

CHARGE



If the police decide there is enough evidence to support the claim you have committed an offence, they will charge you



They will then decide if it is safe to release you on bail until you have to appear in court.



If you cannot be bailed, you will go to court. The court will decide whether you will have to stay in prison until a later date.

RELEASE UNDER INVESTIGATION



If the police do not have enough evidence to charge you with an offence, they may release you under investigation.



You will then be able to leave and the police will complete their investigations. You will not have to come back unless you are released on bail.

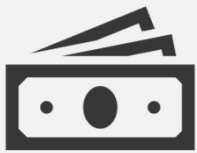


If you are released on bail, you may also have to follow conditions i.e. who you see and where you can go. These will be explained.

OUT OF COURT DISPOSAL



If the police decide there is enough evidence to support the claim you have committed an offence, they may close the case at the station.



You could be issued with a fine to pay or a caution which is a formal warning that will appear on your criminal record.



The police could also decide that punishment is not appropriate at this time and release you without any further action.

OUT OF COURT DISPOSAL



If the police do not have enough evidence to support the claim you have committed an offence, they may release you.



You will then be able to go home. Any personal items will be given back when you leave unless you are told otherwise.



Nothing else will happen once you leave unless there is new evidence or you are arrested for another offence.