

Discover what you're capable of...



Phil Valentine, Special constable and chef

Volunteer with the Special Constabulary today

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Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

What is a Special?

Special constables, or 'Specials' as they're known, are volunteer police officers. They wear the same uniform, carry the same equipment and have the same powers as police officers, including the power of arrest. They volunteer a minimum of four hours per week and form a vital link between their community and regular police officers.

What do Specials do?

From tackling anti-social behaviour to crowd control at major events, the work of a Special is exciting, challenging and, above all, rewarding. It's also extremely varied, and you could easily find yourself doing any of the following:

- Going out on patrol - in a police car and on foot
 - Providing security at major events, such as Peterborough United football matches
 - Assisting at the scene of collisions, fights or fires
 - Presenting evidence at court
 - Enforcing road safety initiatives, including carrying out speed checks
- Specials are also based in specialist units including road policing and the major crime unit,

Employer supported policing

People often ask if having an outside commitment like being a Special could upset their employers. Our experience is that employers are usually extremely happy for staff to become Specials and many actually support them.

Our employer supported policing scheme is flexible: each organisation can choose their level of involvement to suit their individual circumstances but staff will need to be given paid time off.



Why should I become a Special?



Harjinder Kaur, Special constable and legal secretary

- It is exciting and inspiring and offers a chance to get actively involved in real policing
- It is rewarding in itself and for your career. You'll gain valuable and employable personal skills. It will enhance your confidence, resourcefulness and communication skills.
 - You'll be given full training in a broad spectrum of policing skills, including preventing, detecting and handling crimes; preparing evidence for court; conflict resolution and self defence
 - It is a chance to give something back to the community and you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you're making a difference.
 - It will broaden your social and networking circles, as the role brings you into contact with people from different walks of life, both inside and outside the organisation.
 - With the right experience and training you can be promoted and take on more responsibility and you may also have the option of further training to join specialist teams



Have you got what it takes?

The Special Constabulary welcomes applications from people from all walks of life and backgrounds. The kind of people we need have good life skills and experience, plus strong community awareness.

To become a Special you need to be:

- Calm under pressure, you may have to attend and deal with difficult incidents including those involving traumatic circumstances such as death, serious injury, confrontation and aggression
- Able to act with integrity and fairness to all sections of the community without prejudice
- A team player but also able to work individually
- A good communicator, both verbally and in writing
- Physically fit, you will have to pass a basic fitness test
- Over 18 and a British citizen or from a country in the European Economic Area or have leave to enter and remain in the UK free of restrictions. There is no upper age limit for becoming a Special.

To find out how to apply, visit our recruitment page on <http://www.cambs.police.uk/recruitment/specials/>



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