

New Zealand Police Vetting Service Purpose Statement & Agency Approval Criteria

Purpose

The purpose of the New Zealand Police Vetting Service is to contribute to public safety (particularly the protection of vulnerable members of society) and national security in New Zealand (and, to a limited extent, abroad) by providing information held by New Zealand Police to assist agencies with assessing the suitability of persons in roles that meet the Police vetting criteria.

Approval Criteria

New Zealand Police has the discretion to approve, or otherwise reject, access to the Police Vetting Service for any agency that does not meet the required standards and criteria as outlined below. The Police Vetting Service is only to be used for vetting individuals for roles that meet the vetting criteria; and only to be done when expressed consent is given by the individual in the form of a signed Police Vetting Request & Consent Form.

New Zealand Agencies

To access the Police Vetting Service, an agency must employ, engage, or assess individuals for one or more of the following purposes:

- Providing care, protection, education, or training to vulnerable members of society such as children, young people, elderly and/or disabled.
- National security.
- Law enforcement.
- Legislative obligation – for example, ‘fit and proper’ checks required for NZ Immigration, NZ Citizenship, and the registration or licencing of Teachers, Taxi Drivers, and Security Guards.

Once approved, agencies must only access the Police Vetting Service to vet individuals in roles that meet the criteria described above. For any individuals in roles that do not fall under the above criteria, the agency may choose to obtain their Criminal Record from the Ministry of Justice instead.

Offshore Agencies

Offshore agencies who wish to access the Police Vetting Service must:

- meet the criteria described above in respect of New Zealand agencies, and
- have similar legislation to New Zealand which protects individuals’ rights to privacy.

For more information, please see [Information for Offshore Agencies](#).