



Force Policy

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1. Introduction

1.1 This policy outlines the commitment of Derbyshire Constabulary to providing early intervention to prevent crime, prevent escalation of crime and prevent children and adults entering the criminal justice system.

2. Policy Statement

2.1 Derbyshire Constabulary will deliver a level of service to the public that meets their needs and expectations and ensure that preventing crime is taken seriously. Utilising Early Intervention as a problem-solving approach, understanding the root cause and then dealing with through a multi-agency approach. Early Intervention aims to create better lives for children, families, and individuals.

2.2 This policy explains the Force's responsibilities around early intervention and how the work of partners is supported through multi agency processes.

3. Children and Young People (under the age of 18 years)

3.1 There is compelling evidence to suggest that Early Intervention can significantly improve the lives of young people, diverting them away from anti-social behaviour, criminal activity, and associated risks, including being a victim of exploitation. Early identification of these children is essential, alongside the use of appropriate needs led interventions, considering the context, and setting for children, young people, and their families. We will work closely with Youth Justice and key partners to deliver interventions as a strength based, contextual, child centred approach.

3.2 Derbyshire Constabulary aims to divert children at the earliest stage, away from the Criminal Justice Process, reducing the number of first-time entrants to the Criminal Justice system, aiming to target offending behaviours, reduce re-offending and ensuring children and young people are not criminalised unnecessarily. We will do this using early intervention partnerships opportunities.

3.3 We will use the Child Gravity Matrix triage tool to support the decision-making process for early intervention. It will assist in deciding the most appropriate outcome or disposal for those children and young people under the age of 18 years who are named as responsible for committing a crime. Disposal decisions will be based on the offence, and consider any aggravating or mitigating factors, such as their previous history and any known vulnerabilities or needs. In addition, where the victim's views are available these should be considered. This information may not be readily available and therefore early contact with Youth Justice Services is crucial.

3.4 It is important to remember that the Child Gravity Matrix is to be used as a guide only and each case should be looked at on an individual basis and in accordance with DPP Guidance on Charging 6th Edition.

4. Early Interventions Options for Children Under 18 years

4.1 Police Led Interventions

4.2 ASB Immediate Justice Scheme

This should be used in cases for low level ASB where there is little or no previous offences and should be directed through the Immediate Justice Team. This intervention looks at immediate justice in the community, seeks reparation for the local community and includes prevention work.

4.3 Early Intervention Clinics

Youth Engagement Teams (part of the Safer Neighbourhood Team establishment) can administer 'Early Intervention Clinics' with children (aged 10 - 17) that meet the requirements for an Outcome 8 or 22. Clinics are seen as a form of early intervention and should only be administered by officers trained to deliver these workshops.

4.4 Letter of Apology

This can be written to the victim as part of a Police led Restorative Justice.

4.5 Acceptable Behaviour Contract

These form part of the Community Resolution Option

4.6 Safer Living Foundation

For Children displaying harmful sexual behaviours referral can be made through Connect - Supporting young people showing sexually harmful behaviour. Referrals can be made on a voluntary basis and finalised Outcome 21 or 22, or as part of a formal Out of Court Disposal through Youth Justice Service, or in addition to a charge.

4.7 Derby County Kick Project

A project within Derby City designed to divert away from anti-social behaviour, a low-level diversionary tactic for voluntary referrals.

4.8 RedSnapper Targeted Interventions

With all Police Led Interventions also consider referral to the Redsnapper Youth Programme or Youth Identity Hub.

5. Youth Justice Led Interventions

5.1 The below early interventions can all be considered by Youth Justice Services through referral to Youth Justice Partners. They will be considered at a Youth Justice Panel alongside the more formal Out of Court Disposals to offer the child the most appropriate outcome in terms of their offending behaviour.

5.2 City Youth Justice Services

- Turnaround Project
- Anger Management
- Animal Cruelty
- Anxiety Management
- Bullying
- Conflict
- Decision making and consequences
- Disabilities
- DA & Healthy relationships
- Equality & Diversity
- Family Support
- Fire Safety
- Global Majority (BAME) related
- Group Offending Gangs
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour
- Hate Crime
- Learning Styles
- Mental Health
- Offending behaviour
- Online & Internet safety
- Peer pressure
- Prevent & radicalisation
- Professional boundaries and challenges
- Psychology
- Road traffic
- Sexting
- Sexual Health
- Solution focussed training
- Substance misuse
- Support for males
- Transition to Adulthood
- Trauma awareness
- Victim awareness
- Violent offending
- Weapon awareness
- Women & Girls Resources

5.3 County Youth Justice Services

- Turnaround Project

6. How to Finalise Early Intervention Options

6.1 All the interventions listed above can be referred to, immaterial of the outcome classification, with the objective being prevention and early intervention.

6.2 On all occasions, consideration should be given to diversion / prevention work and dealing with the child out of court wherever possible. If the offence is one that would suggest a charge is the appropriate outcome, but you feel that an Out of Court Disposal is still the best option for that child, then please discuss with the Youth Justice Manager.

6.3 Outcome 8

Police Community Resolution & Restorative Justice

This should be considered where there has been no more than 1 previous Community Resolution / Restorative Justice recorded, the offence has been admitted and the victim consents to this outcome.

Community Resolution – Youth Justice Prevention / Intervention

This should be considered where the offence has been admitted but the victim does not agree to Police led Restorative Justice or where there have been 2 previous Community Resolution / Restorative Justice disposals by Police within the last 2 years. A referral to Youth Justice is required and there will be a joint decision made between Police and Youth Justice Services. This requires an admission of guilt or acceptance of responsibility.

6.4 Outcome 20

This should be considered where an investigation has taken place and a suspect has been identified, there is work being undertaken with the suspect by another agency as a result, and no further police action is required. Referral to Youth Justice is required for this to be decided on and agreed. This does not require an admission of guilt.

6.5 Outcome 21

This should be considered where an offence has been recorded but it is not in the public interest to investigate further. No intervention is required but a referral to Youth Justice should be made for voluntary prevention work to be offered. This does not require an admission of guilt.

6.6 Outcome 22

This should be considered where an offence has been committed and a suspect identified but there is some diversionary, educational or intervention activity being undertaken as a result, and it is not in the public interest for police to take any further action because of this. The decision for this lies with Youth Justice and a referral is required. This is beneficial in cases where children are interviewed and either deny the offence or provide a no comment response, not understanding that an admission would allow a more informal outcome. There does not have to be an admission of guilt or acceptance of responsibility to use this outcome.

Only Interventions listed below are accepted as Outcome 22

Derby City Youth Justice Services

- Turnaround Project
- Anger Management
- Animal Cruelty
- Anxiety Management
- Bullying
- Conflict
- Decision making and consequences
- Disabilities
- DA & Healthy relationships
- Equality & Diversity
- Family Support
- Fire Safety
- Global Majority (BAME) related
- Group Offending Gangs
- Harmful Sexual Behaviour
- Hate Crime
- Learning Styles
- Mental Health
- Offending behaviour
- Online & Internet safety
- Peer pressure
- Prevent & radicalisation
- Professional boundaries and challenges
- Psychology
- Road traffic
- Sexting
- Sexual Health
- Solution focussed training
- Substance misuse
- Support for males
- Transition to Adulthood
- Trauma awareness
- Victim awareness
- Violent offending
- Weapon awareness
- Women & Girls Resources

Derbyshire County Youth Justice Services

- Turnaround Project

6.7 Outcome 2

Youth Cautions / Youth Conditional Cautions

Where the nature of the offence suggests a more formal Out of Court Disposal is required, then a Youth Caution or Youth Conditional Caution may be considered. This will require a referral through to Youth Justice. As this is classed as an entry into the Criminal Justice Process, this can only be decided on through consultation with Youth Justice. This requires an admission of guilt or acceptance of responsibility.

7. Adults

7.1 Derbyshire Constabulary recognises that diversion away from the Criminal Justice system is beneficial for adults as well as Children and Young People. By engaging in preventative measures there is a greater opportunity to reduce the escalation of crimes and reduce the likelihood of re-offending for those people concerned. Each case should be assessed on an individual bases and in the appropriate circumstances. If an early intervention is suitable then this should always be considered in the first instance. The question should always be – Is there a requirement for a criminal outcome or can we intervene early and divert them away from criminalisation?

7.2 We hold an expectation that female suspects will be referred in all circumstances to the Female Offender RedSnapper course. Whether it be a condition of their Restorative Justice or Conditional Caution or if the crime is NFA, they can be referred voluntarily under outcome 22.

8. Early Interventions Options for Adults

8.1 Police Led Interventions

8.2 ASB Immediate Justice Scheme

This should be used in cases for low level ASB where there are little to no previous offences and should be directed through the Immediate Justice Team. This intervention looks to provide immediate justice within the community, it seeks reparation for the local community and includes prevention work with the suspect.

8.3 Letter of Apology

This can be written to the victim as part of a Police led Restorative Justice. Also consider referral to the RedSnapper Victim Awareness Course in addition to a letter of apology.

8.4 Acceptable Behaviour Contract

These form part of the Community Resolution Option.

8.5 Community Protection Notice

A Community Protection Notice can be issued by council officers, police officers, police community support officers or social landlords, if designated by the council.

Grounds for issuing a Community Protection Notice include instances in which an individual's behaviour:

- has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality

- is unreasonable and
- is of a persistent nature

Before a Community Protection Notice can be issued, the person, business or organisation suspected of causing the problem must be given a written warning stating that a Community Protection Notice will be issued unless their conduct changes and ceases to have a detrimental effect on the community. The warning must also detail that a breach of a Community Protection Notice is a criminal offence.

8.6 RedSnapper Targeted Interventions

All courses are available and multiple ones can be selected if required. All courses can be referred to for either voluntary attendance as part of a Community Resolution or Restorative Justice, or as part of a more formal Out of Court Disposal. RedSnapper Intervention Hub explains the content of each course. Understanding your suspect, their lifestyle, and their offending behaviour, will assist you in identifying the most appropriate course for crime prevention in the future.

Courses available

- Victim Awareness
- Cannabis Awareness
- Thinking Skills
- Alcohol Awareness
- Womens Programme
- Anger Management
- Emotional Well Being
- Education and Employment
- Perspective Taking
- Strength Base
- Gang Culture and Knife Crime
- Shop Lifting
- Substance Misuse
- Careers
- Impact of Crime
- Hate Crime
- Misogyny
- Drug Awareness
- Littering

9. Other agency led interventions

9.1 Tenancy Enforcement

This can be enforcement action taken by a housing authority, association, or landlord to deal with breaches of tenancy including nuisance and anti-social behaviour occurring within housing properties or estates. This also includes certain legal remedies or mediation techniques implemented to resolve disputes and problems.

9.2 Social Care

Childrens social care can provide interventions on parenting concerns and should be consulted through the Safeguarding Hub.

10. How to Finalise Early Intervention Options

10.1 Outcome 8

Community Resolution & Restorative Justice

This is a Police led Out of Court Disposal and is used for less serious crime where the offender accepts responsibility for their actions. There does not have to be a victim for Community Resolution (without Restorative Justice) to be used. A Community Resolution is a way of dealing with an offender which is proportionate to lower-level crime. It can be offered when the offender accepts responsibility for the offence, in most cases where the victim has agreed that they do not want more formal action taken. RedSnapper Intervention Hub can be used to facilitate this alongside other options and referrals can be made to encourage the suspect to undertake prevention work, with the aim of reducing the risk of re-offending. This requires an admission of guilt or acceptance of responsibility.

10. 2 Outcome 4

Adult Conditional Caution

This should be considered where an offence has been committed and the circumstances and/or previous offences are such that a Community Resolution / Restorative Justice is not suitable, but an Out of Court Disposal can still be considered. Adult Conditional Cautions are a statutory disposal introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 2003. The conditions that can be attached must be rehabilitative, reparative, or a punitive financial penalty. RedSnapper can be used to facilitate this alongside other options and a referral can be made through the RedSnapper Intervention Hub. This requires an admission of guilt or acceptance of responsibility.

10.3 Outcome 20

This should be considered where an investigation has taken place and a suspect has been identified, there is work being undertaken with the suspect by another agency as a result, and no further police action is required. Please see crime management policy for further details on this outcome.

10.4 Outcome 21

This should be considered where an offence has been recorded but it is not in the public interest to investigate further. No intervention is required but a referral should be made for voluntary prevention work to be offered through RedSnapper Intervention Hub. This does not require an admission of guilt.

10.5 Outcome 22

This should be considered where an offence has been committed and a suspect has been identified but there is some diversionary, educational or intervention activity being undertaken as a result, and it is not in the public interest for police to take any further action because of this. There does not have to be admission of guilt or acceptance of responsibility to use this outcome.

Only Interventions listed below are accepted as Outcome 22

- Victim Awareness
- Cannabis Awareness
- Thinking Skills
- Alcohol Awareness
- Women's Programme
- Anger Management
- Emotional Well Being
- Education and Employment
- Perspective Taking
- Strength Base
- Gang Culture and Knife Crime
- Shop Lifting
- Substance Misuse
- Careers
- Impact of Crime
- Hate Crime
- Misogyny
- Drug Awareness
- Littering

11. Quality Assurance Framework

11.1 The force recognises that to reassure ourselves that the application of outcomes is appropriate and is providing a consistently high service we need to conduct robust quality assurance checks.

11.2 The forces Quality Assurance Thematic Testing sets out the Quality Assurance framework for investigation, which includes outcomes.

11.3 A live Dashboard also provides performance management data.

11.4 In relation to appropriate use of early interventions, the Out of Court Disposals Scrutiny Panels also offer quality assurance.