

British Society of Criminology Annual Conference 2021 and 2022

Invitation to Tender

The British Society of Criminology (BSC) invites tenders from academic or related institutions for the organisation of the summer 2021 and summer 2022 BSC Annual Conferences.

The annual conference is vitally important to the British Society of Criminology, our members and delegates. In July 2019, Lincoln University hosted our most recent celebration of the breadth and diversity of criminological scholarship with speakers and participants from a range of fields sharing substantive and conceptual research that promises to shape the future of the discipline. Previous conferences have been hosted by the Universities of Liverpool (2014), Plymouth (2015), Sheffield Hallam (2017) and Birmingham City (2018) with us coming back to Liverpool in 2020¹. In each case, the conference attracts a range of delegates including practitioners, policy-makers, academics and students from across the UK and further afield. It offers an opportunity to share ideas, present research and discuss practice and policy innovations.

Hosting the British Society of Criminology Annual Conference is an exciting prospect and an opportunity to shape the forum of criminological scholarship over the coming years. The BSC is now seeking an academic institution (or consortia of institutions within the same geographical area) that will continue the tradition of the previous hosts, providing the criminological community with an opportunity to present the latest findings and to debate the key issues of the day. In the face of increased competition, however, any successful host will also need to be open to the prospect of innovation, ensuring that the BSC remains an attractive option whilst maintaining an exceptional delegate experience.

Successful tenders should address:

1. Conference location, including national and international access.
2. Facilities for main plenary presentations, parallel sessions, publishers' exhibitions, receptions.
3. Range and quality of available accommodation and catering including the conference dinner.
4. Local Academic and organisational capacity/experience.
5. Innovative sessions and events
6. Postgraduate provision

¹ The 2016 Conference was held at Nottingham Conference Centre

7. Sponsorship ideas for different elements of the programme
8. National and international promotional activity to attract new and returning delegates.
9. Outline costings, including proposed delegate rates for different types of accommodation (if applicable) and delegate status. Proposals for reducing delegate rates from 2019 and 2020 conferences.
10. Please indicate your preference for year of conference and state any particular reason eg institutional anniversary etc

As a registered charity the British Society of Criminology has a duty to advance public education and to facilitate the widest possible dissemination of knowledge. With this in mind, tenders should also offer an exploratory outline of proposals for recording or podcasting parts of the conference or otherwise making aspects of it available online whilst treading the fine line between charitable duty and the commercial need to ensure that the delegate experience is not replicated in its entirety.

Tenders should also consider prospects for reducing delegate rates based on the 2019 and 2020 conferences with the aim of making our annual meeting more accessible and, ideally, attracting a greater number of scholars and practitioners. It's possible, for example, that savings might be found in the adoption of information technologies to reduce print expenditure or in altering the structure of the conference to rely on fewer half days and therefore reducing our requirements for overnight accommodation.

For an application form or an informal chat about any ideas or questions, please contact Dr Vicky Heap (Chair of BSC Conference Committee – email: V.Heap@shu.ac.uk) or Dr Charlotte Harris (Executive Director, BSC – email: charlotte.harris@britsoccrim.org). Alternatively, write to The British Society of Criminology, 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1BE.

Completed forms should be submitted to the BSC office email address – info@britsoccrim.org before midday on October 16th 2019.