

## What is Independent Custody Visiting?

Independent Custody Visiting is a scheme whereby volunteers attend police custody suites to check on the treatment of detainees, the conditions in which they are held and that their rights and entitlements are being observed.

The scheme offers protection to detainees and provides reassurance to the wider community.

"The Independent Custody Scheme allows me to give back to society!"

*Current ICV Volunteer*



# ESSEX INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME

## Contact Us

If you are interested in becoming an ICV, or would like some more information please contact us using the phone number or email below.

## Visit:

<https://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/giving-you-a-voice/independent-custody-visiting/>

## Email:

[icv.scheme@essex.police.uk](mailto:icv.scheme@essex.police.uk)

## Call:

01245 282 084



SCAN ME

**PFCC**  
POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME  
COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX



**ICVA**  
The Independent Custody  
Visiting Association

## Information Leaflet

"Talking to a wide variety of people held in custody gives me a different perspective on life."

*Current ICV Volunteer*

## What happens during a custody visit?

A Custody Officer will supply details of detainees in custody.

ICVs will introduce themselves to each detainee, and if consent is given, enquire on the welfare of that detainee.

ICVs also check on the condition of the entire Custody Suite including cleanliness and supplies.



ICV volunteers are not there to investigate or become involved in any of the on-going investigations which have resulted in the detention of a person.

## How to apply to become an ICV?

If you are interested in becoming an ICV please contact the scheme managers at [icv.scheme@essex.police.uk](mailto:icv.scheme@essex.police.uk) or call 01245 282 084.

Following successful a interview, a standard criminal record check will be undertaken. Comprehensive training is provided and all visits will be carried out alongside an experienced panel member. Where reasonable expenses incur on custody visitor matters, they will be reimbursed by the PFCC.

## Why volunteer?

- Give back to your community
- Get the chance to hold police custody to account
- Opportunity to learn new skills and gaining knowledge of how Essex Police operates

## Who can become an ICV?

Anyone over 18 years of age can become an Independent Custody Visitor except magistrates, those who have been convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment within the last five years and serving Police Officers and Staff.

