



The Community Remedy for Suffolk

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 placed a requirement on the Police and Crime Commissioner, in consultation with the Chief Constable, to publish a Community Remedy Document.

Suffolk's Community Remedy Document outlines a menu of options to support police officers to deal with low-level offences in order to improve public confidence in the use of out-of-court disposals and consider the views of the victim.

The Community Remedy Document should be used for offences which are dealt with out of court. In this sense it simply formalises for the public the range of tactics police officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) can use for a community resolution.

The Community Remedy is a list of options for activity, any of which might be appropriate in a particular case, to be imposed upon a person who:

- a) Has engaged in anti-social behaviour or has committed an offence, and
- b) Is to be dealt with for that behaviour or offence without court proceedings.

The following people can use a community remedy:

- A police officer;
- An investigating officer (*which can include a PCSO for certain offences, if so designated by their Chief Constable*)
- A person authorised by a relevant prosecutor for conditional cautions or youth conditional cautions

The Suffolk Community Remedy has the following options:

1. Mediation
2. Instant Restorative Justice (RJ) e.g. verbal apology
3. Letter of explanation
4. Shuttle mediation/RJ Conference*
5. Agreement not to behave anti-socially in future (Acceptable Behaviour Contract)
6. Direct reparation (e.g. repairing/paying for the damage/returning stolen property)
7. Participation in structured activities that are either educational or rehabilitative
8. Reparation to the community (for example by doing unpaid work for a short period)

The options should have a positive impact on the offender, such as:

- a punitive element: reflecting the effects on the victim and the wider community; **or**
- a restorative element: achieving appropriate reparation to the victim; **or**
- a rehabilitative element: helping to address the causes of the perpetrator's behaviour; **or**
- a combination of any, or all, of the above