

# Special Constable

## Applicant Information Pack



# A Welcome to North Yorkshire from our Chief Constable Tim Forber

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Special Constable with North Yorkshire Police.

As the Chief Constable, I am determined that North Yorkshire Police will provide an outstanding service to the communities of York and North Yorkshire. Special Constables play a valuable role in keeping our communities safe.

North Yorkshire is the largest geographical county in the country, covering around 3,200 square miles and over 6,000 miles of roads. We are a diverse community ranging from the historic cities of York and Ripon, picturesque countryside in the Dales, North Yorkshire Moors, and the east coast. We enjoy welcoming millions of visitors and tourists every year and host a number of significant events.

The role of a Special Constable is extremely rewarding and enables individuals to gain new skills and meet new people. We are looking for applicants who put public service at the forefront of what we do and are committed to the highest standards.

If you are successful with your application, you will receive the support, equipment, and training to undertake your role. You will be surrounded by dedicated and professional colleagues who live and work by our values of impartiality, integrity, and respect.

We can only deliver an effective service with the capacity and skills delivered by the broader policing family, of which Special Constables are an integral part. In the words of Sir Robert Peel, “the police are the public and the public are the police” and the Special Constabulary are the very essence of this and true role models in society.

Thank you again for your interest in North Yorkshire Police and we look forward to receiving your application.

Tim Forber



# An introduction to Our Code of Ethics - Ethical Policing Principles

**Courage**



**Respect  
and  
empathy**



**Public  
service**



**As policing professionals, we commit to:**

making, communicating and being accountable for decisions, and standing against anything that could bring our profession into disrepute.

encouraging, listening to and understanding the views of others, and seeking to recognise and respond to the physical, mental and emotional challenges that we and other people may face.

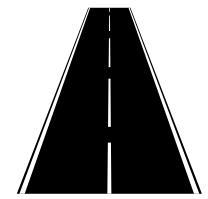
working in the public interest, fostering public trust and confidence, and taking pride in providing an excellent service to the public.

**Doing the right things, in the right way, for the right reasons**

# An overview of our Force area



Safest place in England



6,000 miles of roads



55 miles of coastline



731 City, Town or Parish Councils



# What is the role of a Special Constable?

Special Constables have the same power, uniform and responsibilities as regular (paid) police officers but volunteer on a part-time basis. Specials – as they are known – come from all walks of life and backgrounds bring a diverse range of skills and experience to the role. They volunteer a minimum of sixteen hours per month to support local policing.

Being a Special Constable is not easy. You will be faced with challenging and confrontational situations that most people will never come across in their lifetime. But the rewards can vastly outweigh the challenges. You will gain confidence and new skills, work with a team of equally amazing people, and ultimately, you will have helped people in need or made their life better.

As a Special, you will be an integral part in:

- Ensuring public safety
- Preventing crime
- Tackling crime
- Investigating crime
- Securing convictions

Out on patrol, you will deal with situations and people you would probably never encounter in your day-to-day life. Most of all, you will get to see the real impact of crime on people's lives and the extraordinary power you have as an individual to make a real difference. Being a Special is both exciting and rewarding and for many it is a life changing decision. Whatever your plans, you will find working as a member of the police service, an exciting and rewarding experience.

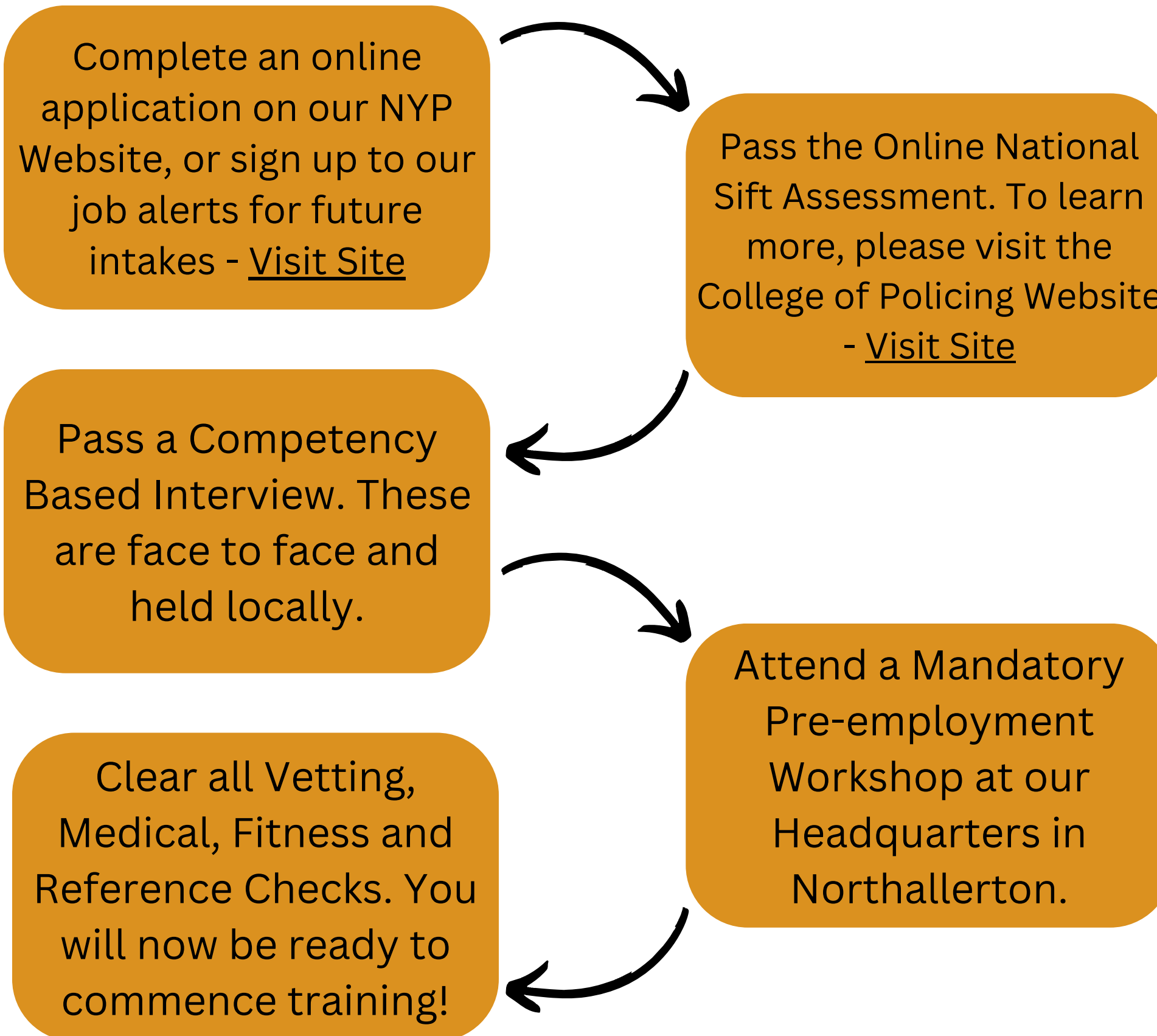


# Can I become a Special Constable?

To apply to become a Special you must:

- ✔ Be 17 or older when applying to be a special constable, but you will not be able to take up appointment as a special constable until reaching the age of 18.
- ✔ Be a British Citizen, a European Union/European Economic Area national or commonwealth citizen, or a foreign national with no restrictions on your stay in the UK.
- ✔ Have a minimum of three years continuous residency in the UK, with less than 12 months spend abroad in the last three years (with some exceptions for those living on a UK military base).
- ✔ Be able to pass our fitness test, reaching level 5.4 on a 15 metre shuttle run (bleep test).
- ✔ Not be currently undertaking a restricted occupation.

# What are the steps I need to take to start the process?



# What does the training include?

The SCLP (Special Constable Learning Plan) is designed to ensure Special Constables receive the same quality training as that of a regular Police Officer. Special Constables, on duty, are recognised by the public as Police Officers and it is imperative for safety and knowledge that their training is that of the standard of a PC. By also professionalising training, it means you will be receive a recognised qualification to enhance your own personal achievements and to also transfer over should you choose to become a PC.

To complete the SCLP at North Yorkshire Police will take between 18 month and 24 months (this will depend on your availability to complete the learning at your own pace). Your initial training will include a **compulsory requirement for you to take a full 7 days** to complete your Public and Personal Safety Training (PPST) .

Once you have completed your initial training you will complete your Attestation. Being attested is when you swear an oath of allegiance to HM the King in front of a magistrate. You will also be given your warrant card. You will then hold the Office of Constable which gives you the power of arrest and control of the public – a significant responsibility. Your goal will be to then achieve Directed Patrol Status (DPS). Once achieved, North Yorkshire Police has a great pathway of options for your to continue your own learning and development!

0 - 3 Months - Initial Training



3 - 24 Months - Accompanied  
Patrol Status



24 + Months - Directed Patrol  
Status



# Positive Action - Support Available



North Yorkshire Police aim to recruit talented people with a diverse range of skills and experience, which can make a real difference to all the communities that we serve.

We are proud of our Inclusion & Diversity Network and the six individual support networks formed, each representing a protected characteristic, to provide support, assistance, information and guidance to both Special Constables and their families, with both personal and professional issues.

The networks providing support and help to these under-represented groups include:

- disability
- race
- religion
- gender
- LGBTQ+
- neurodiversity (including dyslexia, autism etc.)

If you feel you need any reasonable adjustments to help reach your potential, please contact our Positive Action Team - **[positiveaction@northyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:positiveaction@northyorkshire.police.uk)**



# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Can I join as PC after being a Special Constable?**

Of course! One of the biggest benefits of the SCLP is that when a Special Constable applies to be a PC, their learning through the SCLP can be transferred over to their PC training. It is recognised learning and will not need to be repeated.

## **Is there an age and height restriction?**

As long as you are over 18, you can apply to be a Special. There is no upper age limit for applicants. Specials bring valuable life experiences, new skills and fresh perspective into the Force, and the more varied the backgrounds of our Specials the more diverse our workforce will be. There is also no longer any height restrictions in place for either Special Constables or regular officers.

## **Do I have to be posted where I live?**

Applicants need to be aware that they will be expected to serve within the North Yorkshire force area, however every effort is made to take personal needs and circumstances into account where possible.

**Further information available:**

**NYP Website - [Click here](#)**

**College of Policing Website - [Click here](#)**

**Recruitment Website - [Click here](#)**

**You can also email the Talent & Development team with any questions -  
talent&development@northyorkshire.police.uk**

**Positive Action Team - [positiveaction@northyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:positiveaction@northyorkshire.police.uk)**

**We are looking forward to welcoming you to NYP!**

