

Automatic Disqualification from Appointment

Under Regulation 10 of the Police Regulations 2003 (as amended by the Police (Conduct and Vetting etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2026), a person is not eligible for appointment as a Police Officer or Special Constable if they have engaged in conduct which attracts automatic disqualification.

Conduct attracts automatic disqualification if:

- the candidate has been convicted of a criminal offence for which the court imposed a custodial sentence;
- the candidate is, or has been, subject to the notification requirements of Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (notification and orders);
- the candidate has been convicted of, or given a caution for, a listed offence;
- the candidate has been convicted of an attempt or conspiracy to commit a listed offence; or
- the candidate has been convicted of, or given a caution for, an offence which is determined under Regulation 10 of the Police Regulations 2003 to involve behaviour amounting to domestic abuse within the meaning of section 1 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

A "listed offence" means an offence specified in Schedule 3A to the Police Regulations 2003 ([The Police \(Conduct and Vetting etc.\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2026.pdf](#))

Where any of the above circumstances apply, Thames Valley Police is legally unable to appoint the candidate as a Police Officer or Special Constable. This is a statutory eligibility requirement and applies independently of any subsequent vetting assessment.