

Review of the Code of Ethics

Committee responsibilities

Introduction

The review of the Code of Ethics (the Code) will use an approach that brings together a committee of frontline practitioners with subject matter experts (specialist practitioners and academics) to develop a product based on the best available evidence. This document sets out the requirements and responsibilities of committee members, as well as the commitment involved.

Main requirements

The main requirement of committee members is that they are one of the following:

- currently police officers, members of police staff or police support volunteers
- academic researchers with an active professional interest in one or more of the following:
 - practical, applied or professional ethics
 - ethical decision making
 - implementation science or behaviour change
- an individual working for a professional organisation with a code of ethics or with responsibility for ethical standards

Committee members are people acting as individuals, not as official representatives of an organisation.

Responsibilities of committee members

Committee members are expected to:

- provide sufficient time to prepare for, and attend, committee meetings (see below) and to inform the review of the Code through their personal and professional knowledge and experience

- contribute constructively to meetings and the development of the Code, which will involve:
 - agreeing the review questions that are used to interrogate research databases from primary issues in the scope
 - supporting the College development team to identify good practice
 - reviewing the strength of evidence that is identified
 - drafting the content of the policing principles through consensus
 - supporting the development team to understand opportunities and challenges that may be faced in implementing the Code
- work with other members of the committee to develop a document based on the research and practice evidence, or by consensus if evidence is limited
- raise any concerns about process or details in the draft document with the committee, and try to resolve these issues within the committee, with support from a member of the College development team
- respect the confidentiality of committee meetings (there is a requirement to sign a confidentiality agreement)

Committee members will receive training and advice from the College development team to support them in these responsibilities.

Commitment

Committee members are expected to attend committee meetings. The committee will meet three or four times over the development period (typically 18 months).

The meetings will consist of:

- an opening one-day meeting for committee induction and to finalise the scope
- a second meeting to consider the evidence and draft documents (these have varied in number and length, but are typically two whole days)
- one or two further meetings to consider consultation feedback and to finalise the documents

We anticipate that the first meeting will be held in September and **may** be held virtually due to coronavirus restrictions. Other meetings are likely to be held at our Ryton site (Coventry,

CV8 3EN) or in London. If it is necessary to hold meetings virtually, we may consider holding a series of short meetings over a few days or asking you to do more reading outside of the meeting, in order to reduce the cognitive load of long virtual meetings. Committee members will also need to set aside some time to read papers ahead of meetings and to provide feedback on draft documents.