John Smith, father of Chris”. When the tape begins you may also be asked to explain your role or relationship with the detained person.
- Ensure the detained person understands the caution given to him/her at the beginning of the interview– ask the police to explain it if needed.
- Inappropriate questioning may be where the interviewing officer raises his/her voice or leans over the detained person which can be seen as threatening.
- You should ask for leading questions to be stopped, e.g. “... you were there at the time, so you did do it, didn't you?”
- If you don't think the detained person has understood a question, say so. Ask the officer to explain what he or she is trying to say or to put the question in another way.
- If you have any doubts about the relevance of the questioning, consult with the solicitor.
- The detained person can ask to speak to their solicitor privately at any time during the interview.
- If the detained person becomes distressed you can ask for a break in the procedure.
- An interview should always have a break after 2 hours.

MAKE NOTES AND GET THE TAPE

You may take notes during the interview and the detained person may ask for a copy of the interview tape. The solicitor may also take a copy of the tape. When the interview is finished, you will be asked to countersign the tape seals.