

Cautioning Policy Statement



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This document has been assessed for:	
Compliance with Legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Equality Impact Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Freedom of Information issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Human Rights compliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health and Safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Risk Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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1. Policy statement

In relation to cautioning the Force operates in line with Home Office Circular 18/94 and the 1995 Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Crime Committee publication "The Cautioning of Offenders", also taking cognisance of the removal of young offenders by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998; to ensure that adult offenders are dealt with proportionately and that the decision making process is consistent.

This ensures: -

- A speedy & effective method of dealing with adult offenders who have committed minor offences.
- Diverting those offenders from the Criminal Courts, whilst ensuring that acknowledged offending behaviour is recorded.
- Deterring re-offending.
- Discouraging the use of cautions in inappropriate cases, i.e., for offences which are triable on indictment only, where there is insufficient evidence; the offender does not consent to a caution or does not understand its significance.
- Promoting the better administration and recording of cautions.
- Greater consistency across the force area.