

Standards of Professional Behaviour Police Staff

Introduction

Public confidence in the police depends on police staff demonstrating the highest level of personal professional standards of behaviour. The standards set out below reflect the expectations that the police service and the public have of how police staff should behave. They are not intended to describe every situation but rather to set a framework which everyone can easily understand. They enable everybody to know what type of conduct by a member of police staff is acceptable and what is unacceptable. The standards should be read and applied having regard to this guidance.

1. Honesty and Integrity

Police staff are honest, act with integrity and do not compromise or abuse their position.

2. Authority, Respect and Courtesy

Police staff act with self-control and tolerance, treating members of the public and colleagues with respect and courtesy.

Police staff do not abuse their powers or authority and respect the rights of all individuals.

3. Equality and Diversity

Police staff act with fairness and impartiality. They do not discriminate unlawfully or unfairly.

4. Use of Restraint

Police staff only use restraint as part of their roles and responsibilities to the extent that it is necessary, proportionate and reasonable in all the circumstances.

5. Instructions

Police staff only give and carry out reasonable instructions.
Police staff follow all reasonable instructions and abide by force policies.

6. Work and Responsibilities

Police staff are diligent in the exercise of their work and responsibilities

7. Confidentiality

Police staff treat information with respect and access or disclose it only in the proper course of their work.

8. Fitness for Work

Police staff when at work are fit to carry out their duties.

9. Discreditable Conduct

Police staff behave in a manner which does not discredit the police service or undermine public confidence in the police service.

Police staff report any conviction or caution against them for a criminal offence.

10. Challenging/Reporting Improper Conduct

Police staff whilst at work report, challenge or take action against the conduct of colleagues which have fallen below the standards of professional behaviour expected.