



A guide to the  
**COMMUNITY SAFETY ACCREDITATION  
SCHEME**

## Overview

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The Police Reform Act 2002 enables the Commissioner to establish and maintain a Community Safety Accreditation Scheme. Organisations who provide community safety patrols and who satisfy a range of policy requirements may apply to become accredited. Employees of such organisations who have been trained to approved standards may then apply for accreditation themselves.

Benefits include increased information sharing, the granting of limited but targeted powers if considered appropriate and additional legislative protection for individuals. Accreditation aims to raise and maintain standards and formalise relationships within the extended policing family. It will assist those concerned to become more efficient in their role of providing public reassurance and the prevention of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

## Frequently Asked Questions

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- Why has Community Safety Accreditation been introduced?
- What is accreditation?
- Who can seek accreditation?
- How do I recognise an accredited person?
- Are accredited people employed by the Police?
- What standards must be achieved?
- What powers do accredited people have?
- Will accredited people have a power of detention or arrest?
- Can offences be committed against an accredited person?
- Must accredited organisations take up all the available powers?
- What are the benefits of the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme?
- What are the costs?
- How do I find out more?

## Why has Community Safety Accreditation been introduced?

For some years the Police have ceased to be the only uniformed presence patrolling our communities. Others who now share the role include Police Community Support Officers, Neighbourhood and Street wardens. These individuals are all now seen as part of the extended policing family and all make a valuable contribution towards public reassurance and the fight against crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. However, until now there has been inconsistent coordination of resources, limited sharing of information and wide variation in standards and expectations. Accreditation aims to address these issues.

## What is accreditation?

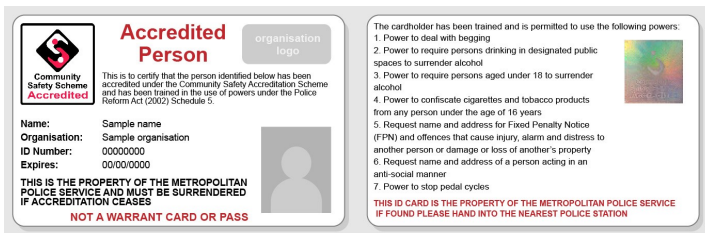
Community Safety Accreditation Schemes have been made possible through the Police Reform Act 2002 and aim to raise awareness, improve standards and promote and develop co-operation between the Police and their partners. Accredited employees may be granted limited but targeted powers appropriate to their role and which meet local needs and priorities. They will also benefit from additional protection under newly created legislation. Improved information sharing between the Police and accredited organisations will help to coordinate visible patrols and direct resources effectively to improve quality of life within the community.

## Who can seek accreditation?

Under the Police Reform Act, any organisation or employer involved in community safety patrols, together with their employees, may seek accreditation.

## How do I recognise an accredited person?

Accredited people wear the uniform of their employing organisation upon which the Home Office approved national accreditation badge will be displayed. They will also carry an identification card, which will confirm the powers the individual



## Are accredited people employed by the Police?

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**No.**

Accredited people are employed by the organisation that has been accredited. The Police are not involved in the direction of accredited people and do not control their role or day to day activities. However, by bringing them into the wider policing family there will be greater liaison between the Police and accredited organisations. Improved sharing of information will help them to operate more effectively and enhance co-ordination of local problem solving initiatives.

## What standards must be achieved?

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Standards have been determined and agreed following consultation between Chief Constables, Police Authorities and Local Authorities which are based upon guidance from the Association of Chief Police Officers. Only after an organisation has satisfied strict criteria that includes enhanced vetting and training standards, equal opportunities and race relations policies, and approved complaints and accountability procedures, will they be awarded accredited status.

Employees must similarly satisfy strict standards in terms of vetting (Non Police Personnel Level 2) and must receive training in relevant areas of law, the use of powers and appropriate procedures. This will include human rights, race relations and equal opportunities.

## What powers can accredited people have?

	Power to require giving of name and address for relevant offence	
	Power to require name and address for anti-social behaviour	
	Power to require persons under 18 to surrender alcohol	
	Power to seize tobacco from a person under 16	
	Power to photograph person away from a police station	
	Power to require name and address for road traffic offences	
	Power to control traffic for purposes other than escorting a load exceptional dimensions	
	Power to remove abandoned vehicles	
	<b>F P N  O F F E N C E S</b>	Power to issue fixed penalty notices for truancy:
		Power to issue fixed penalty notice in respect of an excluded pupil in a public place:
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for cycling on a footpath:		
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for graffiti and fly-posting		
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for littering:		
	Power to deal with begging:	
	Power to stop cycles:	
	Power to stop vehicles for testing:	
	Power to direct traffic for the purposes of escorting abnormal loads	

<b>P N D  O F F E N C E S</b>	Wasting Police time, Giving a false report
	Using public electronic communications to cause annoyance
	Behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress
	Throwing fireworks
	Breach of fireworks curfew
	Possession of a category 4 firework
	Possession by a person under 18 of an adult firework
	Sells or attempts to sell alcohol to a person
	Supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club to a person aged under 18
	Sale of alcohol anywhere to a person under 18
	Buys or attempts to buy alcohol on behalf of a person under 18
	Buys or attempts to buy alcohol for consumption on relevant premises by a person under 18
	Delivery of alcohol to person under 18 or allowing such delivery
	Consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises
	Allowing consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 on relevant premises
	Buying or attempting to buy alcohol by a person under 18
Trespassing on a railway	
Throwing stones at a train	

**Note: Powers granted will be based on local community safety requirements.**

## Will accredited people have a power of detention or arrest?

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Accredited people do not have any specific power to detain. They do have the general citizen's power of arrest but there is no expectation that they shall exercise this power as part of the scheme.

## Can offences be committed against an accredited person?

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Yes. It is an offence:

- to assault an accredited person in the execution of their duty, or any person assisting an accredited person in the execution of their duty;
- to resist or wilfully obstruct an accredited person in the execution of their duty, or any person assisting an accredited person in the execution of their duty;
- with intent to deceive, impersonate an accredited person, or make any statement or do any act calculated to falsely suggest that a person is accredited.

It is also an offence for an accredited person to make any statement or do any act, calculated to suggest that they have powers, which exceed the powers that they actually hold.

## Must accredited organisations take up all the available powers?

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Since local needs and problems vary from one area to another, organisations may apply for some or all of the powers available. It is possible for organisations to seek and receive the benefits of accreditation for their employees without being granted any additional powers. This may be appropriate for more environmentally focused warden schemes. It can also cement and improve links with other crime and disorder reduction partners.

## What are the benefits of the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme?

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By displaying the agreed national badge, the public will instantly know that the individual has reached approved standards of competence, training, management, supervision and accountability. These high standards, together with enhanced vetting procedures, will provide additional reassurance to the public.

Accreditation will help those providing community safety patrols to operate in their role more efficiently and effectively and will raise their profile within the local community. It will provide additional powers with the potential to address certain issues on the spot without the involvement of the Police.

Improved working relationships with the Police and all those involved in the provision of community safety patrols will lead to the development of a coordinated and more effective service. A formalised framework to facilitate the sharing of information and intelligence will lead to a more locally driven approach, which meets the needs of employers and members of the public and will help to resolve community problems.

The importance of the role of the accredited person is also recognised by legislative protection which has been introduced. New offences of assault, resistance and obstruction can now be committed against accredited persons.

## What are the costs?

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### First year set up costs

Initial organisation application conducted by Police CPI Ltd: **£1,250 plus VAT**

Processing fee for each Director and Authorised Signatory: **£30**

Accreditation per Person: **£150**

Training (arranged by organization)

### Ongoing Costs

3 yearly renewal of application (Organisation): **£750.00 plus VAT**

New Accreditation per Person: **£150**

Annual Accreditation charge per accredited person: **£100 per annum**



## How do I find out more?

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For further information on Metropolitan Police Service Community Safety Accreditation Scheme please email:

TPMailbox-.CSAS@met.pnn.police.uk

Or visit: <http://content.met.police.uk/Site/csas>

If your Organisation has yet to be reviewed by Police CPI Ltd then please visit:  
<http://www.securedbydesign.com/safety-accreditation-schemes/>