

youth liaison officers



THE NSW POLICE SERVICE HAS APPOINTED POLICE OFFICERS AS YOUTH LIAISON OFFICERS (YLO) TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY WITH THE TWO MILLION CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER THE AGE OF 25 IN NSW.

The General Duties Youth Officer position was established in 1988.

Today, a YLO operates from every local area police command in the state.

The Youth Liaison Officer delivers cautions to young people and makes the final decision about referring them to a Youth Justice Conference.

This is a forum to bring the offender, their families and the victims together, face to face, to agree on a suitable outcome.

YLOs are the key contact points between the local area police command and the Department of Juvenile Justice's conference administrators who organise conferences.

young offenders act

Today, YLOs ensure police meet their legislative responsibilities in relation to the *Young Offenders Act 1997* which became effective in April 1998.

The Act aims to divert young people from the juvenile justice system and provides guidelines to achieve this. It gives police four ways to deal with offenders aged 10 to 17 years:

⇒ warnings

⇒ Youth Justice Conferences

⇒ cautions

⇒ court.



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OTHER DUTIES

Additionally, the Youth Liaison Officer might:

- undertake innovative problem solving with young people to reduce youth crime and victimisation
- implement and coordinate crime reduction programs
- coach other police to interact effectively with young people and network with other agencies and community groups
- support the Police Service's Youth Policy Statement
- represent the Service at youth related community forums and meetings.

CONTACT

For more information or assistance, phone your local police command and ask to speak with a Youth Liaison Officer.

"Warnings, Cautions & Conferencing", a free brochure about the Young Offenders Act 1997, is available from your local police.

POLICE ASSISTANCE LINE

131 444

For reporting of crime which does not require immediate police presence eg car theft, lost property, minor traffic accidents, burglary, damage to property and stealing. 24 hour service.

WEB SITE

www.police.nsw.gov.au

CRIME STOPPERS

1800 333 000

(02) 9265 4566

This community based policing service gathers details of criminal activity volunteered by members of the public.

Cash rewards of up to \$1,000 are available if this information leads to an arrest. Information can be given anonymously.



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