Fact Sheet for Victims of Crime

What is a youth justice conference?
A youth justice conference is a meeting between people who have been directly affected by a crime. At a conference you and the young offender will come to an agreement about what they need to do to repair any harm their actions have caused. This agreement is called the outcome plan.

Who organises the conference?
The person organising the conference is called the conference convenor. The convenor will organise who will come to the conference and the date, time and place for the conference after speaking with everyone involved. The convenor will spend time with you before the conference explaining the conference and your role in it.

Will I have to say anything?
We would like to hear about the harm that the offence has caused you. You might like to talk about what the young person could do to make up for the harm that has been caused to you. In this way, you can encourage the young person to take responsibility for their actions, and not make the same mistakes again.

What will I get out of attending?
You may not be sure about what you want out of the conference. Try to answer this question

‘What action by the young person would heal the hurt she or he has caused to me, and the community?’

The convenor can discuss any ideas you have before the conference and can answer any questions you might have.

Who will be there?
People who may come include:

✓ You
✓ Your nominated support people
✓ The young offender
✓ The young offender’s parents/carers
✓ The Police
✓ The Conference Convenor

What are my rights?

• You have the right to attend the conference;
• You have the right to an interpreter
• You have the right to send a representative
• If you personally attend the conference, you have the right to veto any outcome plan and,
• You have the right to be accompanied by a support person.

Where can I get more information?
Our website has some more information about youth justice conferences and links to relevant websites.

The Victims of Crime website has information for victims of crime.