



Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs)

Legislation

The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 gives a Police Officer the power to issue a fixed penalty for disorder (FPD) when dealing with offences such as:

- behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to others
- drunk and disorderly behaviour in a public place
- destroying or damaging property up to the value of £500
- buying or purchasing for someone under 18 years of age
- using threatening words or behaviour

Consequences

The offence is likely to be discovered in one of three ways:

- By complaint from a member of the public or observed by CCTV
- By a routine Police Licensing Visit
- By offensive behaviour being witnessed

The consequences of anyone being issued with a fixed penalty are as follows:

1. They can pay the fixed penalty: This attracts no admission of either guilt or admissibility in respect of the criminal offence. It is simply a way of by-passing the court fine system where fines of up to £1000.00 are possible. Failure to pay within 21 days will lead to the fine being registered with the Magistrate's court at one and a half times the original penalty charge.
2. They can elect to attend court and present a defence. This does attract criminal liability and assignment of blame if convicted. The fine will be one and a half times the original fixed penalty charge.

See what the penalty charges are for an offence: **Fixed Penalty Descriptions**

How this is policed - Operation Devolve

Operation Devolve is primarily about high visibility patrols to reduce the fear of crime, anti social behaviour and criminal behaviour in the City Centre during the night time economy peak hours.

There is a clear expectation for officers to deal robustly with any individuals who use violence, anti-social behaviour either prior to or on arrest in or around the City Centre.



The intention of the Police operation will be, as far as reasonably practicable to:-

- (i) Protect the lives and property of the general public attending or working within the city centre area of Milton Keynes.
- (ii) Prevent and detect crime.
- (iii) Reduce crime through officer presence, specifically the opportunity for street robberies.
- (iv) Reassure the public by high visibility patrols thereby reducing the fear of crime
- (v) Reduce anti social behaviour, including drunkenness and drug related offences
- (vi) Respond to and assist license premises to deal with any licensing issues