

## Alternative formats Cruthan eile

To request this information in an alternative format, e.g. large print, braille, computer disc, audio tape, or suitable language, please phone:

**Policy & Development,  
Investigations Team**

**☎ 01463 702372**



## Where to get help and advice Far am faighear cuideachadh is comhairle

We strongly recommend that you seek independent advice regarding this matter. Independent and free advice is available from:

**Alness** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01349 883333

**Dingwall** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01349 864850

**East Sutherland** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01408 633000

**Inverness, Badenoch & Strathspey** –  
Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01463 235345

**Lochaber** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01397 705311

**Nairn** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01667 456677

**North West Sutherland** – Citizens' Advice  
Bureau  
☎ 01971 525730

**Skye & Lochalsh** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01478 612032

**Thurso** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01847 894243 / 896796

**Wick** – Citizens' Advice Bureau  
☎ 01955 605989



## Interview Under Caution



## Agallamh Fo Earalachadh

# What is this leaflet about?

## Cò mu dheidhinn a tha a' bhileag seo?

### 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 obtained Benefit to which you were not entitled.

This does not mean that the Council believes at this point that you are guilty of a criminal offence, it is simply that evidence has been gathered that suggests irregularities with your claim(s).

You are being asked to attend this interview to give you the opportunity to explain the irregularities that have been identified.

**Please note however, that if during the course of interview evidence emerges that you have committed a criminal offence, the Council will consider appropriate sanctions including submitting the matter to Procurator Fiscal.**

**In order to protect your rights the interview will be recorded.**

### Do I have to attend an interview?

No, you don't have to attend an interview. However if you do not attend the interview the Council can still take further action including submitting the case for criminal prosecution.

### Who can come to the interview with me?

Anyone who is not connected to the investigation can attend the interview with you. The person could for example be a friend, a social worker, a relative or solicitor.

You may wish to seek advice from someone before the interview such as a solicitor, the Citizens' Advice Bureau or other similar organisation (contact details are on the back of this leaflet).

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

### Who will interview me?

You will usually be interviewed by the Council's Investigators who have been specially trained for this purpose.

Sometimes the Council will conduct joint investigations with other agencies such as the Department for Work and Pensions. 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 will happen at the interview?

As soon as you enter the interview room two cassettes or CDs will be unsealed from their packaging in front of you and will be placed in the recording machine.

The recorder will be switched on and an alarm will sound until the machine is ready to start recording. As soon as we start recording and before you are asked any questions we will:

- identify ourselves;
- ask you to state your name, date of birth and address; and
- caution you and advise you of your rights.

You will then be asked questions about your benefit claim(s). We are not bound to accept the first answer you give to us and 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 witness one of the cassettes or CDs being sealed and will be asked to sign the seal.

You are free to leave the interview at any time or to request the opportunity to seek legal advice.

