

# Vision and Purpose Statements for Crime Recording (NCRS & HOCR)

**Vision:** That all police forces in England and Wales have the best crime recording system in the world: one that is consistently applied; delivers accurate statistics that are trusted by the public and puts the needs of victims at its core.

**Statement of Purpose:** Crime is recorded by the police and others to:

- ensure that victims of crime receive the service they expect and deserve;
- prioritise effective investigation of crime in keeping with national standards and the College of Policing's Code of Ethics;
- inform the public of the scale, scope and risk of crime in their local communities;
- allow PCCs, Forces and local partners to build intelligence on crime and criminal behaviour necessary for an efficient and effective response;
- enable Government, PCCs, Forces and their partners to understand the extent of demands made on them and the associated costs of service delivery; and
- inform the development of Government policy to reduce crime and to establish whether those policies are effective.

The importance of these objectives, and in particular the need for the public and victims of crime to have confidence in the police response when they report a crime, makes it imperative that crimes are recorded consistently and accurately.

**Policing Values:** The College of Policing's "Code of Ethics" set out nine explicit values that are intended to ensure standards of professional behaviour for both police officers and police staff:

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|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| • Accountability | • Integrity   | • Openness     |
| • Fairness       | • Leadership  | • Respect      |
| • Honesty        | • Objectivity | • Selflessness |

These values underpin all policing functions and in respect of personal conduct require all persons working for the police service to "behave in a manner, whether on or off duty, which does not bring discredit on the police service or undermine public confidence in policing" (See Standard 9 – Conduct).

The Code explicitly states that complying with the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS), which is central to the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime (HOCR), is an example of meeting the standards.