

## Suspect Introduction Sheet

### Introduction

Everything we say is being recorded. At the end of the interview I will give you a notice explaining how you can obtain a copy of the interview

The time is .... on (day) and (date). We are in an interview room at ..... Police Station

I am (name)

The other officer present is (name)

**(To Suspect)** ... Please state your full name and your date of birth

**(Establish name preference for suspect)** How would you like me to refer to you during the interview

**(To Legal representative)** Please state your name and your role during this interview. *Be prepared to explain their role if they are not willing to.*

**(To appropriate adult)** Please state your name. Once the App Adult has stated their name, officer to explain their role during the interview.

*(If the interview is being monitored)* This interview is being remotely monitored (visually / audibly) by (name)

### Free and Independent Legal Advice

It is very important that you understand that you are entitled to free and independent legal advice

**(If legal representative is present)** You have a legal representative here in the room with you today. Therefore at any stage during this interview you would like to speak to him/her in private then please just let me know and I will suspend the interview to facilitate your request.

Do you understand?

**(If legal representative is not present)** It is important that you understand that legal representation is free of charge and that is independent, which means that it has nothing to do with the police.

I understand that you have chosen not to have a legal representative present at this time. Are you happy to proceed with the interview without a legal representative being present?

Can you explain your reason for not wishing to have a legal representative present.

Your right to have a legal representative present is an on-going entitlement whilst you are here at the police station. If at any point you change your mind and wish to speak with a legal advisor then please let me know and I will suspend the interview to facilitate your request.

### Caution

I am now going to caution you:

“You do not have to say anything, but it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence”

I will now break the caution down for you into 3 sections and explain it to you in detail as it is very important that you understand it.

The first part simply means that you do not have to say anything; you can answer some, all or none of my questions.

The second part however places a very important condition on that. That condition is, that if you do not answer my questions here today and this matter goes to court, and at court you provide an explanation which forms part of your defence, which the court reasonably

expect you to have been able to provide to me here today the court may ask, why didn't they say that during the interview, Are they lying, Are they making it up?

The third part simply means that this interview is being recorded and therefore again if this matter goes to court it can be read out or played in court.

I am now going to ask three questions to ensure that you understand my explanation of the caution

1) Do you have to answer my questions?

2) If you don't answer my questions here today and the matter goes to court and at court you provide an explanation which forms part of your defence, which the court reasonably expect you to have been able to have provided today, what may the court think about that later explanation?

3) What can happen to the recordings of this interview?

*(Do not move on until the caution is understood and explained by the suspect)*

### Reason for interview

You have been arrested on suspicion of **offence(s)** What do you understand that to mean? *If the suspect is unable to provide an explanation of the offence(s) for which they are arrested you should be prepared to provide an explanation in simple terms for them.*

The purpose of this interview is for you to have an opportunity to provide an accurate account for the offence(s) you are being interviewed about

### Routines

Note taking – I may be taking some notes during the interview but I want to ensure you that I/we will be listening to everything that you say.

Exhibits – *(where relevant)* I may refer to some

exhibits during the interview, exhibits are items which have been seized during the investigation

### Expectations

I have certain expectation of you during this interview

I would like you to speak in detail

Please do not interrupt me or speak when I am speaking as it is important that you hear what I am saying and I will try not to interrupt you.

If you do not understand something that I say then please tell me and I will try and explain it to you in a way that you can understand. Equally, if you say something that I do not understand I will ask you to explain it for me in a way that I can understand.

I may check any information that is provided

Do you understand these expectations?

### Routes

*(Here you will explain to the interviewee the topic areas that you intend to question them about)*

During the interview I will be asking you questions about .....

*(NB – If it is a sexual offence explain that you will be speaking to them in detail regarding intimacy and that they can speak freely to you)*

### Significant Statements

Read out any significant statements that have been made at this point

Do you agree that this is what you said?

Do you want to add anything to that comment?

### Questions Commence

#### **Start with the following question**

Did you commit this offence(s)

If the answer is 'yes' invite the suspect to provide a detailed explanation of their involvement in the offence

If the answer is 'no' go straight to the heart of the offence and commence questioning using TED questions

If the suspect answers 'no comment' you should already have prepared for a no comment interview. *(You must continue to ask all the relevant questions in order for any chance of an adverse inference to be drawn)*