

# Pre-Sentence Report

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## What is a pre-sentence report?

The court has to decide on the most appropriate sentence for the offence(s) you have committed. A member of the Youth Offending Team prepares a report to give the court as much information about you as possible.

The report will also advise about the possible sentences and will make a recommendation about the most effective way of dealing with you to prevent any further offending. The report is written under strict guidelines, called National Standards.

## What do I need to do?

- Attend all the appointments with the report writer.
- Be aware that the information you give the report writer may be included in your report.
- Provide information about your circumstances.
- Ask questions if you are unsure of anything.

## Who else is involved?

- Your parents/carers will need to be interviewed.
- People who know about you – such as your teacher, social worker, doctor will be consulted. We will talk to you about this before we speak to anyone.
- We will also get copies of any police statements taken about your offence(s).

## What information is included in the report?

- The details and circumstances of your offence(s).
- The seriousness of your offence(s).
- An assessment of the consequences of your offence(s).
- The impact on the victim.
- An assessment of your attitude to the offence(s).
- The risk of further offending and the level of risk you present.
- Personal circumstances which are relevant to the court.
- The suitability of any particular sentence.

## Who sees the report?

- You, your parents/carers
- Your solicitor
- Within court: The Magistrate or Judge  
The Prosecutor  
The Clerk  
The Court Duty Officer
- Those involved in working with you on your sentence  
*i.e. The Youth Offending Team*  
*The secure establishment if you are sent there*
- Your social worker if you have one

Personal information about you will be treated carefully. However, we cannot guarantee to keep all information confidential. If, for example, you tell us about other offences you have committed or about something that puts you or others at risk of harm we may/will need to pass this information on. We will try to talk to you about this before any action is taken.

If you feel anything written about you in the report is not true or fair you should talk this through with the report writer.

A pre-sentence report is meant to help the court decide how to sentence you. It is in your interest to cooperate with the collection of information about you.

The Youth Offending Team has a duty to advise the court and the court will consider what the report says but will make its own decision.

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**The Youth Offending Team Officer completing your pre-sentence report is:**

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**Your next appointment is:**

Date:

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Time:

.....  
Place:

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**West Berkshire Youth Offending Team**

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