

# Scrap Metal: Investigation and Enforcement Course

## COURSE INFORMATION:

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 was brought in to tackle metal theft. A recent report has said that a lack of enforcement means that the Act isn't working. The Act places a duty on Local Authorities to conduct visits to licensed sites within their area to ensure compliance with the Act.

Unlicensed or non-compliant dealers are normally linked to organised crime and other rural or waste crimes. Some individuals have been seen to earn significant sums of money which isn't declared and is used to benefit their criminal groups.



This CPD accredited training course has been designed for officers involved in the investigation, enforcement and prosecution of scrap metal offences, as well as those involved in the application and issuing of licences. This course looks at the legislation surrounding scrap metal, the application process and considerations around suitability, conducting good compliance checks, taking enforcement action, being proactive and other offences to consider.

## AUDIENCE

This course has been designed for individuals from any organisation who are involved in the application and issuing of licences, conducting compliance checks, investigating breaches of the legislation and prosecuting offences. The course is suitable for those who are new to the legislation up to an intermediate level.

We would recommend that anyone involved in the licensing and enforcement of scrap metal dealers attends this training; this could include administration officers, intelligence officers, investigators, compliance officers, enforcement officers, team leaders, managers and prosecutors.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define the types of licences.
- Understand the application process and suitability of an applicant checks.
- Understand the checks that need to be completed under the HMRC Tax Conditionality Scheme.
- Understand the offences under the Act, the types of enquiries that should be conducted, and the evidence that should be gathered.
- Understand the powers available to officers under the Act, such as powers of entry and powers to seize records.
- Identify how to complete a good compliance check, including both proactive and reactive considerations.
- Identify types of enforcement action that can be taken against licensed and unlicensed dealers, including closure notices, closure orders and revocation of licences.
- Consider other offences that may need to be referred to other departments or agencies, such as waste carrying, modern day slavery and money laundering.

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## OTHER WAYS WE CAN HELP:

We are also in a position to assist with the following:

- ✓ Do you need a strategy to identify what is high risk in your area so you can deploy the correct resources to tackle it? If so, this is something we can help with. Our Director has previously provided case studies to the Local Government Association on best practice for enforcement of the Act and managing resources.
- ✓ Do your team need some training to understand the offences under the Act and how to deal with both licensed and unlicensed sites? As well as offering both in-person and virtual training, we are also able to assist with training on site in relation to compliance checks. This assists officers with understanding exactly what to look for when on a scrap metal site.
- ✓ Are you struggling to find staff to be able to conduct investigations or compliance checks? If so, our Investigation Support Service can assist with conducting investigations and completing compliance checks within your area.
- ✓ Do you need a chat to make sure that cases are progressing? Do you need someone to complete your prosecution files, so your officers have time to focus on other cases? Again, our Investigation Support Service can assist. We offer free 20 minute investigation advice sessions when you can ask for our expert advice with any criminal investigations.

