



Response Date:14/05/2025

2025/517 - Special Constables

In response to your recent request for information;

Regarding Special Constables serving in your police force.

Please could you provide details for the current tax year (2025/26 to date) and the previous four tax years (2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/05) on the following:

1. Travel and Sustenance Payments:

- * The rates you pay for shifts including length of hours required to work for each rate.
- * A breakdown of the types of expenses reimbursed (e.g. mileage, meals, accommodation).
- * The rates applied for such reimbursements (e.g. mileage rate per mile).

2. Other Payments or Allowances:

- * Any other payments, stipends, or allowances provided to Special Constables during these periods.
- * The purpose of these payments (e.g. retention bonuses, uniform allowances, etc.).

3. Review Processes:

- * How often your force reviews these payments or policies relating to Special Constables' expenses and allowances.
- * The date of the most recent review and any planned future reviews.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
1 – Travel and Sustenance Payments	Travel = 45p per mile in line with all other officers / staff and as per HMRC guidance.	No change from 21/22	No change from 21/22	No change from 21/22	No change from 21/22

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Subsistence / refreshments are as per the below –

The periods of retention for duty or engagement on duty after which you become eligible to claim the subsistence allowance and the maximum associated allowance amounts for those periods are as follows (duty does not include travel to or from duty for this purpose):

- Over 4 hours but not exceeding 8 hours: up to £7.23
- Over 8 hours but not exceeding 12 hours: up to £14.66
- Over 12 hours: up to £24.15

The above are maximum amounts that can be claimed per relevant tour of duty. However, the amount that can be claimed can only be that which was spent and MUST be accompanied by a receipt.

Rate paid for shifts
= Zero

2 – Other Payments or allowances	Flat rate expense of £50 per day payable if SC are mobilised in an emergency to events declared as critical / major incident SC are issued with all uniform including boots and therefore no allowances are paid in that regard	No change from 21/22	No change from 21/22	No change from 21/22	No change from 21/22
3 - Review Process	Payments to SC are aligned to, and mirror in most respects, those for paid officers and staff and will be automatically updated as and when those overarching expenses are reviewed. There is set date for this to happen. There have been no changes to the levels of the expense payments for any staff for several years. The travel per mile would not be changed for any staff including SC unless the HMRC guidance were to be amended.				

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 09/05/2025