

You have pleaded guilty to one charge of maintaining a sexual relationship with a young person under the age of 17, contrary to the Criminal Code, s125A.

You had a sexual relationship with a girl when she was 14 and you were 18 over a 2 month period in June and July 2009. You were aware of her age. She resisted sexual advances from you for a time and then agreed. In agreeing to sex what she did not communicate to you was that she was influenced by your age and your expectation of sex with her. The influence and authority that an older person has over a young immature person is part of the reason for this crime.

The sexual aspect of the relationship was confined to several occasions over a 2 month period. On all occasions the sexual acts were consensual. The age gap was not significant and had the complainant been 5 months older your conduct would not have been criminal.

You have no prior convictions. You are completing a traineeship and you have good prospects in terms of employment. I consider that a relatively short suspended sentence is an appropriate penalty given the need to deter others and given your circumstances.

You are convicted. You are sentenced to 3 months imprisonment which is wholly suspended on condition that you be of good behaviour for a period of 2 years.

I do not think there is an appreciable risk that you will commit another sexual crime but I am not able to be satisfied that there is no risk of that occurring. I therefore have to make an order for you to be registered under the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2005. However the order need not be for a lengthy period.

I order that the Registrar appointed under s42 of the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2005 place your name on the register under that Act for 2 years and that you comply with the reporting obligations under that Act for 2 years.

You will have to pay a victims of crime compensation levy of \$50 and I order that you pay that within 28 days.