

Private Client Pre-Investigation Checklist

Before hiring a private investigator, being prepared helps ensure your case is handled efficiently, cost-effectively, and with the best chance of success. Use this checklist to get organised.

1. Define Your Objective

- ☐ Be clear about what you need (infidelity evidence, custody support, debt recovery, tracing, fraud, etc.)
- ☐ Decide whether you need peace of mind, or court-ready evidence

2. Gather Known Information

- ☐ Write down names, addresses, and phone numbers of all parties involved
- ☐ Collect any photographs, documents, or digital evidence you already have
- ☐ Include timelines of relevant events

3. Document Incidents

- ☐ Keep notes of dates, times, and places linked to your concerns
- ☐ Record any unusual or suspicious behaviour
- ☐ Store this securely and do not share with the subject

4. Consider Legal Context

- ☐ Understand what private investigators can and cannot do legally
- ☐ Avoid taking actions yourself that may break the law (e.g. trespass, hacking)
- ☐ Ask your investigator how evidence will be collected lawfully

5. Identify Involved Parties

- ☐ List all individuals connected to the matter (partners, colleagues, family members, etc.)
- ☐ Note relationships between them
- ☐ Identify potential witnesses

6. Review Previous Actions

- ☐ Note any previous investigations, legal steps, or police involvement
- ☐ Provide copies of reports, case numbers, or documents to your investigator

7. Assess Your Budget & Urgency

- ☐ Decide how quickly you need results
- ☐ Be realistic about surveillance costs, travel, and reporting time
- ☐ Discuss pricing and packages with your investigator before work begins

8. Avoid Alerting the Subject

- ☐ Do not confront or warn the person you wish to investigate
- ☐ Avoid changing your normal routine in ways that could tip them off
- ☐ Keep your intentions confidential until evidence is gathered

9. Prepare for Next Steps

- ☐ Think about how you'll use the information (personal decision, solicitor, court, insurer)
- ☐ Decide if you'll need witness statements or expert testimony
- ☐ Keep communication open with your investigator throughout

10. Confidential Consultation

- ☐ Arrange a private consultation with your investigator
- ☐ Share all relevant information openly and honestly
- ☐ Ask questions about process, legality, and expected outcomes



The more prepared you are, the less time your investigator needs to spend gathering background — saving you money and delivering results faster.

Contact Panthera Investigations

At Panthera Investigations, we specialise in delivering discreet, professional, and reliable services across the South Coast and nationwide. Whether you need support with corporate due diligence, tracing beneficiaries, or personal matters, our evidence is clear, lawful, and court-ready when required.

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- ☒ **Confidential advice guaranteed** — every enquiry is handled with integrity and discretion.
- ☒ **Transparent pricing** — no hidden costs, clear packages available.
- ☒ **Nationwide coverage** — local knowledge with national reach.