



## Handcuff Training

Being in possession and the use of handcuffs, providing their intended use is for lawful purposes, handcuffs are not an offensive weapon nor are they prohibited in any way. Many areas of the UK encourage the lawful use of handcuffs sanctioned by local police forces; in some cases training is also provided by the local law enforcement teams.

Handcuffing is regarded as a preferable restraint as opposed to group restraint tactics which can pose a threat to the welfare of the person being restrained particularly positional asphyxia. When applying handcuffs the subject should be sitting back on their feet and the restraints should be applied within 30 seconds, the suspect should only be placed in the recovery position as a last resort.

There are three main reasons for handcuffing as laid out by law and all Company Health and Policies, SAFETY being the main component

- **Safety of the public**
- **Your own safety**
- **The suspects safety**

### **When should handcuffs be used?**

- **To prevent a violent offender from assaulting or injuring you or a member of the public.**
- **When you judge it necessary to prevent the offender's escape from the scene.**
- **As a prevention tactic to stop the offender from harming themselves, you or members of the public.**

### **Officers may employ the use of handcuffs on reasonable grounds when:**

- **The offender is likely to commit an act of violence against the arresting officer/s or bystanders.**
- **There are reasonable grounds to suspect that the offender is likely to escape custody.**

The term '**Reasonable Grounds**' is defined by the circumstances of individual cases applied as an objective rule based on the decision that the offender is likely to commit an act of violence or will attempt to escape. In the case of juveniles, women or the elderly the consideration of reasonable grounds and exceptional circumstances should be carefully applied.

### **The justified use of handcuffs is governed by Section 3 of the Criminal Law act which clearly states:**

A person may use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances in prevention of a crime, or in effecting or assisting in the lawful arrest of offenders or suspected offenders or of persons unlawfully at large.

### **Common Law and use of Force**

In the UK the use of force on an individual is considered unlawful unless the following circumstances prevail:

- **As an act of self defence**
- **To save a life**
- **Lawful arrest is the only option**
- **The prevention of a crime or further criminal acts**
- **Preventing an intended Breach of the Peace**

### **Justified use of restraint**

- **Force used in any confrontation MUST be seen as REASONABLE based on the likelihood of the suspect's resistance.**
- **Other options to calm the situation have failed.**
- **When a potentially volatile situation provides no further option.**

### **Suitability**

Staff who by virtue of their role will have cause to detain and arrest aggressive or potentially violent individuals, remove people for their premise or engage in any potential physical confrontations.

### **Requirements**

Delegates wishing to enter this programme must submit the following evidence of prior learning:

1. **\* Level 2 Conflict Management Award or equivalent**
2. **\* Experience and/or formal training in physical intervention techniques ...**

### **Course objectives**

The programme has been designed to develop an ethos of safe practice and ease of application in the use of effective physical intervention and handcuff techniques that are under-pinned by legal, medical & moral considerations.

The programme builds on the learning conducted during conflict management training, such as the SIA Licensing Unit 2 or equivalent, and provides staff with the knowledge and confidence of what to do and more importantly how to deal with individuals who do not respond to communication, and despite efforts still pose a clear and present danger.

By the end of the workshop the delegate will better able to:

- **Develop a greater working knowledge of the conflict management model.**
- **Describe the relevant signs of escalation in subject aggression.**
- **Effectively utilise appropriate communications skills in confrontational situations.**
- **Evaluate appropriate legislation with regards to use of force and Human Rights.**
- **Examine a range of personal management concepts and strategies.**
- **Produce detailed statements and records of incidents, accidents and events.**
- **Demonstrate the safe, effective and application of a range of 'reasonable' and 'proportionate' physical intervention and handcuff techniques.**
- **Demonstrate the safe, effective and application of a range of handcuff/restraint techniques.**
- **Examine the probable & less likely medical implications of all applied technique.**
- **Evaluate medical risk factors including positional asphyxia, ABD, excited delirium, sickle cell anaemia and alcohol / drug intoxication.**
- **Examine the relevant Health & Safety requirement and considerations with regards subject handling and movement.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST A QUOTATION**

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