

Job of The Week

Border Force Officer

Key Skills

- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- knowledge of public safety and security
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- excellent verbal communication skills
- the ability to think clearly using logic and reasoning
- the ability to work well with others
- knowledge of English language
- customer service skills
- be competent with using a computer and the main software packages

Salary

£24,883 - £41,193

Working hours

37 p/w (12 hour shifts)
Weekends/ bank holidays/
night/ evenings

Aspire | Challenge | Achieve

Border Force Officer

University

There is no request for a degree, however, if you are considering this route, the following could be useful for understanding parts of the job:

- criminology
- psychology
- public services
- law

Direct Application

Post A Level or Equivalent

If you secure the equivalent of E,E in 2 A Level subjects (32 UCAS points) or equivalent BTEC's, you can apply for the post of Border Force Officer.

Vocational

If you do not have the required qualifications, relevant experience could be considered, such security and other investigatory roles

Alternatively you can consider looking at starting as a Border Force Assistant Officer and working your way up

Additional Requirements

Alongside the relevant qualifications and/ or experience, you will need to:

- be a UK national with a full and valid passport or provide alternative evidence of UK nationality in line with Civil Service Nationality Rules.
- have been living in the UK for the past five years
- be at least 18 years old
- disclose any health issues and possibly have a medical examination
- undergo a full security check and background check
- hold a full UK driving licence

Apprenticeship

There is a Level 3 Award in Operational Delivery which you can work towards as part of an apprenticeship programme. You will typically need GCSEs at grade 4 in Maths and English (or equivalent)

Career path and progression

You'll get continuous training during your first 6 to 12 months with regular training throughout your career to keep up to date.

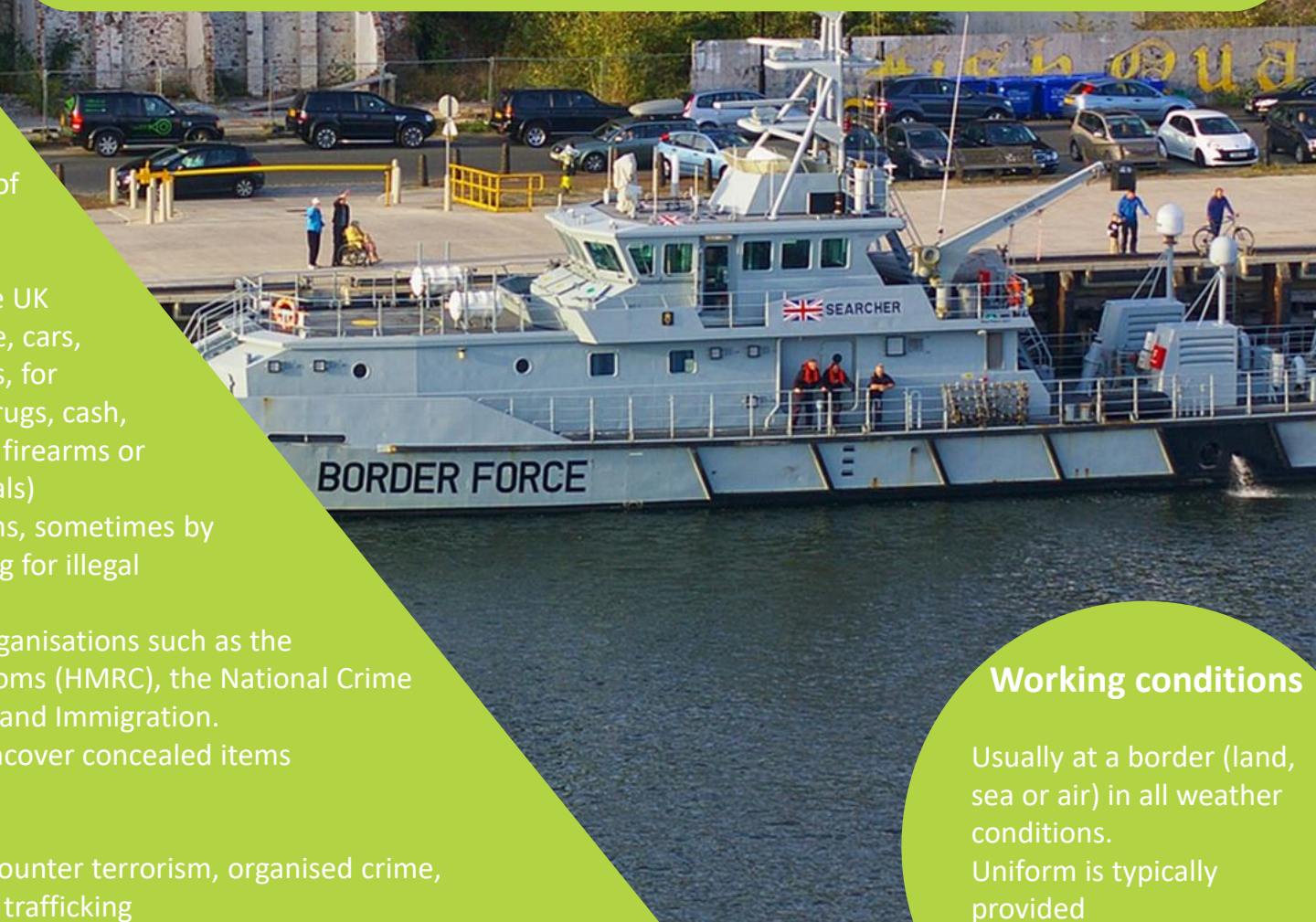
With experience you could become a Senior Border Force Officer or a Team Leader, or move into a management position. You could also use your skills to train and work with new staff.

You may also be able to apply for roles in other departments of the Home Office or Civil Service.

Day to Day tasks

Your duties could include:

- check all travel documents of all passengers
- question passengers about their reasons for visiting the UK
- search people, their luggage, cars, coaches and freight vehicles, for prohibited items (such as drugs, cash, counterfeit goods, tobacco, firearms or endangered plants or animals)
- enforce rules and regulations, sometimes by removing goods or arranging for illegal immigrants to be detained
- report concerns to other organisations such as the Police, HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), the National Crime Agency (NCA) and UK Visas and Immigration.
- work with sniffer dogs to uncover concealed items
- patrol the coastline by boat
- give evidence in court
- specialise in areas such as counter terrorism, organised crime, modern slavery and human trafficking



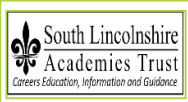
Working conditions

Usually at a border (land, sea or air) in all weather conditions.
Uniform is typically provided

Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.

Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.



Air transport operatives

Weekly Pay £540	Annual Pay £28,080
Hours/Week 44h	Hourly Pay £12

Workforce Change (projected)

Growth 0.5%	Replacement 69.3%
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The workforce is projected to grow by 0.5% over the period to 2027, creating 100 jobs. In the same period, 69.3% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 11,300 job openings.

You might find this job in
Warehousing, etc
Air transport
Computer programming, etc

[More info](#)

[Clear card](#)

Security guards and related occupations

Weekly Pay £550	Annual Pay £28,600
Hours/Week 43h	Hourly Pay £13

Workforce Change (projected)

Growth 0.2%	Replacement 63.6%
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The workforce is projected to grow by 0.2% over the period to 2027, creating 400 jobs. In the same period, 63.6% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 135,700 job openings.

You might find this job in
Security, etc
Employment activities
Office admin.
Retail trade
Other professional

[More info](#)

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Prison service officers (below principal officer)

Weekly Pay £660	Annual Pay £34,320
Hours/Week 39h	Hourly Pay £17

Workforce Change (projected)

Contraction -0.2%	Replacement 38.3%
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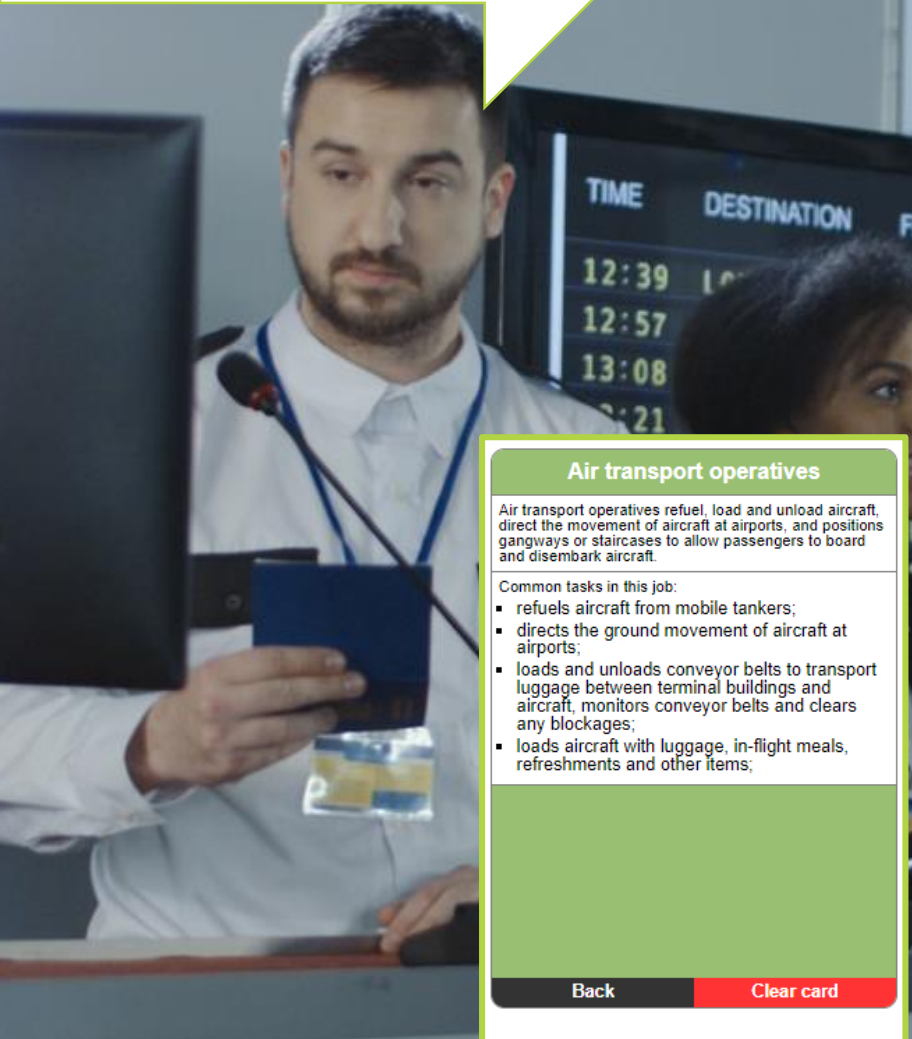
The workforce is projected to contract by -0.2% over the period to 2027, losing 100 jobs. In the same period, 38.3% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 15,500 job openings.

You might find this job in
Public admin. & defence
Employment activities
Auxiliary services
Health

[More info](#)

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Labour Market Information



Security guards and related occupations

Workers in this unit group protect merchandise, individuals, hotels, offices, factories, public grounds and private estates from injury, theft or damage, and investigate fraud and crime on a non-statutory basis.

Common tasks in this job:

- investigates crimes, trading practices and the private affairs of individuals;
- walks or rides near person requiring protection, watches for suspicious occurrences and defends guarded person from attack;
- monitors and patrols hotels, factories, offices and other premises, forests, parks, and public or private estates to prevent theft and unauthorised entry;
- checks persons and vehicles entering and leaving premises, establishes their credentials and arranges for escorts for visitors;

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Air transport operatives

Air transport operatives refuel, load and unload aircraft, direct the movement of aircraft at airports, and position gangways or staircases to allow passengers to board and disembark aircraft.

Common tasks in this job:

- refuels aircraft from mobile tankers;
- directs the ground movement of aircraft at airports;
- loads and unloads conveyor belts to transport luggage between terminal buildings and aircraft, monitors conveyor belts and clears any blockages;
- loads aircraft with luggage, in-flight meals, refreshments and other items;

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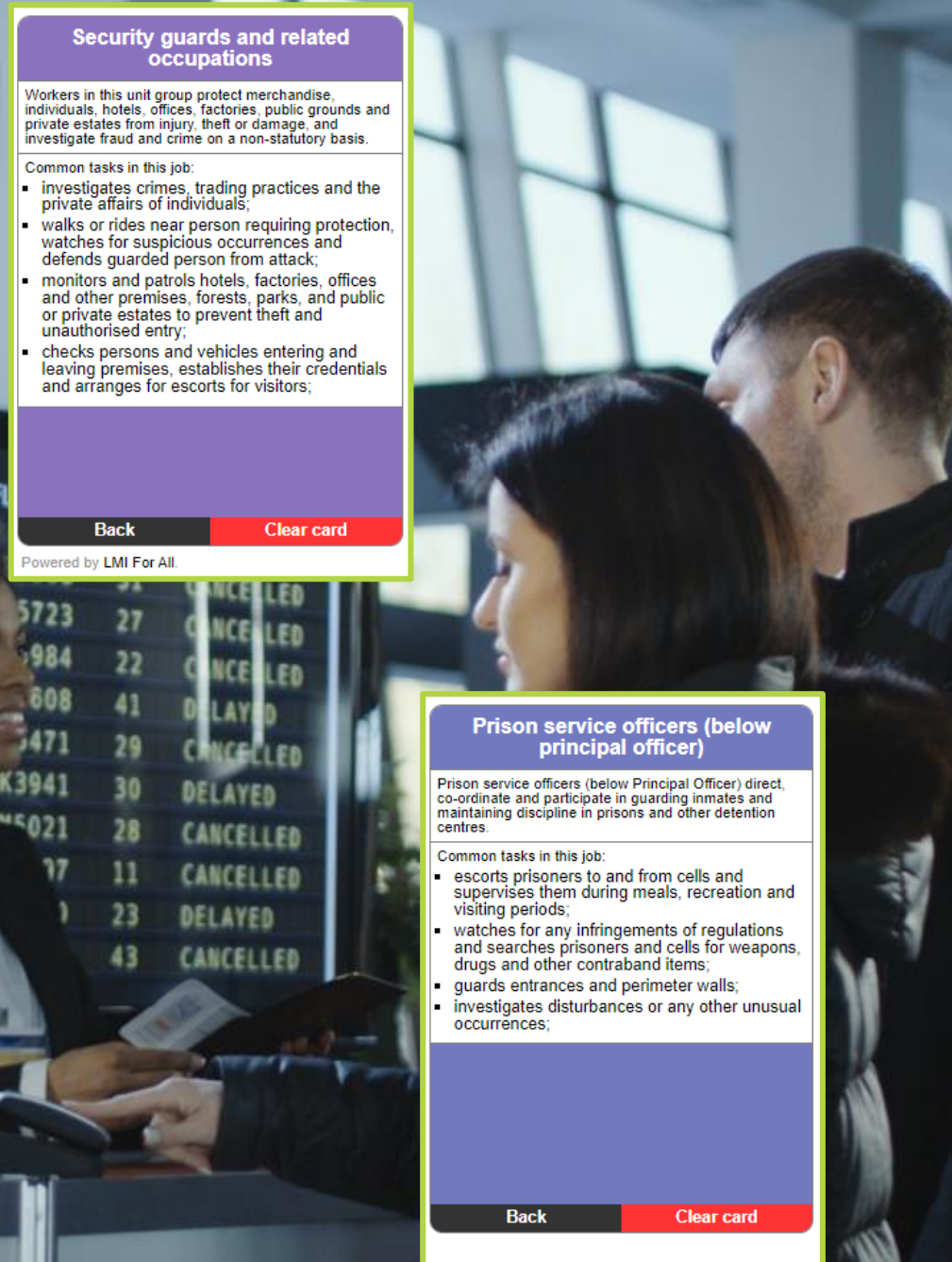
Prison service officers (below principal officer)

Prison service officers (below Principal Officer) direct, co-ordinate and participate in guarding inmates and maintaining discipline in prisons and other detention centres.

Common tasks in this job:

- escorts prisoners to and from cells and supervises them during meals, recreation and visiting periods;
- watches for any infringements of regulations and searches prisoners and cells for weapons, drugs and other contraband items;
- guards entrances and perimeter walls;
- investigates disturbances or any other unusual occurrences;

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

Insight to Border Force
Officer training



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IkAPLL4yVU4>

Border Force
What we do...



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpR40B4spvE>

Home Office Border Force
at Cowes Week



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5TVKk-UtRM>

Border Force
Maritime



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk_E--5f2g4

Useful Websites

[Border Force officer job profile | Prospects.ac.uk](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs/border-force-officer)

[Border Force | Home Office Jobs \(homeofficejobs-sscl.co.uk\)](https://www.homeofficejobs-sscl.co.uk/)

[Border Force - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

[Border Force Apprenticeships: What you need to know – Careermap](https://www.careermap.co.uk/border-force-apprenticeships)

[Psychology \(ucas.com\)](https://www.ucas.com)

[Border Force Jobs - 2022 | Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=border+force)

[Public service operational delivery officer / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](https://www.institute-for-apprenticeships.com)