

Consideration will be given to applicants working within other areas of the criminal justice system if, after careful consideration, it can be reasonably concluded that there would be no conflict of interest such as if their work is not directly related to the detention process.

It should also be noted that having a criminal record or unspent convictions is not an automatic barrier to becoming a custody visitor. Once such a record is disclosed, the individual circumstances will be assessed against the needs of the post and the suitability of the application.

When will I undertake Custody Record Reviews?

ICR's will be rostered to review records with a partner at least once per month. The minimum number of reviews an ICR is expected to make in a month is one, the maximum is four.

All record reviews will take place during the week days (between 9am – 5pm) at Police HQ, Ripley and the exact date and time will need to be agreed with your partner.

Upon arriving at Police HQ you will be provided with up to three redacted Custody Records (the redactions ensure that individuals are not identifiable as their personal information is obscured).



ICR's will then read through the record and report upon pre-set criteria which examines if the detained person was held appropriate to their needs and in line with PACE Code C.

The pre-set criteria that ICR's report upon is contained within an Excel Spreadsheet, therefore ICR's should have basic IT skills.

Independent Custody Visitor (ICV)

ICV's visit custody suites to check on the conditions in which detained persons are held and to ensure that the health and well-being of those being detained is maintained.

ICR' will be expected to make at least two visits to Custody Suites every year. These visits will help to contextualise the information contained within the custody records and will help to expand ICR knowledge and understanding of the custody environment.

How do we use the Information

Once a month a report is created from the output of the Custody Record Reviews and the findings are shared with the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (Portfolio Lead) and key Force personnel. The output from this work is also reported to the Strategic Priorities Assurance Board twice per year.

How do I apply to become an ICV?

Please visit the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner's website or call 0300 122 6000 for more information.



Protecting Communities,
Fighting Crime

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www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk

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DC - Independent Custody Reviewer DL 12-18



The independent custody reviewing volunteer scheme



Protecting Communities,
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Derbyshire
Police and Crime
Commissioner

www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/

CustodyVolunteers



Foreword

Independent Custody Visiting is a statutory function for Police and Crime Commissioners and it is an important role which helps to ensure that those detained in Custody are treated with care and respect and that their health and well-being is maintained.

In addition, to this important role, here in Derbyshire, we have introduced Custody Record Reviewing which is a new and innovative approach, giving me excellent oversight of how the most vulnerable in Custody are cared for.

The purpose of these schemes is to provide independent verification that detainees are being looked after according to the regulations. This provides reassurance for members of the public and those who work in the custody areas.

The visits and the reviews can highlight any current or potential issues in the custody, and these issues are then highlighted and raised with appropriate Constabulary personnel.

I believe that both Independent Custody Visitors and Independent Custody Reviewers have a really important role, helping to ensure that the welfare and rights of people detained in police custody cells are maintained, volunteers also play an important role in promoting community safety and excellent policing in Derbyshire.

I urge anyone who is interested in the scheme and who believes they have the required skills to apply. It's a role that our volunteers repeatedly tell me is both interesting and rewarding.

Hardyal Dhindsa

Police & Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire

What are Independent Custody Reviewers (ICR's)?

ICR's are volunteer members of the local community who review the custody records of vulnerable individuals who have been detained in custody.

ICR's custody check:

- that individuals have been detained appropriate to their needs.
- that the detained persons health and wellbeing is taken care of;
- that they have received their legal rights and entitlements in accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) Code C.

They do this by reviewing randomly selected Custody Records of vulnerable individuals who have been detained in custody and then report upon pre-set criteria.

ICR's are volunteers and are not paid a salary; however expenses incurred whilst visiting Police HQ or Custody suites, such as car mileage and parking costs, are reimbursed.

All ICR's are appointed on a three-year renewable tenure. Newly appointed ICR's complete a probationary period within the first six months of their tenure.

Who can become an ICR?

The Police & Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire is committed to promoting diversity and equality of opportunity for all, irrespective of gender, ethnic origin, disability or sexual orientation. Applications from across the community are encouraged so that all people in our society are represented.

Applicants must:

- Be 18 years of age and over;
- Have a good understanding of the English language;
- Live and/or work within the boundaries of the county;
- Have no direct involvement with the criminal justice system – for example Lay Justices, serving police officers or special constables, civilian police staff and staff of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner may not apply;
- EU Citizens must have been resident within the UK for a continuous period of at least three years prior to application.



An independent custody reviewer is an important, interesting and rewarding volunteer role.