



PS 016 Family Liaison Officer

Month / Year: June 2014

Version No 1.0

Statement of legislative compliance

This document has been drafted to comply with the general and specific duties in the Equality Act 2010; Data Protection Act; Freedom of Information Act; European Convention of Human Rights; Employment Act 2002; Employment Relations Act 1999, and other legislation relevant to policing.

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AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

This policy is written to ensure the main objectives of family liaison are achieved by the appropriate deployment of Family Liaison Officers (FLO) to individual cases and supporting and supervising the FLO in compliance with the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Family Liaison Strategy 2008.

POLICY STATEMENT

Nottinghamshire Police has a positive duty to uphold the right to life imposed by Article 2 of the Human Rights Act 1998. It also has a duty to investigate death and missing persons. One of the most important considerations throughout the investigation of a death or a missing person is providing professional, timely and accountable support to the family of the deceased or missing person in compliance with the Family Liaison Officer Guidance 2008.

Liaison with the family of someone who is missing or has died in traumatic circumstances is one of the most demanding of all tasks performed by Police Officers. Securing the confidence and co-operation of a victim's family can positively impact on the wider issues of community trust and confidence as well as bringing positive benefits to the investigation.

The main objectives of family liaison officers are to:

- Provide honesty, transparency, support and information in a sensitive and compassionate manner to the family who are themselves victims of crime.
- Ensure family members are given timely information about other police departments and support agencies and that referrals are made to Victim Support and other agencies in accordance with the family's wishes.
- Gather evidence and information from the family in a manner that contributes to the investigation and preserves its integrity.
- Secure the confidence and trust of the family.

Families should be considered as an integral part of the investigation and this concept is central to its success. In cases of unexplained death, missing persons, road deaths, and critical incidents, primary responsibility for family liaison rests with the police.

RELATED DOCUMENTS AND APPENDICES

PD 109 Family Liaison Officer Co-ordination and Deployment

ADMINISTRATION

Registered Owner	
Owner	Author
Det Ch Supt Jebb	Neil Fletcher – Policy and Change Officer

Monitoring and review	
Measure	Date/period and process of review

Version Control	
Section changed	Details of change
1.0	New policy