

National code of conduct for undercover operatives

1. Undercover operatives remain bound by the laws, regulations and rules governing the respective law enforcement agencies.
2. Undercover operatives must keep in mind at all times the principles and standards set out in the [Code of Ethics](#) for the policing profession.
3. Undercover operatives remain bound by respective discipline codes. While no general exemptions are granted to undercover operatives, it is recognised that behaviour in role will of necessity reflect the requirements of an authorised deployment.
4. Undercover operatives have an individual responsibility to ensure that they are conversant with the parameters of the use and conduct of their authority. Should there be a deviation from the use and conduct authority, it is a requirement that it is reported at the earliest opportunity to the undercover covert operations manager.
5. Undercover operatives may be required to give evidence in court proceedings about their use and conduct, and about any evidence they obtained during their deployments.
6. Undercover operatives are volunteers and they can request to be removed either permanently or temporarily from undercover activity at any time.
7. Undercover operatives can be removed either permanently or temporarily from undercover activity by the authorising officer or undercover covert operations manager.
8. Undercover operatives may only adopt a covert identity or use logistics in support of an authorised operation, or with the specific approval of the authorising officer or undercover covert operations manager.
9. Undercover operatives must not possess, use, acquire or store objects, commodities, articles or material, whether tangible or electronic which would ordinarily constitute a criminal or disciplinary offence unless authorised.
10. Undercover operatives must not deploy without the permission of their undercover covert operations manager.
11. Undercover operatives must remain in contact with their line managers while absent due to undercover deployments.
12. Undercover operatives must not undertake or remain on an operation to which they feel unsuited.
13. Undercover operatives must not embark on a course of action which unnecessarily risks their physical and mental wellbeing.
14. Undercover operatives must comply with the relevant force or agency policy and procedure in relation to drug and alcohol testing.

15. Undercover operatives must bring to the attention of the person responsible for their security and welfare any issue which may affect any risk assessment, their authorised conduct and/or security, safety and welfare.
16. Undercover operatives must not reveal the fact of an undercover role or the detail of any undercover deployments without the express permission of their undercover covert operations manager.
17. Undercover operatives must inform the undercover covert operations manager of any issues which may affect their credibility as a witness.
18. Undercover operatives must bring concerns about any aspect of their deployments to the relevant undercover covert operations manager.
19. Undercover operatives must agree to participate with relevant support services, attend such appointments as required and agree to the disclosure of any adverse issues being reported to their undercover covert operations manager.
20. Undercover operatives are bound by the Official Secrets Act and have a duty not to disclose for publication by any means whatsoever, details of any operation or investigation. This includes any information as to methodology or infrastructure of undercover units.