

SOUTH WALES POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Main Purpose of Role:

To visit police custody suites (in pairs) unannounced to check on the welfare of people in police custody.

Main Duties

1. To visit custody suites to check and report on the welfare of detainees and the conditions under which detainees are held.
2. To jointly complete a visit report form with visiting partner
3. To attend and participate in quarterly custody visitor panel meetings
4. To attend and participate in training and seminar sessions
5. To maintain a record of expenses incurred

INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Independent Custody Visitors are required to:

- be at least 18 years of age
 - live, work or study in the South Wales Police area
 - have been resident in the UK for at least three years prior to date of application
 - be able to devote sufficient time and flexibility to carry out the role of custody visiting (approximately once a month) and be contactable by phone or email
 - be able to work with other visitors as a reliable member of a team in order to meet visiting targets and effectively check and report on conditions under which detainees are held.
 - carry out their role in accordance with the Scheme Guidelines and Code of Conduct
 - be able to demonstrate an independent and impartial view in relation to all parties involved in the custody visiting process
 - be able to communicate effectively with detainees, other custody visitors, Police and Crime Commissioner's staff and custody staff.
 - be able to maintain confidentiality
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- *Report forms are completed jointly with visiting partners. Good written communication skills are therefore desirable but not essential.*
 - *Access to own transport is highly desirable; alternatively visitors need to ensure that they are able to get to and from the police custody suites at any time of the day as visits can be arranged across the 24 hour day*