



POLICY ON THE RECRUITMENT OF EX-OFFENDERS

1. Background

All individuals or organisations using the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) service to help assess the suitability of applicants for positions of trust and who are recipients of Disclosure information must comply fully with the DBS Code of Practice. Amongst other things, this requires them to treat all applicants for positions who have a criminal record fairly and not to discriminate unfairly against the subject of a Disclosure on the basis of conviction or other information revealed. It also obliges them to have a written policy on the recruitment of such individuals, which can be given to all applicants for positions where a Disclosure is requested and to ensure that a body or individual at whose request applications are countersigned has such a written policy. Also, if necessary, to provide a model for that body or individual to use or adapt for this purpose. To assist individuals/organisations to meet this requirement the DBS has produced a [sample] policy statement, which can be used or adapted for this purpose. Adherence to this policy will ensure compliance with the DBS Code of Practice in this respect.

2. Policy Statement

As an organisation using the DBS service to assess applicants' suitability for positions of trust, Creative Futures (UK) Ltd complies fully with the DBS Code of Practice and undertakes to treat all applicants for positions fairly. It undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a Disclosure on the basis of conviction or other information revealed.

Creative Futures (UK) Ltd is committed to the fair treatment of its staff, potential staff or users of its services, regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, responsibilities for dependants, age, health, physical/mental disability or offending background.

We have a written policy on the recruitment of ex-offenders, which is made available to all Disclosure applicants at the outset of the recruitment process.

We actively promote equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills, and potential and welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records. We select all candidates for interview based on their skills, qualifications, and experience.

A Disclosure is only requested after a thorough risk assessment has indicated that one is both proportionate and relevant to the position concerned. For those positions where a Disclosure is required, all application forms, job adverts and recruitment briefs will contain a statement that a Disclosure will be requested in the event of the individual being offered the position.

Where a Disclosure is to form part of the recruitment process, we encourage all applicants called for interview to provide details of their criminal record at an early stage in the application process. We request that this information is sent under separate, confidential, cover to a designated person within Creative Futures (UK) Ltd and we guarantee that this information is only be seen by those who need to see it as part of the recruitment process.

Creative Futures (UK) Limited

Company registered in England and Wales, No. 7578987 Registered Charity No. 1143459
Registered address: Office 9a, The Beethoven Centre, Third Avenue, London W10 4JL
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Unless the nature of the position allows Creative Futures (UK) Ltd to ask questions about your entire criminal record we only ask about "unspent" convictions as defined in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

We ensure that all those in Creative Futures (UK) Ltd who are involved in the recruitment process have been suitably trained to identify and assess the relevance and circumstances of offences. We also ensure that they have received appropriate guidance and training in the relevant legislation relating to the employment of ex-offenders, e.g. the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

At interview, or in a separate discussion, we ensure that an open and measured discussion takes place on the subject of any offences or other matter that might be relevant to the position. Failure to reveal information that is directly relevant to the position sought could lead to withdrawal of an offer of employment

We make every subject of a DBS aware of the existence of the DBS Code of Practice and make a copy available on request.

We undertake to discuss any matter revealed in a Disclosure with the person seeking the position before withdrawing a conditional offer of employment.

Having a criminal record will not necessarily bar you from working with us. This will depend on the nature of the position and the circumstances and background of your offences.

This policy was reviewed at the AGM on 9.10.2023.

Officer Responsible: Julian Knight, Creative Director

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