

What about the views of the victim?

Victims are at the heart of the Criminal Justice System. Conditional Cautions take into account the views of the victim, as well as the specific circumstances of the case. They offer a speedy response to offending behaviour.

They provide a swift resolution for the victim, without the need to go to court, and an immediate requirement from the offender to deal with their offending behaviour.

This is particularly relevant to offenders with, for example, drug or alcohol dependencies as it enables them to gain immediate access to treatment that can help them deal with their underlying problem.

What about compensation?

Victim compensation is the most common condition of a Conditional Caution, with significant numbers of victims receiving compensation far quicker than if they had waited for a court process.



What if the offender doesn't complete the conditions?

If the offender does not fulfil their side of the agreement, then the Police/CPS may decide to prosecute them.

If there are good reasons for the offender not being able to complete the Condition(s), it may be possible that the situation is reassessed. However, the Police/CPS will not vary the Condition(s) unless there is a reason that they consider acceptable.

What happens once the offender has completed the Conditional Caution?

If the offender successfully completes the Condition(s), that is an end to the matter. They will NOT be prosecuted for the offence.

Further information can be found in the leaflet, ***Restorative Justice and the Conditional Caution — what you need to know for Victims***



the CONDITIONAL Caution

This leaflet explains what a **Conditional Caution** is, when it might be used and how it can help **VICTIMS** of crime



What is a

CONDITIONAL CAUTION?

A Conditional Caution is a new way of dealing with certain criminal offences.

The scheme is not available to serious, violent or persistent offenders.

A Conditional Caution is where an offender, on admitting the offence, accepts a caution with condition(s). The offender agrees to complete the Condition(s) instead of being charged and prosecuted. The offender doesn't have to accept the Conditional Caution but can instead opt to be prosecuted in court.

Conditions are decided by the CPS and are aimed at addressing the offender's behaviour.

What sort of Conditions could an offender be offered?

There are two sorts of Conditions.

A **REHABILITATIVE CONDITION** aims to help the offender change their behaviour so that they do not commit further offences. For example, attending information awareness sessions about the effects of using drugs.

A **REPARATIVE CONDITION** aims to help the offender make good the harm that they have caused, either to a person or a local community. For example, paying for the damage caused.

What are the advantages of Conditional Cautions?

The Conditional Caution will help the Criminal Justice System (CJS) provide simple, speedy, summary justice as well as promoting Safer Neighbourhoods and supporting Community Policing.

The Conditional Caution will also provide an opportunity to tackle offences identified as detrimental to our standard of life, for example, by helping us deal with anti-social behaviour quickly and effectively.

How does the Conditional Caution work?

The offender has to admit the offence. The Police and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) will then decide whether the offender is suitable to receive a Condition Caution.

Why would an offender accept a Conditional Caution?

By accepting a Conditional Caution, the offender can get help to stop offending before things get worse.

It will also enable them to give something back to victims like you and to the community as a whole, to make up for what they have done.

If accepted, an offender must comply with the conditions of a Conditional Caution. However, they will not have to go to court and will not be prosecuted.

