

Working with journalists during Covid-19 outbreak

The National Police Chiefs Council Communications Advisory Group has agreed to these guidelines being circulated to, and adopted by, Police Forces in England, Wales & Northern Ireland.

Police officers are likely to have contact with journalists who will continue doing their job during the Government's Covid-19 Coronavirus restrictions. The following guidance outlines how this should be approached.

- **Journalists are covered as key workers**
- **There is a public interest in keeping the population informed of the developing crisis and subsequent recovery / return to normality**
- **Responsible journalism promotes good community relations and assists the emergency services, which is essential in the current health emergency**
- **Journalists will be expected to carry a UK Press Card or other official record of employment**
- **Police will engage with them if officers are unsure why they are out.**
- **We will expect them to comply with the Public Health guidelines e.g. on numbers, social distancing, and if not we'll explain and encourage them to do so**

