



**Kent
Police**



Mr. Matthew Thompson
[request-804824-187e45d6@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

Direct Line: 01622 652610
E-mail: freedomofinformation@kent.police.uk

Date: 5th January 2022
FOI Ref: FOI/00580/21

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Freedom of Information Request FOI/00580

I write in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 8 November 2021.

1) Could you please provide me with your force's vetting policy, or any guidance on your vetting processes other than the APP on Vetting issued by the College of Policing?

2) Whether or not a specific vetting policy document exists, could you confirm what the minimum checks required are for Recruitment Vetting for police personnel?

All information requested above is available from the Kent Police website at the following links:

Vetting policy P04

<https://www.kent.police.uk/foi-ai/kent-police/Policy/legal-and-psd/vetting-policy-p04/>

Authentication procedure for new employees P04a

<https://www.kent.police.uk/foi-ai/kent-police/Policy/legal-and-psd/authentication-procedure-for-new-employees-procedure-p04a/>

Recruitment vetting procedure P04b

<https://www.kent.police.uk/foi-ai/kent-police/Policy/legal-and-psd/recruitment-vetting-procedure-p04b/>

Management vetting procedure P04c

<https://www.kent.police.uk/foi-ai/kent-police/Policy/legal-and-psd/management-vetting-procedure-p04c/>

Non-police personnel vetting procedure P04d

<https://www.kent.police.uk/foi-ai/kent-police/Policy/legal-and-psd/non-police-personnel-vetting-procedure-p04d/>

National security vetting procedure P04e

<https://www.kent.police.uk/foi-ai/kent-police/Policy/legal-and-psd/national-security-vetting-procedure-p04e/>

3) Could you also confirm whether, as a matter of course, your RV procedures for police personnel currently include checks on social media content?

Recruitment vetting procedure P04b states at 3.99:

"Details of the applicant will be checked to retrieve open-source information held on the internet about the applicant. Checks will be carried out on Google and against Social Media sites such as Facebook and Twitter."

I apologise that this reaches you outside of the twenty working day limit but thank you for your interest in Kent Police. If you have any queries about your request or the application of the Freedom of Information Act generally, please contact this office quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Muggridge

Public Disclosure Officer

Your right to appeal

We take our responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act seriously but if you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have 40 working days from the date the response is issued to request that Kent Police carry out an internal review.

If your request for a review concerns the decision to apply an exemption, it would assist if you would outline why you believe the exemption does not apply.

Kent Police will acknowledge receipt of any request for a review and aim to respond as soon as practicable, in most cases within 20 working days of receipt. If the review will not be completed in this timescale, you will be informed.

You may lodge your request for a review in writing:

Our email address is: freedomofinformation@kent.police.uk

Our postal address is:

Freedom of Information
Coldharbour,
London Road,
Aylesford,
Kent,
ME20 7SL

If you are still dissatisfied following our internal review, you have the right under section 50 of the Act to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner who would normally expect you to have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by Kent Police.

For information on how to appeal to the Information Commissioner please visit the website at www.ico.org.uk. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
0303 123 1113