



The Government of Sark

Sark Constables - Code of Conduct 2025

The Sark Constables are subject to similar disciplinary and performance requirements as Guernsey police officers.

In the eyes of the public, there is no difference between a Sark Constable and a regular officer. Public expectation is that a police officer's, loyalty, integrity, and judgement must be beyond reproach, and that police officers discharge their duties fairly, and partially and without external influence. Like any regular police officer, Sark Constables are expected to remain a person of good character and uphold the higher standards of personal conduct both on and off duty.

The Douzaine carries vicarious liability for the actions of Sark Constables and staff under his or her direction. If a Sark Constable fails without good reason to attend the training sessions or fails to demonstrate good reason to the satisfaction of the Douzaine, they may be required to resign as a Sark Constable.

Sark Constables will maintain a high standard of uniform dress, wearing the issue polo shirt, black trousers, issue jacket, and appropriate footwear, unless in exceptional circumstances.

A Sark Constable will be expected to demonstrate competence in order to be capable of independent policing. They will be required to take part in annual training.

Role of a Constable

1. To act with honesty and integrity, fairness and impartiality.
2. Treat members of the public with courtesy.
3. Not to abuse powers and authority.
4. To act in a manner which does not discredit or undermine public confidence in the constables, and to be instrumental in growing and maintaining positive perceptions of Sark Constables.
5. Provide a visible presence (e.g., events, and harbour) to deter crime and reassure the community.

6. Develop community knowledge to identify individuals and locations at risk of being involved in crime.
7. Respond to calls and requests from the public and to assist at incidents.
8. Keep the peace at public meetings and social events.
9. Defuse potentially volatile situations with due regard for the safety of all involved.
10. Act with sensitivity, when dealing with situations such as delivering news of sudden death or when dealing with sexual crimes.
11. Conduct initial investigations, gather evidence, take statements and comply with relevant legal requirements.
12. Keep notes to a sufficient standard that maybe used in a court of law.
13. Interview suspects, victims and witnesses in accordance with relevant legislation.
14. Conduct arrests with due regard for the human rights, security and health and safety of detained individuals, members of the public and colleagues as well as yourself.
15. Prepare crime reports and present case files to the Seneschal.
16. Attend and give evidence in court and other hearings.
17. Complete administration procedures.
18. Take action on information received from members of the public, where necessary.
19. Attend road related incidents.
20. Enforce Road Traffic legislation.

14th October 2025