

## Law Enforcement and Public Health: Introduction to Law Enforcement & Public Health

**The First African Conference on Law Enforcement and Public  
Health Pretoria, 1-4 December, 2024**

This conference provides a training opportunity for police in African Police Agencies to learn about public health approaches to policing from local and international experts.

**The Call for Abstracts and Proposals for presentations at the African Conference  
on Law Enforcement and Public Health is now open!**

Go to the Conference website for instructions on submission of your proposal  
for a presentation at the conference.

**For further details and to register your interest, visit:**  
**<https://leph2024pretoria.com/>**

### What is Public Health Policing?

While law enforcement has a prime role in ensuring the rule of law, it rarely provides a final solution since it does not address the root causes of crime. One does not solve underlying problems by solely filling up prisons by putting even greater numbers of people behind bars. Prevention is by far more cost-effective and efficient.

To this end, a new paradigm explored is the 'public health approach'. This approach tends to view crime as a public health issue, like the spread of disease, and emphasises prevention through evidence-based early interventions and active collaboration with community stakeholders. Being piloted on multiple sites it is hoped that it will not only result in safer communities but equally improve the public's perception and trust towards law enforcement.

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