

Working for the Police service

There are several ways to join the police, and in 2020 there was a major change to the recruitment process, meaning you'll need to have at least a degree-level qualification by the time you complete your probation.

Police officers work in partnership with the communities they serve to maintain law and order, protect members of the public and property, and detect, prevent and investigate crimes. It is a challenging career that demands a high level of personal integrity and responsibility.

The UK has 45 geographical police forces - that's 43 in England and Wales (Greater Manchester Police, Suffolk Constabulary, Gwent Police, etc.) plus Police Scotland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

In addition, there are four special police forces:

British Transport Police - responsible for policing the railway network.

Civil Nuclear Constabulary - protects civilian nuclear facilities.

Ministry of Defence Police - security for the UK's defence assets.

National Police Air Service - air support for English and Welsh police forces.

Check the Careers Website for regular updates on Employment and Apprenticeship Opportunities [Here](#)

Follow @MESCareersDept on Twitter for more resources and links



[Career Profile](#)

[Joining the Police Force](#)

[Information about joining Thames Valley Police Force](#)

[Careers with the Met Police](#)

[Joining the Police](#)

[View a live Police job board](#)

Check on line for open days at Thames Valley Police Force. There are usually displays from the dogs section, the force helicopter usually makes an appearance and there are a series of talks from police officers.

Recruitment videos

[Be a force for all](#)

[Do something real - working with the MET police](#)

[Thames Valley Police - What we look for in new recruits](#)