Vetting establishes a trust between employers and their staff for roles where national security concerns are a consideration.

It is a thorough check of your life – which can be lengthy and at times may feel intrusive but it is a crucial national security process.

**What is vetting?**

As part of your role, you may need access to sensitive information, assets or equipment and it’s vital we do everything we can to keep them secure.

To ensure we place sensitive government information in trusted hands, we carry out a series of background checks across many areas of your life.

This can take the form of questionnaires, confidential conversations, and character references.

For higher levels of clearance, it will also involve a whole-life interview that can take between two and five hours to complete.

**Is it Intrusive?**

It's personal, yes, but we invest in our teams to ensure they are culturally aware and sensitive to difficult topics.

We understand that nobody’s stories are the same, and provide you with a safe space to discuss your life.

Our teams are not employed to make moral judgements.

**What information will I be asked for?**

We want anyone to feel able to apply for a security related role or clearance, regardless of their background, circumstances, or lifestyle.

You’ll be asked to provide information on your family, employment history, where you’ve lived, and any criminal convictions.

You may be asked about your financial situation, relationships, and life experiences, to help us get a better understanding of you as an individual.

Every aspect of the process is objective, professional and non-judgemental.

There are no right or wrong answers and you can always ask why we need information.

**When will I get my results?**

It can take some time until a decision is made, but this does not necessarily mean you won’t be granted clearance.

Every case is individual and has to go through a number of checks.

You can rest assured that all the information we collect from you during the process is held in the strictest confidence – it isn’t shared with anyone outside of the Vetting community.

**For more information search”UKSV” on Gov.uk**