

You will also be given a form showing what will happen next.

General Information

This leaflet is intended to provide only outline guidance about why the Council is asking you to attend an interview under caution. It does not give details of your legal rights, which are covered by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

For further information contact:

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The Council is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities in all of its affairs. Every effort will be made to ensure that members of the public are treated equitably and fairly, regardless of race, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, disability or age

OLDHAM 
Metropolitan Borough

*INTERVIEW UNDER
CAUTION*

ARE WE ACCESSIBLE TO YOU? IF NOT ASK US!

کیا ہم تک آپ کی رسائی ہے؟ اگر نہیں تو ہمیں بتائیے!

你可覺得易於與我們接觸？若不同的話，請提出要求。

Czy łatwo jest skontaktować się z nami? Jeżeli nie, powiedz nam o tym!

Siamo accessibili nei vostri riguardi? In caso contrario rivolgetevi a noi!



**targeting
fraud**

Fraud Is Theft • Lets Put A Stop To It Now!
Ring The Confidential Hot Line **0161 770 4969**
Or E-mail investigations@oldham.gov.uk
Oldham Council is **FIGHTING FRAUD**

Why have I been asked to attend an interview under caution?

The Council has asked you to attend an interview under caution because it believes that there are grounds to suspect that you have committed a criminal offence.

This does not mean that the Council believes that you are guilty and will prosecute you; it means that the evidence the Council has obtained so far suggests that you may have committed an offence.

The interview is held in order to give you the opportunity to provide an explanation of the events that have occurred, although should evidence emerge during the interview that you have committed an offence, you may be prosecuted.

Do I have to attend an interview?

No, you do not have to attend an interview, however if you do not attend an interview this will not prevent the Council from taking further action, such as prosecuting you in the Criminal Courts.

Who can come to the interview with me?

Anyone who is not connected to the investigation can attend the interview friend, a social worker, or a relative

PLEASE NOTE:

The Council does not have childcare facilities and will not interview you if you have a dependant child with you at the time of the interview.

If the person attending the interview with you is not a solicitor/legal advisor, they are with you for moral support only; they have no right to speak, to advise you, or to ask questions during the interview.

If you have a severe hearing impediment or English is not your first language (and you have difficulty in understanding and answering in English), the Council will provide a translator at no expense to you.

You can have a solicitor/legal advisor present with you. You can appoint a solicitor or legal advisor yourself or your local Citizens Advice Bureau may be able to help you.

Who will interview me?

One or two officers from the Council's Counter Fraud Team will usually interview you. These officers are specially trained to conduct interviews under caution.

Sometimes the Council conducts joint investigations with other agencies, such as the Department for Work and Pensions and the Inland Revenue. If there has been a joint investigation in your case, you may be interviewed by an officer from the Council and an officer from the other agency. If this is the case it will be made clear to you at the time of the interview.

What happens at the interview?

As soon as you enter the interview room, two cassette tapes will be unsealed from their packaging in front of you and will be placed into a tape-recorder. The tape recorder will then be switched on and will start to record the interview.

Before you are asked any questions the Council's officers will explain a number of things to you, including:

- That the interview is being tape recorded
- That the interview is being conducted in accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 and that a copy of the Codes of Practice for the Act is available for you to consult
- You will be cautioned and advised of your rights (that you are not under arrest, that you are free to leave the interview at any time and that you may seek legal advice at any time)
- Why you have been asked to attend the interview

You will then be asked questions about your benefit claim. The Council's officers are not bound to accept the first answer you give but are under a duty to try to establish the truth about what has happened.

At the end of the interview you will be asked to sign a paper seal, which will be used to seal one of the tapes. You will be given a form explaining how you can have access to a copy of the tape.