

CONDUCTING PACE INTERVIEWS

COURSE INFORMATION

A key stage of a criminal investigation will involve the interviewing of a suspect or suspects for the offence(s) under investigation. Interviewing officers need to be able to accurately conduct a PACE interview, question suspects effectively, and where necessary, provide pre-interview disclosure to legal representatives.

A PACE interview is a key stage of the investigation process, and these interviews will form part of the material reviewed by decision makers and lawyers to make justified and proportionate assessments as to whether to take enforcement action or instigate legal proceedings against a suspect. The interview may subsequently be used as evidence in a trial to allow the court to make a decision as to whether a defendant is guilty or not guilty of the offence(s) for which they have been charged or summonsed.

AUDIENCE

This course has been designed for all individuals responsible for conducting investigations or undertaking enforcement work. This course is particularly important for those individuals undertaking the role of lead or second interviewer in respect of PACE interviews.

COURSE LENGTH AND DELIVERY METHODS

The course is a two-day course and provides 12 CPD credits.

It can be delivered virtually or in-person.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Know the importance of undertaking effective PACE interviews and how to balance the powers of the investigator against the rights of suspects.
- Effectively plan and prepare for a suspect interview.
- Know how to structure interviews in compliance with legal requirements and the PEACE model of investigative interviewing.
- Effectively use different questioning types to maximise suspects accounts and handle inconsistencies
- Deal effectively with pre-interview disclosure and individuals who may be present within a PACE interview.

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