

{ MERGEFIELD PRACTICEINFO_PRACTICE_NAME } SENTENCE INFORMATION SHEET

This is one of a series of basic factual information sheets relating to the main sentences imposed by the courts. It is not specific to the precise details of your sentence, and any further information that you need will be contained in our letter.

CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE

You have been given a conditional discharge for the period of time that was stated in court and confirmed in our letter after your hearing. The period of the discharge runs from the day that you were sentenced in court until it expires.

A conditional discharge means that the court has “discharged” you – this means that they have sent you away and they have asked you to commit no further offences.

If the period of your discharge passes with no further offences committed then it will expire, although it will remain on your list of convictions. The fact that a previous offence has been committed can be an aggravating factor if you are sentenced in the future, even if the discharge has expired.

If you do commit a further offence during the period of the conditional discharge then the offence for which you have received the discharge can be considered again by the court and re-sentenced alongside any new offence – this means that the conditional discharge could be revoked and the court may impose a completely new sentence. In some cases this could even include the risk of a prison sentence, although the actual sentence would depend upon the seriousness of the offence for which the conditional discharge was imposed.