

**Police and Criminal
Evidence Act 1984**

(s.60(1)(a), s.60A(1) and s.66(1))

**CODES OF PRACTICE A-G
2005 EDITION**

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Foreword

This booklet contains revised Codes of Practice A - G. Sections 60 and 66 (as amended) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) provide for the Secretary of State to issue Codes of Practice governing certain key areas of police procedure. The existing Codes are:

- Code A: Stop and Search and recording of public encounters. The exercise by police officers of statutory powers of stop and search and requirements for police officers and other police staff to record public encounters. This Code was last revised on 1 August 2004.
- Code B: Searching of premises and seizure of property. This Code governs the exercise of police powers in respect of the searching of premises and the seizure of property found by police officers on persons or premises. This Code was last revised on 1 August 2004.
- Code C: Detention, treatment and questioning. The purpose of this Code is to ensure that all persons suspected of being involved in crime, and others who are in police custody, are dealt with fairly and properly in accordance with the law. This Code was last revised on 1 August 2004. The Code outlines powers in respect of testing for the presence of class A drugs in specified police areas.
- Code D: Identification. This Code concerns the principal methods used by police for identifying persons in connection with the investigation of offences and the keeping of accurate and reliable criminal records. This Code was last revised on 1 August 2004.
- Code E: Audio recording of interviews with suspects. This Code deals with the audio recording of interviews with persons suspected of certain types of criminal offences and governs the way in which audio recorded interviews are carried out. This Code was last revised on 1 August 2004.
- Code F: Visual recording of interviews. This Code sets out the procedure by which police may consider carrying out a visual recording of an interview with a suspect. There is no statutory requirement on police to visually record interviews. The Code was introduced in April 2002.
- Code G: Power of arrest. This Code sets out the criteria the police must consider when exercising their power of arrest under section 24 of PACE as amended by section 110 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005.

The Codes contained in this booklet have been issued by the Home Secretary under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 and have been approved by Parliament.

They deal with contacts between the police and public in the exercise of police powers to stop and search, to arrest and to search premises and with the treatment, questioning and identification of suspects and the recording of interviews. The Codes regulate police powers and procedures in the investigation of crime and set down safeguards and protections for members of the public.

The Codes provide a clear statement of the rights of the individual and the powers of the police. Copies of the Codes issued under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 must be readily available in all police stations for consultation by police officers, detained people and members of the public.

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