



Hampshire Special Constabulary



Hampshire Special Constabulary

Special Constabulary
Self Selection Questionnaire



Hampshire Special Constabulary

Thank you for your interest with Hampshire Constabulary.

- Standards for Hampshire Special Constabulary are high and the recruitment and selection process is thorough. We can only select applicants who reach the standard set by Hampshire Special Constabulary.
- Before you request an application form, you should first check to see if you are eligible to apply.
- The questions below are here to help you decide whether you are eligible. You should answer honestly.
- The questionnaire will only take a few minutes.

Eligibility criteria	Yes	No	Further guidance
Age: Are you over 17.5 years old?			See note 1.
Nationality: You need to be a British citizen or a member of the EC/EEA and have lived in the UK for at least 3 years. Commonwealth citizens and foreign nationals who are resident in the UK free of restrictions can also apply.			See note 2.
Criminal Record: Ideally, you should not have a criminal record but some minor offences may not exclude you. Have you ever been convicted or cautioned for any offence either as an adult or a juvenile.			If yes, check note 3 to see if you are eligible.
Tattoos: Do you have any tattoos on your hands, neck forearms or face?			If yes, you may still be eligible – see note 4.
If yes, could your tattoo(s) cause offence to members of the public or colleagues, or be considered lewd, garish or provocative?			If yes, it is likely you are ineligible.
Financial Status: Are you or have you ever been registered as bankrupt?			If yes, you may still be eligible – see note 5.
Do you have, or have you had any County Court Judgements against you?			If yes, you may still be eligible – see note 5.
Are any of your financial arrangements (including			If yes, you may still be eligible – see note 5.



Hampshire Special Constabulary

mortgage) in arrears or have you had any loans/credit arrangements withdrawn?			
<p>Health: You need to be in good health physically and mentally to be a Special Constable.</p> <p>Do you have any medical conditions which could preclude you from becoming a Special Constable?</p>			If in doubt, see note 6.
<p>Eyesight: Can you see the 4th line from the bottom of an opticians chart with either your right or left eye and the 2nd line from the bottom of an opticians chart with both eyes together (wearing spectacles or contact lenses if necessary)?</p>			If in doubt, see note 6.
If you wear spectacles or contact lenses can you see the 2 nd line from the top of an opticians chart without spectacles or contact lenses (with both eyes together)?			If in doubt, see note 6.
Have you undergone Radical Keratotomy (RK) or Arcuate Keratotomy or had a corneal graft?			If yes, you are not eligible.
Have you undergone any other refractive surgery such as Photorefractive Keratectomy (PRK), LASIK, LASEK, ICRS?			If yes, you will still be eligible if six weeks has elapsed since surgery. See note 6.
<p>Excluded Occupations: Persons in certain occupations or holding certain appointments may not be appointed as Special Constables.</p>			Please see note 7 for excluded occupations and appointments.

Education

No formal education qualifications are required.



Hampshire Special Constabulary

The next steps

If any of your answers fall outside the shaded boxes, you may not be eligible to join Hampshire Special Constabulary. You should refer to the relevant notes for more information.

Eligibility criteria for recruitment and selection to Hampshire Special Constabulary

In order to join Hampshire Constabulary you will need to meet the criteria and national standards set out below.

Note 1 – Age

You may apply to Hampshire Special Constabulary on reaching the age of 17.5 years old. You must be 18 years old before you can be appointed. There is no upper age limit to join Hampshire Special Constabulary.

Note 2 – Nationality

To be eligible for appointment you must be a British Citizen or a member of the EC or the states in the EEA (Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) and have lived in the UK for at least 3 years. Commonwealth citizens and foreign nationals are also eligible, but only if they are resident in the UK free of restrictions.

If you are a commonwealth citizen or a foreign national you must provide proof that you have not restrictions on your stay in the UK. You should therefore send a copy of your passport which shows that your stay is free of restrictions.

Note 3 – Criminal record

Special Constables must respect and uphold the law. They should be law abiding and have a high standard of personal behaviour and social conduct.

Officers with criminal associations or convictions may be vulnerable to pressure to disclose information. Convictions and cautions for certain offences can also undermine a police officer's position as a witness in court. For these reasons, police forces need to be careful about recruiting people with cautions or convictions.

Although you may still be eligible to join the police service if you have minor convictions/cautions, there are certain offences and conditions, which will make you ineligible. Read the following and if you are still unsure you should contact Hampshire Special Constabulary Team.



Hampshire Special Constabulary

Applications will not be accepted from those who have been convicted or cautioned for a serious arrestable offence including:

- Treason - Murder – Manslaughter – death by reckless driving
- Rape – Kidnapping – Firearms offences
- Gross indecency – Hostage taking, hi-jacking or torture

In general, applications will also be rejected if an applicant has:

- Committed any offence (as an adult or juvenile) which resulted in prison sentence, including custodial, suspended or deferred sentence and sentences served at a young offenders' institution or community home
- Received a formal caution (including reprimands and final warnings) for a recordable offence within the last five years
- Been convicted as a juvenile within the last five years for any recordable offence
- Any other recordable offence within the last five years other than those listed above.

Applicants are likely to be rejected if they have been involved in any of the following:

- Offences involving serious violence or injury including Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH) and Actual Bodily Harm (ABH)
- Offences involving unsolicited violence towards others
- Unlawful possession of weapons, firearms or going equipped to steal
- Public Order offences – involvements in riot, violent disorder, affray, causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress
- Racially motivated or homophobic offences
- Burglary and offences which involved elements or acts of dishonesty, corruption, substantial financial gain and deception
- Serious involvement in drugs including possession of a Class A drug (heroin, morphine) or more than one Class B drug (amphetamines) and/or supplying drugs of any kind
- Reckless or Dangerous Driving; one offence of drink driving, drunk in charge, or drugs driving, within the last ten years
- Other serious motoring offences such as convictions within the last five years, driving without insurance, failing to stop after an accident or driving whilst disqualified
- More than three endorsable traffic convictions (including fixed penalties) and/or two or more convictions for regulatory offences within the last five years such as failure to renew vehicle excise license.

Note 4 – Tattoos

You should not have tattoos, which could cause offence. Tattoos are not acceptable if they:

- Undermine the dignity and authority of the office of constable
- Are garish or numerous or particularly prominent



Hampshire Special Constabulary

- Could cause offence to members of the public or colleagues and/or invite provocation. This would include tattoos which are rude, lewd, crude, racist, sexist, sectarian, homophobic, violent or intimidating or tattoos which display unacceptable attitudes towards women, minority groups or any other section of the community, or alignment with particular groups which could give offence to members of the community.

Note 5 – Financial vetting

Special Constables are in a privileged position with regard to access of information and could be considered potentially vulnerable to corruption. Applicants to the police service should not therefore be under pressure from undischarged debts or liabilities and should be able to manage loans and debts sensibly.

Applicants who have existing County Court Judgements outstanding against them or who have been registered bankrupt and their bankruptcy debts have not been discharged will not be considered.

Applicants who have discharged County Court Judgments may be considered.

Applicants who have been registered as bankrupt and their bankruptcy debts have been discharged will only be considered after three years from discharge of the debt. Recruitment is dependent upon successful financial vetting checks.

Note 6 – Health, eyesight and disability

Applicants must be in good health, and able to perform the duties of a Special Constable once appointed. Special Constables are covered by the Disability Discrimination Act. If you have a disability, we will make adjustments where it is reasonable to do so. Please provide any relevant information about your disability and details of any reasonable adjustments you think you may need to undertake the assessment process and the role of a Special Constable. Disability is defined as 'a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on the ability to carry out normal day to day activities. Successful applicants at the assessment day will fill in a medical questionnaire and may have to undertake a medical examination, they will also have to take an eyesight form to their opticians. Failure to meet the standards means you cannot be appointed.

The Eyesight Requirement

You may have seen a chart like the diagram below at your opticians.



Hampshire Special Constabulary

A	6/60
BC	6/36
DEFG	6/24
HIJKLM	6/18
NOPQRSTU	6/12
VWXYZABCD	6/9
EFGHIJKLMNOPQ	6/6
RSTUVWXYZABCDEF	6/5

The actual chart is much larger and is read from a distance of 6 metres. Each line equates to a standard. The standard you need to meet either with or without spectacles or contact lenses is:

Distance Vision

6/12 or better with either your left or right eye 6/6 with both eyes together. If you wear spectacles or contact lenses you also need to reach 6/36 without your spectacles or lenses.

Near Vision

N6 with both eyes together (aided)

Colour Vision

The use of colour correcting lenses is not acceptable. Severe colour vision deficiencies (monochromats) are not acceptable. Mild anomalous trichromats are acceptable but you will need to be aware of the deficiency and make appropriate adjustments.

Eye Surgery

Radical Keratotomy, Arcuate Keratotomy or corneal grafts are not acceptable. Other forms of refractive surgery such as LASIK, LASEK, PRK, ICRS, epiflap are all acceptable provided six weeks has elapsed since surgery, there are no residual side effects and the other eyesight standards are met.

Note 7 – Excluded Occupations

Persons in the following occupations or holding the appointments shown may not be appointed as Special Constables:

- All Armed Forces Personnel
- Armed Forces Reserve (See note below)



Hampshire Special Constabulary

- Police Authority Traffic Wardens
- School Crossing Patrol Wardens
- Parking Attendants
- Neighbourhood Wardens
- Street Wardens/ City Patrol Officers/ Council Enforcement Officers
- Uniformed Patrol Wardens
- Highways Agency Traffic Officers
- Police Community Support Officers
- Members of employers' police forces and private police forces
- Members of Police Authorities
- Magistrates
- Clerks to Justices
- Clerks to Courts
- Youth Workers involved in the administration of criminal law (Contact the Special Constabulary Team)
- Social Workers involved in the administration of criminal law (Contact the Special Constabulary Team)
- Probation Officers
- Bailiffs
- Private Detectives
- Inquiry Agents
- Warrant Officers
- Employees of Security Organisations and Security Personnel
- Guards
- Doormen
- Prison Officers
- Holders of liquor licences, managers of licensed houses, licensees of betting and gaming establishments
- Occupations with client privileges on a day to day basis
- Members of the Health and Medical professions (See note below)
- All Fire-fighters and Retained Fire-fighters (Contact the Special Constabulary Team)
- Persons taking an active part in politics (Contact the Special Constabulary Team)

Notes:

1. Members of the Armed Forces Reserves are eligible, subject to their reserve commitments taking precedence over their Special Constabulary duty requirements.
2. Members of the Health and Medical professions are eligible, subject to confirmation that their local NHS Trust or Health Authority would not object to their becoming a Special Constable.



Hampshire Special Constabulary

3. Applicants whose close members of family are holders of liquor licences, managers of licensed houses and licensees of betting and gaming establishments are eligible at the discretion of Hampshire Constabulary.
4. If a serving Special accepts seasonal or temporary work in an occupation that is ineligible they may not continue in the Special Constabulary.
5. Serving Specials must notify the Constabulary of any change in employment.

Membership of BNP or similar

The police service has a policy of prohibiting any of their officers or staff from becoming members of the BNP or similar organizations whose aims, objectives or pronouncements may contradict the duty to promote race equality. If you are, or have been a member of the BNP or similar, your application may be rejected.