BTP Workshop Recruitment Video

Link: [BTP Workshop Recruitment Video](https://youtu.be/md6FQ-SzMHg)

Hello. Thank you for joining me today.

This is the police officer and PCSO workshop for the British Transport Police.

So, it's to help you and guide you with regards to your application. My name is Michelle Pigeon.

I'm a police officer and I'm speaker 2 currently seconded to the Recruitment team.

So hopefully be able to give you lots of tips and guidance today with regards to submitting an application form to join us.

So quick overview of the session. I'm going to give you some information about who BTP are, what we do and who we are as a police service and then I'll talk you through the joining process, so you have a good understanding of what to expect. Should you submit your application form.

Okay, so who are BTP? We are a national police force. We protect and keep people on the railway safe. We are specialized. So, we are unique in a Sense that we Specialize on the railway infrastructure.

If you can see on the slide, there's three pictures. So, the female officer, that's a Uniformed officer.

There and that is the bread and butter of our policing Role.

Obviously, uniformed police officers on patrols, actively keeping the railway network and people that use it safe from harm and making sure that it runs smoothly. So, we're like any other police service yet, we're national and we specialize on the railway environment.

The middle Slide, it shows you. Two officers from our firearms unit. So, like any other Police service, we have specialist posts. So, there are so many opportunities within BTP. So, you need to do two years with us, which is called you probationary period as a police officer and then you can look.

To apply to Become a specialist officer in a post such as firearms, the CID, which is a detective unit, Dog unit operation or support unit. So, there's so, so many Opportunities and a Policing career can be really varied.

And then the other is the map, which shows, a map of England, Scotland and Wales, and that is the area that we Cover.

So that's why we're so unique. So you can see that it is split into different divisions. So this D division, which Covers Scotland, C division, which covers The majority of the middle of the country, all the way down to Cornwall.

And then B Division, which covers. London. Which is split up into East, South and then obviously, Transport for London. So, you know, just by the sheer volume of thought, you can see that we're a very busy police force and lots of opportunities up and down the country.

Should you want to move on like any other police force, you could look to move to areas and you could stay with BTP, which is a great opportunity to be had so the realities of modern day policing.

So, first of all, if you joined BTP as a police officer or PCSO, you would have to work shifts.

This will be a majority of a shift pattern of early lights and night shifts. So, it's important that you understand that and also, we can work. There may be times when you light off duty and you can't get to the things socially that you would like to.

There may be days when you Put in for annual leave requests that you're unable to have them accepted. So, they are some of the realities of working in a police service.

Unfortunately, it's the nature of the role and it's important that you understand that.

Also, as a frontline police officer, you will wear body worn video and it's important because it helps to negate complaints.

It's excellent to have footage, to be able to show evidence for court and obviously it's there to protect Police officers and PCSOs in their daily duties.

It's also important to remember that what you're doing and the way you conduct yourself is going to be recorded. So you have to be mindful that we are a professional organization and you have to conduct yourself in a professional manner.

It's important that the public see that we are acting professionally and that we are doing our job and role correctly. And then another reality of modern day policing is the media perspective.

Constantly, the police are in the national Newspapers or on the TV for some reason or another, and because of that, the public have a perception of policing.

It may be that if you join the police that your social circle, people within your social circle might not react the same way to you as what they did before. It's also important to know that when you're out and about on duty, that people can instantly take a dislike to you because of the uniform.

Not everybody, because a lot of the public are happy to see you and you're helping them.

There is that side to policing when people can sometimes dislike the police, because maybe they've seen something in the media Or of course, because you may be telling them something that they don't want to hear as a police officer.

So, it's important that you understand all of the different sides to policing and you understand what you're getting yourself into when you put the application form in.

BTP is a diverse and inclusive place of work. We strive to represent the communities that we serve, and it's important and probably more important than ever that the public trust the work we do.

It's keyway for us to achieve those to be represented well is to encourage people from underrepresented backgrounds, so that you can bring your whole self to work without fear, bias or scrutiny.

We do everything that we can to level that playing field to be completely fair and an ethical Place to work, and it's important to understand that being a police officer, we need to be open and fair and frontline policing is incredibly important plays a huge part in how the public perceive us.

You need to have a permanent and unrestricted right to work. In the UK and you need to have been a resident in the UK for three years and that is because we need to obviously check your whereabouts and what you've been doing that forms part of our vetting procedure.

You cannot have tattoos on your head or the front or side of your neck or any tattoos that are deemed offensive.

So, on the application, you have an opportunity to take photographs of tattoos that would be on show. So, we ask you to upload them and send them on your application form.

So, we can have a look at them. So, if you do have any concerns about your tattoos, you're not quite sure about the position of them or the nature of what they are then please send your photograph in and we will have a look at them individually.

The CCJ, Bankruptcy our is unfortunately, you will trigger the eligibility.

You will fail that section. So, you cannot have been bankrupt, and an idea is acceptable if well managed and then custodial sentences. So, we are more aware that.

People not these days years ago if you'd Been in any contact with the police, then you couldn't put an application in to join.

However, things have changed, and you are now able to apply if you've had some contact with the police, for example, when you were younger.

You may have received a caution for something minor, or you may have had some speeding fines.

Just been into contact with the Police as part of everyday life. Please do not let that deter you. All we ask is that you put everything down on your application form so you make sure that you're as clear as you can be. If you've had any contact with the Police.

That you're not trying to hide anything, and then we can judge it on its individual merits. However, a custodial sentence, which is a prison sentence, unfortunately, will trigger.

The eligibility criteria and you would not be eligible to join BTP.

So let's talk about the application form. This consists of one question and it is based on your knowledge of BTP and your skills and experience.

The application form is crucial to your success and you should not take it lightly.

The answer should be a minimum of 600 words and a maximum of a thousand words. So, you can tell by that that we're expecting some detail in your answer. So often people submit 1 to 2 paragraphs within their answer, and unfortunately you would fail, because that is not enough information for us to be able to mock you. So you need to provide adequate detail.

To ensure that you give yourself the best possible chance of being successful. And how can you do that? Okay, come consider the following in your answers.

Why do you want to be a police Officer or A PCSO? Why have you chosen to apply to BTP? What is it that interests you about BTP? What do we do that makes you think that you could be a great police officer or PCSO with us?

What skills and experience can you bring to that Role that you've applied for? And we'd like you to give us some Examples if you can, so give as an example. For example, when you have used good Communication skills Or shown empathy, taken ownership of a situation, the so many things that would make a good police officer or PCSO.

So draw on examples if you can, from a job that you may have done or a hobby or volunteering, anything which shows that you've got the skills and attributes that you can bring to the role that you've applied for consider as well.

BTP Objectives and priorities have a look at them. They're out there on our Internet page and then tell us how they can differ to the police forces. Tell us why BTP is unique. Why are we different from other police services Out there, and what have you found out about BTP.

I've already discussed some of the different uniqueness about BTP at the beginning of this workshop. So you have some information already, but you could do some more research and definitely include that in your answer. So if you're shortlisted, that's great news and we will be back in touch with you and let you know that you've been successful and then we will ask you to take part.

In our math and would usage test. You will be sent the link by our recruitment team and this test is done online. So you complete that yourself on your own computer and the results will be collated.

Unfortunately, if you're not successful, then the good news is, is that you will be eligible to apply for the next recruitment campaign that we run. So moving on to the interview, so police officers, PCSOs and special constables are asked to carry out a Ten minute presentation.

The subject heading will be sent to you no later than two weeks before the interview. Police officers and PCSOs will be asked for competency questions and one question, special constables will be asked for competency questions.

So, competency questions ask you to draw on your own personal experience to answer a specific question.

Competency answers must be from one occasion where you have demonstrated that behaviour, but you cannot use the same example to answer all of your questions is it only to be used once and if you've provided any information or given an example in your application form that you think was really good, then you can go on if it answers a question in your interview to use that same example. So, moving forward, if you have successfully passed the interview, we will obviously give you a conditional offer and then we will ask you to take part in stage two of our assessment centre, which will be the fitness test, which is running the BLEEP test.

So the run consists of a 50 meter track. In shuttle runs to level 5.4. And we will ask you to take part in that. You will then have your biometric vaccine taken, which is your DNA Sample and your fingerprints, and you will be measured for your uniform should you be successful.

We will then invite you to have a medical and we will then start to vet you to make sure that we have the right individual to join our police service. And the good news is, if you pass after that, you will be given a final offer.

That means that you will soon be starting our training centre, which is at Spring House in London. So training for police officers is 18 weeks. This is now hybrid which means that there is a mixture between distance and classroom learning and for PCSOs it is eight weeks. But this is all based at Spring House Training Centre because it is a shorter course and there are a variety of topics that you need to cover. So, throughout the training you will be given Impulse into different subjects.

You will be trained in your safety equipment and you will be tested throughout. So, lots and lots for you to take on board during that training period so that you are equipped and will be able to go out and become a competent police officer and PCSO.

So that is the end of the workshop today. If you have any questions, you can see that there is an email address on that slide. Please contact us. You can also follow us on social media and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have with regards to the recruitment process or the application stage of joining BTP.