

# Investigative Interviewing Skills for Law Enforcement

## OBJECTIVES

By the end of this training course, the participants will be able to:

- Understand and utilise investigative interviewing processes for a fully human rights compliant and effective way of maximising the evidential and intelligence opportunities from victims, witnesses and suspects
- Outline the principles and ethics of investigative interviewing
- Explain the difference between open, closed and leading questions
- Implement techniques to interview suspects to maximise the evidential potential of the accounts that can be obtained from them
- Identify opportunities to utilise witnesses to the most excellent evidential effect including the management of risk and witness protection measures

## TRAINING METHODOLOGY

- This Investigative Interviewing Skills for Law Enforcement training course will have subjects presented in utilising a variety of proven adult learning techniques, focused on case studies and best practices. This will include PowerPoint presentations, active participation in class practical cases followed by active group sessions, video materials, and tabletop activities.

## ORGANISATIONAL IMPACT

- The organization will acquire a thorough understanding of good practice around Investigating Interviewing models and techniques so that more offenders are taken to justice, victims are fully supported throughout the investigative process, and witnesses' accounts improve the evidential case. The Staff will be better prepared to investigate crimes more thoroughly and be more confident to engage with members of the public in challenging circumstances.

Impact on the organisation from the participants upon attending this training course includes the following benefits:

- Establish a thorough foundation regarding the fundamentals of Investigative Interviewing
- Adopt an organized and structured way of interviewing suspects, victims, and witnesses
- Improve the competence, capability, and performance of staff interview suspects, victims, and witnesses
- Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of investigating and prosecuting criminal offenses and getting value for money
- Enhance public trust and confidence in the organisations ability to investigate and prosecute criminal offenses
- Underlines the importance of a victim focused investigation searching for the true facts of each case in a fully transparent and ethical process

## PERSONAL IMPACT

This training course will personally benefit the participants to gain or enhance their understanding and knowledge by the following:

- Adopt an organized and structured way of interviewing suspects, victims, and witnesses
- Determine the most effective questioning techniques and styles following an ethical process
- Understand the benefits of planning and preparing interviews, establishing rapport and obtaining comprehensive accounts from interviewees
- Identify options, strategy, and tactics for the most appropriate methods of interviewing intimidated, vulnerable or juvenile interviewees
- Understand special measures that can be used to protect and support key witnesses within the judicial process
- Appreciate and implement a victim-focused investigation searching for the true facts of each case in a fully transparent and ethical process

## DESIGNED FOR

This training course is suitable for a wide range of professionals but will significantly benefit:

- Police Officers
- Prosecutors
- Security Services
- Immigration and Customs Officers
- Intelligence Practitioners and Managers
- Homicide, Kidnap and Rape Investigators
- Counter-Terrorism Investigators
- Serious and Organised Crime Investigators
- Any other agency tasked with investigating and interviewing suspects, victims and witnesses regarding criminal activity

## Course Outline

### The Importance of an Effective Interview Process

- Definition of an Interview
- Investigative Interviewing Principles and Ethics
- The PEACE Model (Prepare/Engage/Account/Closure/Clarification)
- Intelligence versus Evidence
- Interview Management

### Planning and Preparing for the Interview

- Planning and Preparation
- Interviewers Skills, Roles and Responsibilities
- Interviewee – Suspect, Victim or Witness
- Aims and Objectives
- Points to Prove

### Engaging with the Interviewee

- Engaging and Explaining
- Rapport Building
- Interviewee Background and Characteristics
- Managing the Interview
- Topics and Timeline to be Explored During the Interview

## Obtaining the Account from the Interviewee

- Obtaining the Account
- Types of Questioning
- Clarification and Challenge
- Cognitive Interviews
- Closure and Evaluation

## Interviewing Vulnerable People

- Intimidated Witnesses
- Vulnerable Adults
- Juveniles
- Special Court Measures
- Security and Protection