

HM Prison & Probation Service

Person Escort Record (PER) -

User Handbook

Produced by

Security Countermeasures Unit

Security, Order and Counter Terrorism (SOCT)

Introduction

This handbook is a guide to completing and using the revised Person Escort Record (PER) document and highlighting the major changes.

- The purpose of the PER is to capture and transfer information which in turn will help to manage risk. It is not a risk assessment tool. The redesign clarifies areas of risk and gives more opportunities for risk information to be transferred effectively but still requires knowledgeable users, with an understanding of the process and what information needs to be included.
- It is essential that, when a prisoner is moved from a police station, court or prison to court, prison, hospital or other destination, those responsible for the prisoner are made aware of any risks or vulnerabilities. In particular it is essential that known risks of escape, assault, suicide/self-harm or harassment are communicated to others into whose custody the prisoner is passed; to protect prisoners, staff and the public. It is also essential that any new risks that develop during a movement are recorded and flagged.
 - Proper completion and storage of these documents will help to prevent suicide/self-



harm, escapes, assaults and releases in error. The information they contain will help to reduce other serious incidents and will help to settle disputes about the passing on of information where serious incidents do take place. In cases of prisoners' injuries, it will also help in the investigation of prisoners' allegations of mistreatment. It will also ensure the accurate recording of prisoner's cash and property.

• A PER must be completed for every external movement of a prisoner, whether responsibility transfers to another agency or not and to whatever destination.



Table of contents

- Procedures for completing the PER when sending a prisoner out.
- New PER Documents.
- Section 1. Front Page and Risk Indicator
- Section 2. Medical and social care.
- Section 3. Self-Harm / At Risk.
- Section 4. History and record of events
- Section 5. Continuation of History and record of events.
- Section 6. Red Flag for emerging or changing risks during escort.
- Section 7. Escort handover details.

Procedures for completing the PER prior to dispatching a prisoner to any destination

- The dispatching establishment must complete a new PER document for **every** prisoner leaving the prison for any reason. When the initial prisoner details (name & date of travel etc.) on page 1 have been entered, then the document must be passed onto the Security and Healthcare Departments for them to completed their sections (Pages 3 & 6 respectively).
- Detailed guidance can be found within the PER Document regarding the actual physical completion and required entries.

The dispatching officer must ensure:

- A PER document has been fully completed for every prisoner going on external movement to any destination;
- Security and Healthcare staff have completed their sections to show that they have considered the medical and security risks; and
- That, if risks have been identified, supporting information is provided.

New PER documents What's new?

We now have 3 different PER documents at your disposal.

Cat A/ Restricted Status

The front cover of the PER document is identifiable via a red diagonal stripe which is designed to highlight the additional risk that Cat A / Restricted Status prisoners pose.

E-List Prisoners

The front cover of the PER document is identifiable via a yellow diagonal stripe which is designed to highlight the additional risk that E-List prisoners pose.





Generic PER

For all other prisoners who are not CAT A/Restricted status or E-List.

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L & D Assessment in Police custody enclosed	Standard"
RED FLAG PAGE completed	Heightened"
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Prison / Home Office No.	
Date of travel	
Additional papers relevant to the person - to be inded below and adact Number of additional pages to be noted. 1. 2. 3. 4.	



Section 1. Front page and risk indicators.

This section is normally completed by the security department.

What's new?

- An Escape List warning box is now added to the front cover.
- A checklist is incorporated on the front page giving an overview to the completion of each section within the document.
- Next Of Kin Name and telephone number has been added to Risk Indicator Page.
- Improved questioning designed to capture additional information around transgender issues.

Risk of the prisoner conveyancing of illicit items box has been added on the Risk Indicator page.

A box has been added to highlight and list any additional papers or documents.

Section 2. Medical and social care guidance

This section is completed by the Healthcare department.

What's new?

A comprehensive Medical and Social Care section is now included. There is no requirement to sign someone as fitted to travel.

If the medical section is not completed, the person is not fitted to travel.

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Section 3. Self-harm / at risk.

This section will be completed by the Courts, Escort or Police prior to being received into the establishment if they believe there is a current risk of suicide or self-harm.

What's new?

The form is now included within the PER document instead of being an additional/separate sheet due to the risk of the sheet being misplaced during transit and the subsequent risk failing to be transferred.

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Section 4. History and record of events

This section is completed firstly by the discharging member of staff and then by the escorting members of staff.

What's new?

Nothing new in this section. Discharging members of staff should continue to document;

- The correct identification of the prisoner
- The level of search received
- The full briefing of the escort staff

Escorting staff must ensure they document significant events that occur during the escort including;

- Leaving/arriving at the establishment
- Restraint checks in line with the escort risk assessment
- Arrival at the destination
- The demeanour of the prisoner throughout the escort.
- Significant events throughout the escort including seeing the Doctor or Nurse etc.

Section 5. Continuation of history and record of events

No significant changes in this section

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CONTINUATION SHEET OF HISTORY & RECORD OF EVENTS

Section 6. Red flag page

The **RED FLAG** page will usually only be completed by **escorting staff**, as this refers to changing or emerging risks which impact on the safety and wellbeing of the person in escort.

What's new?

This new section is designed to highlight **any** incidents whilst away from the establishment which may heighten RISK FACTORS. These incidents must be recorded and handed over via the **RED FLAG** page and detailed on the History of Events sheet,



using a continuation sheet if required.

The **RED FLAG** page can also be used to record and highlight any vulnerabilities or risk factors that arise once the PER is completed and / or during the period of escort or absence from the establishment.

Section 7. Escort Handover Details

This section can be completed by court, Police, escorting or prison staff dependent upon the origin of the document.

What's new?

The new document provides separate sections for both property and cash which enables clarity when moving offenders and their property. The new sections provide opportunity for additional property to be moved whilst maintaining an audit trail and providing clarity.

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The changes at a glance

- Full guidance notes are included within the PER document itself giving details regarding how to complete the document
- A separate PER document for mandatory use on Cat A / Restricted Status prisoners. The front cover of the PER document is identifiable via a red diagonal stripe which is designed to highlight the additional risk that Cat A / Restricted Status prisoners pose.
- A separate PER document for the mandatory use on all E-List prisoners. The front cover of the PER document is identifiable via a yellow diagonal stripe which is designed to highlight the additional risk that E-List prisoners pose.
- A checklist is incorporated on the front page giving an overview to the completion of each section within the document.
- An Escape List warning box is now added to the front cover.
- Next Of Kin Name and telephone number has been added to Risk Indicator Page.

- Improved questioning designed to capture additional information around transgender issues.
- Risk of the prisoner conveyancing of illicit items box has been added on the Risk Indicator page.
- A comprehensive Medical and Social Care section is now included. There is no requirement to sign someone as fitted to travel. If the medical section is **not** completed, the person is not fitted to travel.
- The previously separate Self Harm/At Risk document is now included as part of the PER document.
- A new "Red Flag" section which will highlight any emerging or changing risk during the current escort.
- Separate Property and Cash sections providing clear options.
- Additional Carbonated sheet added.

Other

If you have any queries on the PER document or this guidance, please contact <u>SOCT.Procedures@justice.gov.uk</u>





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