

In Partnership with

**Staffordshire Children, Young People
and Families**

**Staffordshire & West Midlands
Probation Service**

**North Staffs Combined Health Care
NHS Trust**

South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust

Staffordshire Police

Contact Points

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BAIL SUPPORT PROGRAMME

**Information for Magistrates,
Solicitors and Crown Court
Prosecution Service**

Information for Magistrates and Solicitors

What is the aim of Bail Support

To provide a credible and professional service to the Court as an alternative to remanding young people into custody or Local Authority accommodation.

To prevent young people offending on bail or breaching bail conditions by providing both practical and emotional support.

To enhance the welfare of young people on the scheme.

Who are We

The Staffordshire Youth Offending Service comprises three multi agency teams from Children, Young People and Families, Police, Probation, Health and Connexions.

The Service will manage and deliver Bail Support services across the County.

Who are our clients ?

The Staffordshire Youth Offending Service Bail Support scheme targets young people aged 10-17 years who are at risk of being remanded into custody or Local Authority accommodation.

When is Bail Support Offered ?

Bail Support may be offered at Court whenever there is a risk that the young person may be remanded into custody or Local Authority accommodation. It may be offered

when a bail application is being made for a young person currently on remand. The young person will initially be interviewed and assessed by the Youth Offending Team. Should the young person wish to commit to the scheme and is deemed suitable, a Bail Support Contract will be presented to the Court at the next hearing. Defence Solicitors may also approach the Bail Support scheme to discuss a package for any of the young people they represent.

What is Bail Support ?

Bail Support is an individual plan tailored to meet the needs of each young person to assist and support them as an alternative to being remanded into custody or to Local Authority accommodation,

Bail Support may typically offer:

- Regular contract and supervision
- To provide support, information and guidance through the Court process.
- Constructive use of leisure time
- Assistance with Education/Employment
- Support with accessing Accommodation
- Support to sustain positive family relationships
- Assistance with accessing Health services including drug/alcohol related issues.
- Support or transport for appearance at Court
- Re-establishing the young person into mainstream services.

What happens if the young person fails to comply with the agreed programme.

The Bail Support package will be offered to the Court as a Condition of Bail. Support and encouragement to comply with the Bail Support programme will be given by the YOT Practitioner and other members of the Youth Offending Team. All young people are provided with a copy of the Bail Support programme which is signed by the young person.

Any wilful failure to meet the conditions of the programme will lead to the young person being reported to the Police and taken back to Court.

Young People, who keep to the conditions, but whose behaviour gives cause for concern, may find their Bail Support package withdrawn. Information will be supplied to the Police and Court if appropriate.

Other breaches, including breach of conditions of curfew, non-association or other Bail conditions will be reported to the Police.

The YOT Practitioner will provide feedback to the Court on the progress of the young person on the programme.