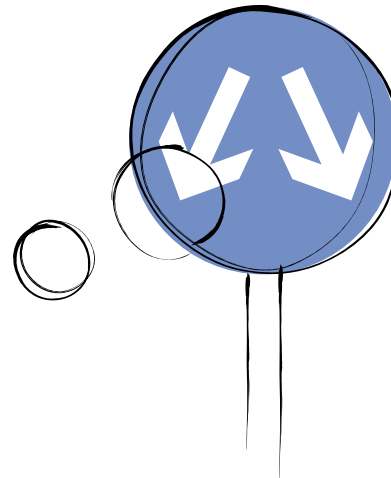


Sunderland Youth Offending Service

Drug Treatment & Testing Order

The right way forward



Sunderland Youth Offending Service

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Drug Treatment & Testing Order

What is a DTTO?

A DTTO is a serious court order. The court thinks your offending has a lot to do with your drug habits and it wants to give you the chance to prove that you can do something about it. The idea is that if you can use help to get off drugs then you are less likely to re-offend. You can only be put on this order if you are at least 16 years old and you agree to it in writing.

How does it work?

You'll start to get drugs treatment from specialist workers immediately after sentence. Because DTTOs are aimed at 'hard' drug users it is likely that you will be prescribed methadone. Your Youth Offending Service (YOS) worker and a drugs worker will talk to you before you are sentenced about a treatment plan to suit you.

Whatever drugs treatment you have, the court will want to know whether it is working or not. So you'll have to give urine samples for testing at least twice a week. The results of these tests will be sent back to the court every month. This will help the court to decide whether you should be allowed to continue on the order.

You'll have to do other things to help stop you offending. This might mean talking to a YOS worker and maybe go to a group about drugs and crime at the Probation Service. We'll also try to help you with any other problems, like housing or work.

All of this means that you will be very busy! To start with, you'll be seen for several hours a day, five days a week. It's not a soft option!

Do I have to come off drugs straightaway?

No. That's just not real. But we do need to know you're heading in that direction.

What else is expected of me?

- Stay out of trouble
- Keep all your appointments, and tell us before if you have to miss. We don't expect you to be perfect, but we do need honesty, especially if you want us to persuade the court not to stop the order
- And we need to know about any changes, like your address