



Participant Briefing Sheet

You have requested an opportunity to accompany a police officer on duty. Before you do this you should be aware that there are certain conditions and possible consequences which you must consider. Please read this notice carefully and then decide if you still wish to accompany the officer.

- You must at all times act on the directions of the officer you are accompanying.
- On the day of the ride along, you must bring with you a form of photo identification.
- Participants, if under 18 years, must be accompanied by an adult or appropriate adult to complete a consent form and a confidentiality agreement in person.
- Police have statutory powers to enter private premises without the authority of the occupier in certain circumstances. This power does not extend to people accompanying them. If you enter private premises without the authority of the occupier, or fail to leave when asked to by the occupier you may become a trespasser.
- You may place yourself in the position of being called as a witness to a particular incident either by the defence or the prosecution.
- No notes, photographs, tape recordings or similar may be taken without prior agreement of the Metropolitan Police Service. In certain circumstances police have a duty to inform the Crown Prosecution Service of the existence of such material and you could be required to provide copies of it to the police.
- We wholeheartedly encourage you to share your personal experience of the Ride Along with others, particularly via your social media accounts. However, please do not publish or broadcast anything which may conflict with an individual's' right to confidentiality under the Data Protection Act 2018. For example, you may reference the general nature of a crime officers respond on a ride along (theft, domestic abuse etc.) but you must not detail any information which may identify the individuals involved – such as their names, address, or date of birth. You should also not publish

or broadcast any notes, photographs, tape recordings or similar without prior agreement of the Metropolitan Police Service.

- In some cases, where the incident was exceptional and/or has been reported in the media then it may still be possible to identify an individual from your description even without any personal details. In such cases, and in any cases if in doubt, speak with the officers you are with, or contact your allocated point of contact for further information before publication or upload.
- By its very nature, police work can be both dangerous and stressful. Before accompanying the officer you must carefully consider the possibility of being exposed to incidents that are shocking, violent or distressing.
- You must consider the adequacy of your own accident, life or health insurance cover, as in the event of any injury occurring, you will not be able to rely on receiving compensation from the Metropolitan Police Service and will have to depend on your own resources.
- When attending operational incidents please remain in the vehicle at all times, until the officer escorting you directs otherwise. If the escorting officer directs you to a place of safety, you must comply fully with their instructions.
- You must wear appropriate clothing and footwear suitable to the task you are observing.
- You must have means to make your own way home - i.e have an oyster card or cash – in the event that the host officer has to terminate the ride along prematurely, and will not be able to take you back to police station/meeting point

