

# CANDIDATE GUIDANCE

OLEEO USERS MAY 2021



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If you require any guidance not included in this guide please email centralrecruitment@gwent.police.uk



### THINKING OF JOINING GWENT POLICE?

Protect and reassure – that's what we are all about. We are proud to be part of the community and we work as part of our community to keep Gwent safe. We want our residents, businesses and visitors to be confident in our ability to prevent and tackle crime.

We cover an area of 600 square miles, including the five local authority areas of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen. With a mix of rural and urban communities, our area also includes key routes such the M4 through south Wales. We also police the main route into Wales from England – the Prince of Wales Bridge.

We have nearly 2,500 staff with police officers the largest group of our staff, with an additional 60 special officers volunteering their time to support us. Our highly skilled front-line policing teams use their local knowledge, specialist skills and the latest technology to prevent crime, and to catch criminals. From serious organised crime to domestic burglars, protecting our most vulnerable community members is at the heart of what we do. While a great deal of our day to day work is in our local neighbourhoods, we also tackle the most sophisticated of crimes such as cyber-crime which is a growing area of concern for us all.

And behind the scenes we have a wealth of experience and knowledge enabling our police teams by offering legal, scientific or business support. The same values drive all of our team: be compassionate, be courageous, be proud, be positive and keep learning.

We also work with other forces within Wales and across the border to England to make the best use of our resources. Whether its air support, firearms teams or forensics, working together can make us more efficient. So whether you want to know more about how we work, what you can do to keep yourself safe or you are thinking of joining us we are always pleased to share our work.



#### **OUR VALUES**





### BOD YN DOSTURIOL BE COMPASSIONATE

Let's build an inclusive and supportive place to work, where we look after ourselves and each other. Take the time to think about what victims of crime might be feeling and how we can support them. Understand how we can work with our communities to provide alternative pathways for people at risk. Think about the challenges and frustrations our communities face and our role in helping them through.



### BOD YN DDEWR BE COURAGEOUS

Make those difficult decisions, have those challenging conversations, ask the uncomfortable questions. Having courage is not always about being the one running towards the problem, but it can be about stepping up.



### BOD YN FALCH BE PROUD

Whether it's about our team, Gwent Police, our local community or the one thing that we well and truly got sorted, let us all take pride in what we do and where we belong.



#### BOD YN GADARNHAOL BE POSITIVE

We can make Gwent a better place to live, work and visit. We don't have to do it alone – we can work with our partners and communities. But we must always know that every day each of us makes a difference and to think about how we will solve our thorny problems to make that happen.



#### PARHAU I DDYSGU KEEP LEARNING

Our world is changing. Whether it's our role, the tools we use, our community or the big picture things are constantly evolving. We will make sure not only that we keep pace, but that we are ready for the next thing. We will be open to new ideas and new ways of doing things and take opportunities to develop our thinking and our skills.

The Police and Crime Priorities for Gwent are driven by the issues you told the Police and Crime Commissioner are important to you. They form the basis of his Police and Crime Plan for Gwent.

#### **CRIME PREVENTION**

Taking action to prevent crime by working with partner organisations and communities to tackle crimes that present the greatest threat, risk and harm and especially those crimes committed against the most vulnerable.

#### SUPPORTING VICTIMS

Provide excellent support for all victims of crime with a particular focus on preventing further serious harm.

#### COMMUNITY COHESION

Ensure that the Police, partners and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner engage with communities to encourage, help and support them to work together to keep themselves safe.

#### TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)

Ensuring the Police work closely with partner organisations to tackle ASB effectively.

#### **EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY**

Ensuring that Gwent Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner are high performing organisations which value and invest in our staff to achieve value for money in delivering impressive services that meet the needs of all our communities.

Our performance against the Police and Crime Commissioner's priorities is achieved through the delivery plan set by the Chief Constable.

If you have any queries please contact us. The recruitment team will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

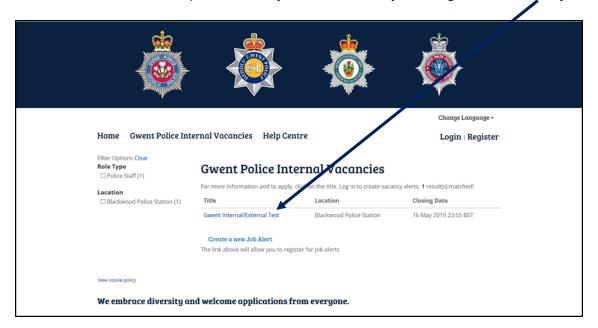
CentralRecruitment@gwent.police.uk



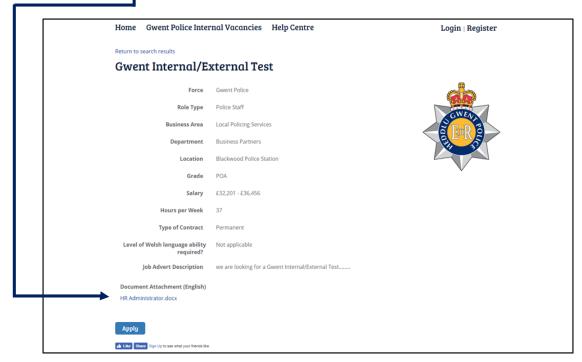


### **Vacancy Posting Board**

Welcome to our new Vacancy Posting Board. This is where you can view and apply for all of our current vacancies. For the purpose of this guide, we will show you how to apply for the vacancy 'Gwent Internal/External Test', which as you can see below is listed as a current vacancy for Gwent Police. You can view a vacancies information to include role profile, salary, location etc. by clicking on the vacancy.



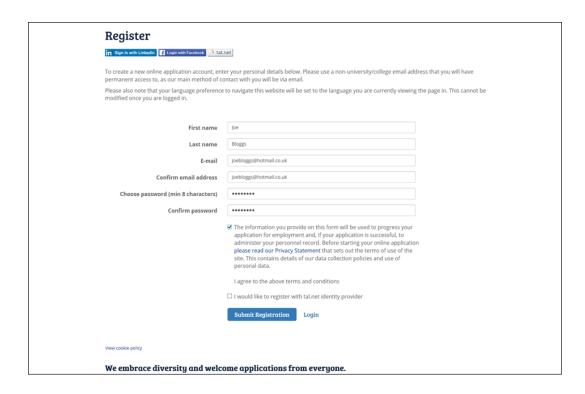
This will take you to the actual vacancy itself. Should you be interested in applying for this vacancy you will need to click at the bottom of the page. Please ensure you download and save a copy of the role profile as you will need to reference against this later on in your application. The role profile can be found at the bottom under the heading 'Document Attachment'.





#### Registration

In order to apply for the vacancy you will either need to register or login. As you will be a new user to the system, you will need to register. We advise you use your personal email address rather than your work email (to ensure you have access at all times).

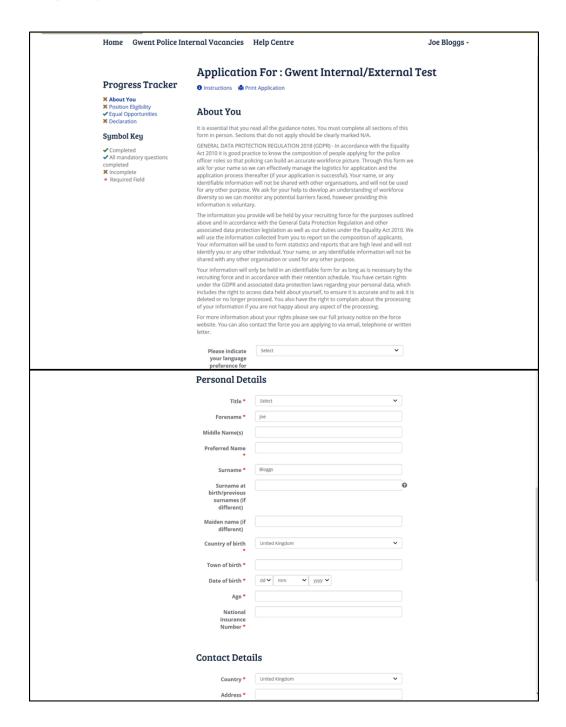


You will need to ensure you tick the box to confirm you have read and agree to the terms and conditions and click 'Submit Registration'.



#### **About You**

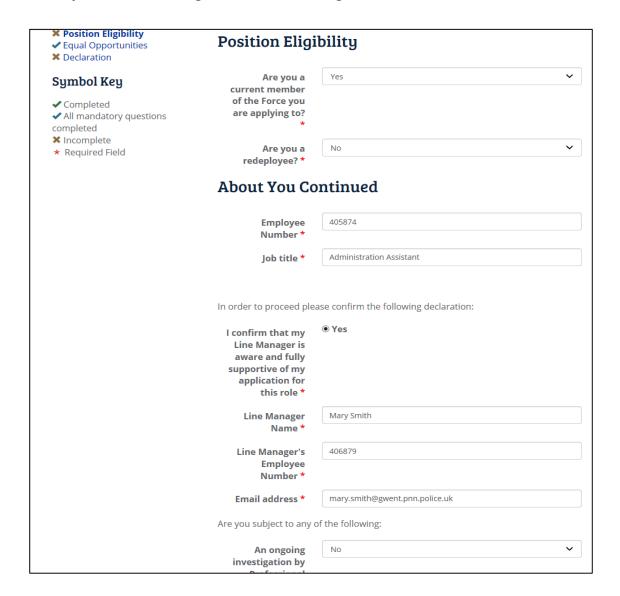
The first part of the application form is used to log your personal details such as name, address, contact numbers, national insurance number, etc. You also have the option to choose your preferred language for verbal communication. The majority of the personal information captured here will be kept on your file so should you wish to apply for other positions, this information should populate itself for future applications. Once you have completed all required fields, click continue at the bottom of the page which will then take you to the Position Eligibility section.





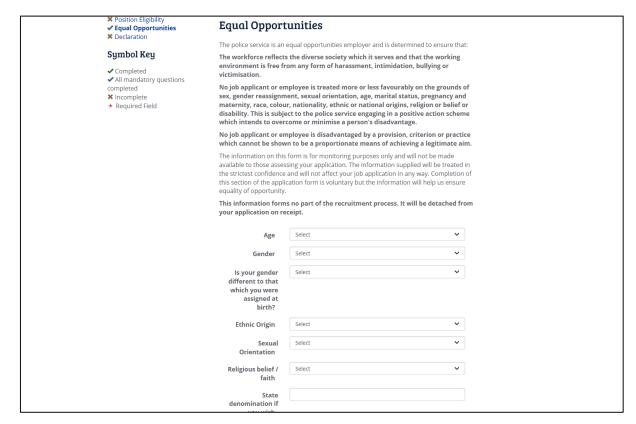
### **Position Eligibility**

Position eligibility relates to internal candidates only and requires you have your line managers details – 6 figure number and email address.

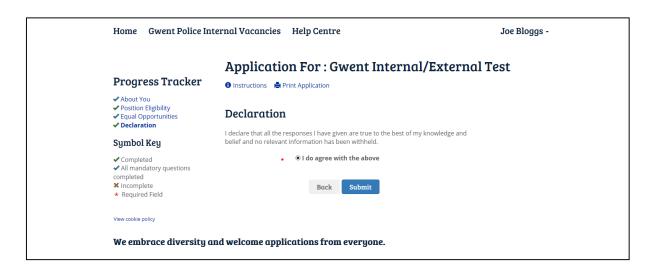


### **Equal Opportunities / Completing the registration process**

The next section is equal opportunities. This is where we gather all the monitoring information about a candidate such as gender, ethnic origin, religious beliefs, etc. This information is used for statistical purposes only and does not form any part of the recruitment process..



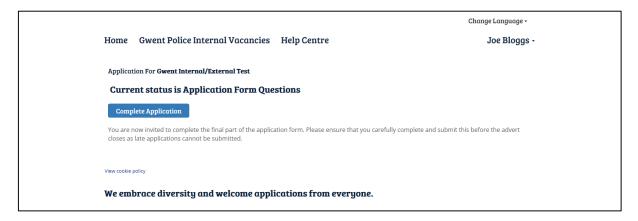
The last part of the registration process is to agree that you declare all information is true and that no relevant information has been withheld. You will need to tick the box 'I do agree with the above' and click 'Submit' to complete the registration process.



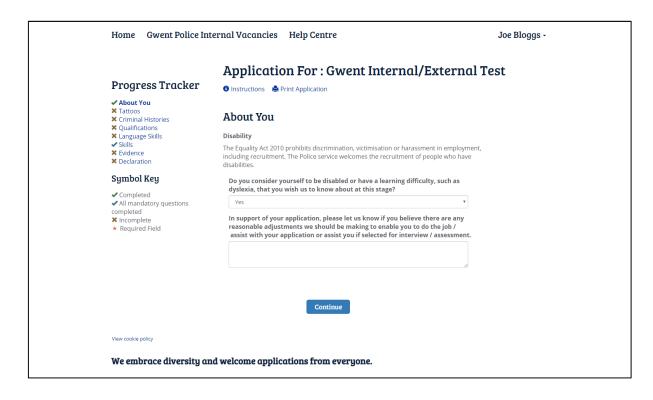


#### **Application Form**

You can now complete your application form questions by clicking on 'Complete Application'.



This part of the application form is to find out more about you and your suitability for the role. You will need to select your answers from the drop down list. The first page asks if you have any disabilities or learning difficulties you wish for us to be made aware of. If you do not have any you can simply select 'No' and click 'Continue' or if you have any you wish to make us aware of, select 'Yes' from the drop down which will then prompt you to add additional information. Once you have added all relevant information, click 'Continue'.

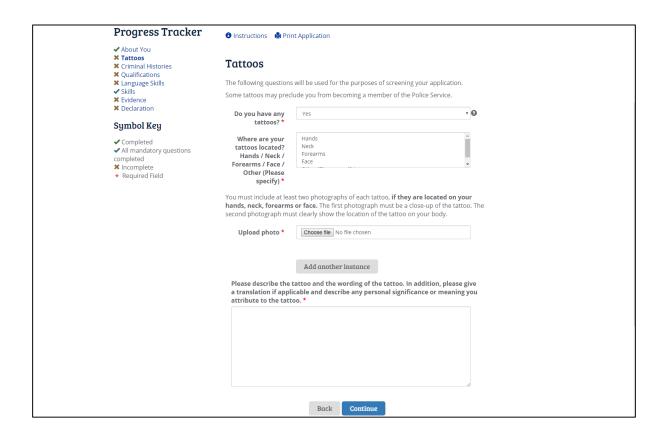




#### **Tattoos**

The next screen is your opportunity to advise us of any tattoos you may have and the nature of those tattoos. If you do not have any tattoos, select 'No' from the drop down and click 'Continue'. If you do have tattoos, please select 'Yes' from the drop down list where you will then be prompted for further information, such as the location of your tattoo, and to upload a photograph depending on the location of your tattoo followed by a brief description.

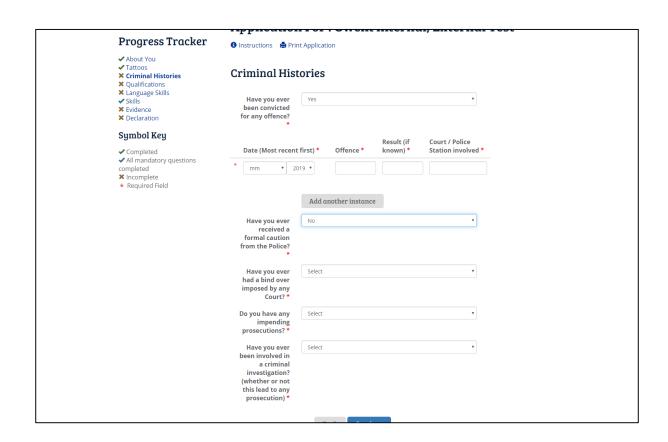
Please note, you only need to provide photographic evidence of tattoos that are located on your hands, neck, forearm or face, we do not need photographic evidence if you have tattoos elsewhere on your body.





#### **Criminal Histories**

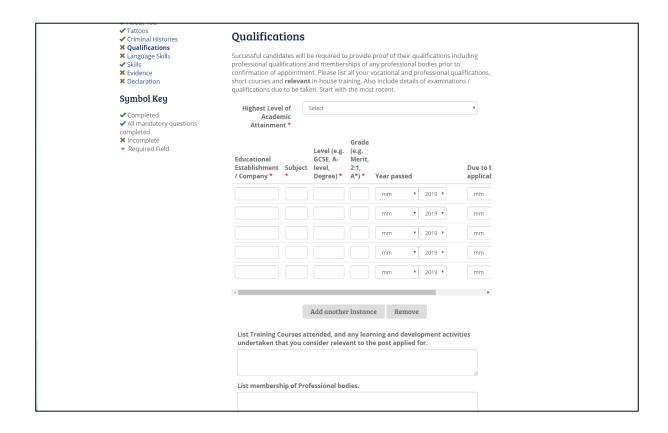
You will then be taken to the Criminal Histories page, this will be your opportunity to declare any criminal convictions/investigations. As this information will be used as part of your vetting checks, you need to be truthful in your responses. If you answer 'Yes' to any of the questions on this page, you will be prompted to give additional information. You can add more offences/convictions/investigations by clicking 'Add another instance'





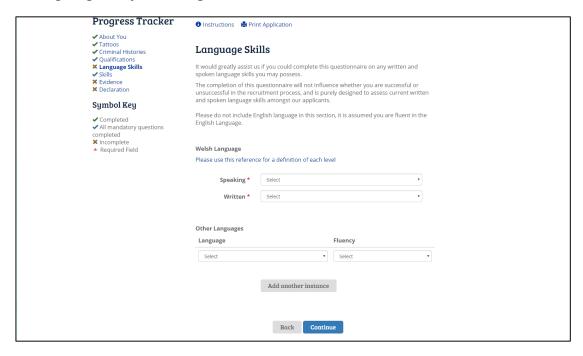
#### **Qualifications**

The next stage of the process is to inform us of your qualifications. You will need to select your highest level of academic attainment then proceed to list all of your qualifications starting with the most recent. If you run out of room for your qualifications you can add more rows by clicking on 'Add another instance'.

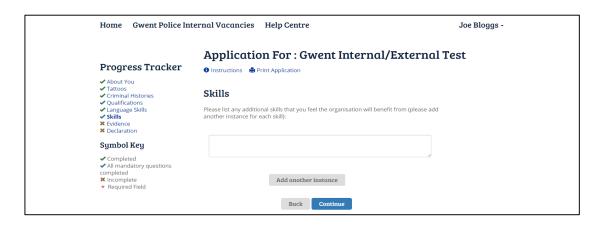


#### Language Skills / Other Skills

You will then be asked about your Language Skills. You will need to inform us about your level of Welsh Speaking. A list of the welsh language competency can be viewed by clicking on 'Please use this reference for a definition of each level'. You can also advise us of any other languages that you can speak along with your fluency in that language. Again, you can add more languages by clicking 'Add another instance'.



The next page, Skills, is not mandatory. This is your opportunity to inform us of any skills you have that may be relevant to the role which have not been listed on the job description. If you do not wish to add any skills, you may leave this page blank and click 'Continue'.





#### **Evidence**

You will then be asked to provide evidence of your suitability for the role. This is where you will need to have the job description open for you to cross reference the 'Knowledge, Skills and Abilities'. You may need to add additional evidence boxes to enable you to cover all areas, to do this, please click 'Add another instance'.

Progress Tracker	● Instructions 🚇 Print Application		
✓ About You ✓ Tattoos ✓ Criminal Histories ✓ Qualifications ✓ Language Skills ✓ Skills ✗ Evidence X Declaration	Evidence  You will be assessed on Specific Criteria Area (wi indicated on the Job Spe	d on your suitability for the post against the requirements of the Job a (within the Role Profile). Only complete the application form areas Specific Criteria Area. idence and provide examples that demonstrate your proven	
Symbol Key	experience and competence for the post. Your evidence for each sub-area should not exceed the 500 word count indicated on the Person Specification.		
✓ Completed  ✓ All mandatory questions completed  ★ Incomplete  ★ Required Field	Please ensure you add  Area Please clearly state the area you are evidencing e.g. Attainments *  Evidence Please provide evidence in no	Attainments  Explanation	
	more than 500 words *	7 of 500 words  Add another instance	

For vacancies that have a salary scale between (and including) 3-5 you will only be asked to evidence against 'Education level, Knowledge and Skills'.

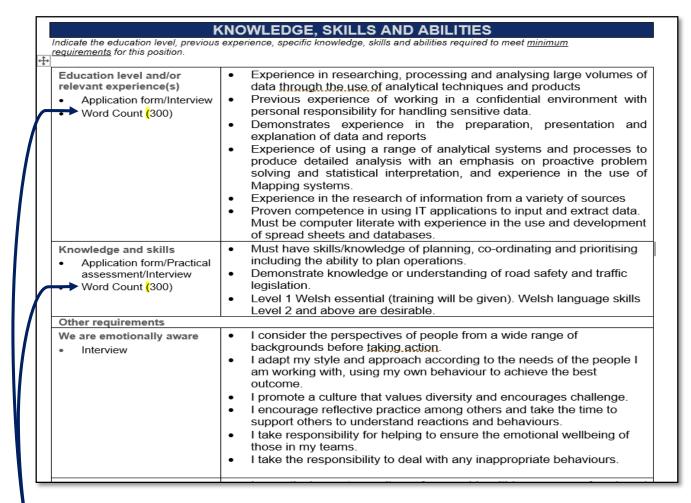
For vacancies with a salary scale 6 and above you will need to provide evidence against all knowledge, skills and abilities that list 'Application Form' in the method of assessment column. Please see screenshot of an example job description on the next page.

Candidate guidance/tips on completing the Evidence section of the application can be found on pages 16 & 17 of this guide.



#### Required areas to evidence

#### Sample Job Description:



Where there is a word count you are expected to complete an evidence box outlining how you meet the criteria for that area within the word count stated. This is how your application will be assessed at the short-listing stage.

Please refer to the job description and evidence each area of the person specification that states application form next to it and the word count for each section.

Please state the title of the area you are evidencing and provide the evidence in the following box. To add the next area, select add another instance for each area that is required as stated on the person specification.

#### Candidate guidance - providing your evidence

The application form requires you to provide examples of experience / behaviour against the job specific and behavioural criteria identified in the Person Specification. The panel will be looking for evidence that you are able to meet these at the appropriate competence level. Keep your evidence within the word count identified.

The word limit applies to each area e.g. We are emotionally Aware. (If an area is assessed by interview only, then you do not need to complete this evidence for your initial application). You should consider the following types of evidence when formulating your answer.

- You can focus on a specific one off incident OR on the results of sustained effort over a period of time.
- The achievements should be ones in which you invested personal time and effort.
- You can refer to them more than once if they cover more than one area.
- They should be relatively recent (within the last 3 years).
- You can draw on evidence from any source, not just the workplace if you can demonstrate clearly it satisfies the competence or behaviours required.

A good description under each area includes the following:

- Be specific to the core criteria and behaviours required.
- Specify the nature of the task and what you wanted to accomplish.
- Explain what you did and why and how you overcame any particular difficulties and or lessons learned.
- State the outcomes and benefits.
- Give an approximate time-scale and date.
- Avoid shortened versions of words or jargon that may be unfamiliar to the panel.
- Because of the word count applied, your examples must be specific, structured and succinct.

Once you have decided what evidence you are going to use you need to structure it to ensure it flows in a clear and logical way. You should ensure it is evident what you did, the reasons for your action, what happened, what you took into account and the outcome. Never assume your evidence is obvious when it comes to meeting the criteria. Avoid bland and hypothetical statements. Don't be frightened to sell yourself provided it is relevant and accurate. Always use the first person – "I" not "We".

### **Candidate guidance – what to exclude**

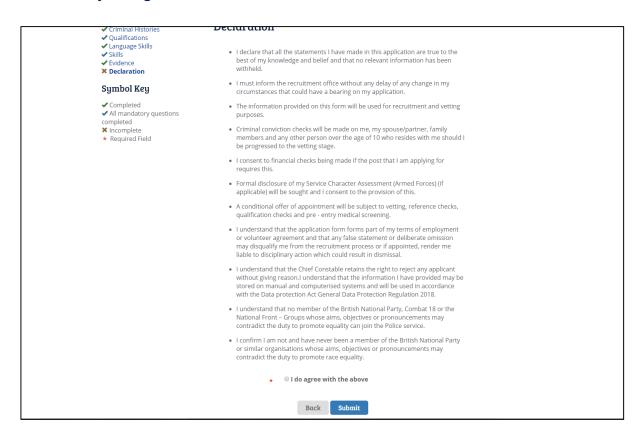
#### What not to include:

- Generalisations ("I am always courteous to customers").
- Job descriptions ("My job/role involves....").
- Processes ("First I input the customer details on to the computer").
- Assertions ("It is very important to deal with complaints promptly").
- Theories ("I would deal with the complaint by first.....").
- Passive descriptions ("A meeting was called....").
- Statements that lack personal ownership ("We decided to adopt option....").
- Impersonal pen pictures ("She is a very loyal member of the team").
- Paraphrases of the criteria ("I displayed tact and diplomacy").
- Non Specific evidence ("When I receive this I intend to....").
- Unnecessary technical detail ("considered case suitable for OC to enable Decree and Inhabitation")
- Future examples evidence should already have happened and therefore be described in the past tense.



#### **Declaration**

Once you have completed your evidence and are happy with your responses click 'Continue' which will then take you to the declaration page. Please ensure you tick the circle by the red asterisk (\*) to confirm you agree with the above statement and click submit.



You can go back through your application before clicking submit by clicking on any of the headings listed under 'Progress Tracker'.

#### **Progress Tracker**

- ✓ About You
- ✓ Tattoos
- Criminal Histories
- Qualifications
- ✓ Language Skills
- ✓ Skills
- Evidence
- **X** Declaration



### **Monitoring Your Application**

You can monitor the progress of your application by logging in to your portal at any time.

