



# Uniform and Dress Policy

## 1. Scope

This policy dictates the standards of dress expected by staff employed by the British Transport Police. This policy applies to all uniformed and non-uniformed staff.

## 2. Uniformed Staff

Officers who are expected to wear uniform in the course of their duties must ensure the uniform worn is as issued, consisting of a black wicking shirt, with either long or short sleeves, issued depending on weather conditions, issued with a pair of epaulettes which display rank and (if applicable) the officers shoulder number. Or a service issued fleece, with rank and (if applicable) shoulder number markings.

All uniforms should be clean and presentable, and must be worn at all times when on duty, unless directed otherwise by your line manager, or if your operational role requires otherwise. Long sleeved shirts may be rolled up past the elbow if required for personal comfort, and to prevent heat exhaustion. The rolled sleeves must be uniform height, and approximately four fingers in height on the final roll.

Acting and substantive sergeants and Inspectors may wear a white shirt for station duties, or if required to attend court, or for a formal event. Officers of Chief Inspector and above may wear a white shirt operationally, subject to line manager's approval. The shirt must be ironed and clean, with epaulettes displayed on the shoulder.

### **3. Plain Clothes Police Officers**

Some operational roles may require a Police Officer to wear plain clothes as part of their day-to-day role, examples may include fare evasion operations, plain clothes firearms officers (if approved by the SFC for pre-planned operations) and other roles as deemed suitable by relevant managers.

Clothing must be appropriate, for the environment, and be professional and suitable for frontline use. The decision as to suitability is down to an individual's line manager.

Shorts, ripped jeans, open faced footwear and excessive piercings are not permitted.

Police equipment may be worn on a belt, or (if appropriate) be carried in a suitable bag, kept close to the body at all times.

### **4. Non-Uniformed staff**

Staff who are non-frontline, and non-warranted, such as criminal investigations support staff, should wear smart business attire, appropriate for an office environment. Detective Constables may wear smart attire, appropriate for their day-to-day functions.

### **5. Personal Protective Equipment (vests)**

All frontline staff in uniform will wear a visible external vest on the exterior of their uniform at all times when on patrol. The vest must conform to railway standards for high-visibility clothing, and must be quick release/tearaway in case of snagging on moving equipment. Officers designated as Medical Response Officers will wear a white cross with a green backing to the front, and a fluorescent placard reading "MEDIC RESPONSE" to the rear, below the British Transport Police Markings. Vests must be as issued by the service, officers may wear a single pin or badge on their vest, the pin/badge must be non-political and appropriate, as not to cause offence to the public. Officers within OSU, and officers wearing white shirts should wear black vests, but must have access to a high-vis vest in case of trackside incident.

## **6. Personal Protective Equipment (footwear)**

All staff operating within 25 metres of a railway line must wear railway approved steel toe and soul boots, which are suitable to be worn on the railway.

## **7. Radio and Body Worn Camera**

All members of staff who engage regularly in frontline duties must carry a radio and body worn camera. Exemptions to the use and carriage of body cams can be found in the Body Cam policy.

## **8. Headwear**

Staff must, at all times when outside of a building (excluding a train station) wear appropriate headwear, either a peaked cap, or a custodian helmet (PC to Inspector). Festive christmas headwear may be worn during the month of December, until the First of January. Staff who wear religious headwear should, if possible, wear it under their headdress. Those with bulky religious headdresses such as turbans, can be worn in place of issued headwear, but must be black in colour.

## **9. Firearms Officers**

CTAFOs must wear issued G3s, and ballistic protection as well as all issued kit where appropriate, please see the Armed Policing policy for details.

## **10. Face Masks**

No officer, unless for a medical purpose, or as outlined in the armed response and policing policy shall wear any face covering that may conceal their identity. However, a medical facemask may be worn by officers if they wish for health related reasons, subject to line manager approval. This mask must be removed on request briefly to allow a person to identify the officer.