

Why should I read CPNI's *How to obtain an Overseas Criminal Records Check*?

Criminal records checks are a fundamentally important element of pre-employment screening and, therefore, of any personnel security regime; but the process for obtaining a criminal record check varies significantly between countries. CPNI's *How to obtain an Overseas Criminal Record Check* provides country-by-country guidance for employers, employees and prospective employees, covering sixty-three locations:-

Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America.

A short introduction explains:-

- the sources consulted and how the research was approached,
- application methods (online, through UK embassies/consulates or in person),
- typical turnaround times,
- the perceived reliability of data.

Each country entry explains:-

- who can apply for a criminal records check,
- name and contact details of the department responsible for conducting the checks,
- where and how to apply in country,
- where and how to apply in the UK,
- costs, payment and turnaround,
- form, content and name of the certificate, and (where possible) sample documents,
- languages available,
- security features and confirming authenticity,
- criminal convictions listed on certificate,
- official bodies providing advice on interpretation of criminal records,
- relevant legislation,
- pending changes.

This guidance, plus a quick reference guide, can be downloaded from the CPNI website under Personnel Security.

Information on countries not covered in this guidance can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-records-checks-for-overseas-applicants>