

A referee in a black kit is standing on a grassy football field, gesturing with his right hand raised. In the background, several children are playing football. Some are wearing blue kits, and others are wearing yellow kits. One child in a yellow kit has the number 5 on their back. The scene is outdoors on a bright day.

GUIDANCE NOTES NO:

3.5

FA POLICY ON HANDLING OF DBS CHECK CERTIFICATES

FOR ALL

Version: 1.2
Published: MAY 2024



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GENERAL PRINCIPLES HANDLING

As an organisation using the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checking service to help assess the suitability of applicants for positions of trust, The FA complies fully with the Code of Practice regarding the correct handling, use, storage, retention and disposal of certificates and certificate information. It also complies fully with its obligations under data protection requirements and other relevant legislation pertaining to the safe handling, use, storage, retention and disposal of certificate information and has a written policy on these matters, which is available to those who wish to see it on request.

STORAGE AND ACCESS

Certificate information is kept securely, in lockable, non-portable, storage containers with access strictly controlled and limited to those who are entitled to see it as part of their duties.

In accordance with section 124 of the Police Act 1997, certificate information is only passed to those who are authorised to receive it in the course of their duties.

USAGE

Certificate information is only used for the specific purpose for which it was requested and for which the applicant's full consent has been given.

RETENTION

Once a recruitment (or other relevant) decision has been made, we do not keep certificate information for any longer than is necessary. This is generally for a period of up to six months, to allow for the consideration and resolution of any disputes or complaints. If, in very exceptional circumstances, it is considered necessary to keep certificate information for longer than six months, we will consult the DBS about this and will give full consideration to data protection requirements and Human Rights of the individual before doing so. Throughout this time, the usual conditions regarding the safe storage and strictly controlled access will prevail.

DISPOSAL

Once the retention period has elapsed, we will ensure that any DBS certificate information is immediately destroyed by secure means, i.e. by shredding, pulping or burning. While awaiting destruction, certificate information will not be kept in any insecure receptacle (e.g. waste bin or confidential waste sack). We will not keep any photocopy or other image of the certificate or any copy or representation of the contents of a certificate. However, notwithstanding the above, we may keep a record of the date of issue of a certificate, the name of the subject, the type of certificate requested, the position for which the certificate was requested, the unique reference number of the certificates and the details of the recruitment decision taken.



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