

## Derbyshire Police Force

How do you train to be part of the police force?

For a PCSO and a Police Officer, we attend training for our jobs. 5 weeks training for PCSOs and between 12-17 weeks for a PC. New to 2020, there are different ways to become a PC. Apprenticeship route or degree route.

How long does it take to become a traffic cop?

Basic training of a PC then you can apply to traffic section.

How do you become a detective?

You have to be a PC (Police Constable) for 2 years then take detective exams and pass in order to become a detective.

How long do you have to go to uni to be able to join the police?

3 years.

- **Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA)** - available in England and Wales. This route usually takes three years to complete and provides the opportunity to both learn and earn while working. You'll typically need a level 3 qualification (A-level or equivalent) or equivalent work experience as a special constable, for example.
- **Degree holder entry** - graduates with a degree in any subject can apply for a two-year work-based training programme, paid for by the force you work for, that includes off-the-job learning. Successful completion of the programme leads to a graduate diploma in professional policing practices.
- **Pre-joining degree** - a self-funded, three-year academic degree in professional policing undertaken at a university or college before you join the police. Completion of the degree doesn't guarantee you a job and you'll need to apply for a job as a probationary police constable within five years of graduation. Check with course providers for entry requirements.

How many roles are there in the police?

You have to be a PC for 2 years after training, then you can choose from lots of different departments.

To work in the police force, is it better to start at the bottom and work your way up or study for qualifications and go in at a higher rank? You have to complete basic PC training in order to reach the higher ranks.

How many crimes are committed each year?

In 2019/20 the number of overall crime offences in the United Kingdom reached approximately 6.43 million

How long does it take to train a police dog?

A dog usually already has anywhere from eight months to more than a year of training when he gets paired with his handler. From there, the pair is trained together as a K-9 "team" (dog and handler), which usually is an additional three to six months of training.

Do you have to be able to drive?

Yes

How long do you have to be a police officer before you get a Taser? It is the officer's choice to be taser trained and can apply whenever the opportunity becomes available

How are you dealing with Covid 19? How has the outbreak affected your business or role in the company? It hasn't affected us greatly as we still have to respond to emergencies. But applying PPE and being extra careful is key

How long is a shift? Can they vary between the different roles?

Shifts are usually between 8-10 hours. Yes they vary between roles. Full-time police officers complete an average of 40 duty hours per week, in eight hour shifts.

What skills/qualities would I need to be successful in the industry/field you specialise in?

GCSE's are needed to meet entry standards. You need good communication skills, resilience and drive as it can be a difficult job at times

What personality traits do you look for in a successful candidate?

Hard working, open minded, helpful, resilient, friendly, driven

Do you have to wear a uniform?

Yes

What equipment do you use?

Stab vest, baton, spray, basic black uniform, high visibility coat, hand cuffs, radio, body worn video camera

What is the minimum wage for someone starting at your company or in the industry you specialise in? What is the average salary?

The starting salary for a police officer ranges between £19,971 and £23,124 for constables, rising to £38,382 seven years after joining

Do you offer any apprenticeships? If so, how many hours is training/academic work?

How much is the starting salary for an apprentice? Yes, the apprenticeship route is available to anyone without a degree and wanting to work towards one

What opportunities do you provide for young people? Do you offer virtual work experience?

Cadets is a good opportunity to have a taste of the policing world

What do you look for in a successful job application?

This is an opportunity to let your personality shine through. Do your research on the force you are applying for and the competencies that will help you with the applications

Is having top grades and no work experience better or worse than having mediocre grades and lots of work experience? This is a personal opinion. Some companies look for grades and others want experience. A mixture of both is probably best. We all have strengths and areas of improvement in our professional lives, so it depends on the individual.

How many staff do you employ?

More than 3,700 front line police staff in Derbyshire Constabulary

Our website offers more information on how to apply for a career with Derbyshire Constabulary:

<https://www.derbyshire.police.uk/police-forces/derbyshire-constabulary/areas/derbyshire-force-content/a/careers/>