



Hostage and Crisis Negotiators Policy (Surrey and Sussex) (1178/2024)

Abstract

This policy covers the Surrey Police and Sussex Police response to incidents involving the use of the Force's Crisis and Hostage Negotiators.

Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 Surrey Police and Sussex Police (hereafter referred to as the Forces) continue to see a high demand for the deployment of appropriately trained Hostage Negotiators ('Negotiators') and their role is recognised nationally across the country as an invaluable option in the safe resolution of many incidents.

Not all such incidents involve the taking of hostages, but all are life threatening or display the potential for significant harm / damage to the community, a person or commercial enterprise. Negotiators can support an incident commander in saving life and minimising harm, gathering intelligence; and/or obtaining time to develop intelligence or other tactical options.

The deployment of Negotiators in support of a range of policing functions, such as firearms incidents is governed by the relevant sections of the College of Policing Authorised professional Practice (APP).

Some sections of particular relevance include, but are not limited to:

- APP – Hostage situations
- APP – Environmental and behavioural influencers
- APP – Dealing with individuals who are emotionally or mentally distressed

2. Scope

2.1 This policy covers the deployment, training and professional development of the Negotiators cadre and provides a range of options on how Negotiators can assist commanders to safely resolve an incident as a non-lethal tactical option.

3. Policy Statement

3.1 Redacted section.

Procedure

Redacted sections

Team: Operations Command.