

UDC 351.741

**M. V. USHAKOVA**

*Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs*

## **PATROL POLICE ACTIVITY IN GREAT BRITAIN**

There are currently fifty-two police forces across the United Kingdom: forty-three in England and Wales, eight in Scotland, and one in Northern Ireland. These are known as constabularies, or forces, and operate independently of one another, but cooperate when necessary.

In England, law enforcement officials are organized at the level of administrative districts, that is why the number of employees and departments are formed differently. But there is a concept of regional and metropolitan police. The first consists of a number of “constables” or officers who perform a variety of tasks at the local level, from criminal cases to the organization of traffic police.

The police in the UK are trained for about a year. The officers study the types of crimes and police authority, and in general, all training is a mixture of theory and practice (when you work with a mentor, one of experienced officers). After a year of training, it is necessary to work about a year as a constable-recruit, and only then you can become a police officer.

If you want to serve in police, you should have a lot of documents, pass tests on math and English. The procedure can take a year because of long intervals between tests and submission of documents.

The minimum age for passing exams is 18 years.

The largest service is the London police: it has a lot of additional units, including road and mounted police that patrol the streets. The patrol police officer can stop the car, block the road and even arrest the offender.

A few years ago innovations were introduced in Britain: law enforcement officers who did not pass physical training standards (climb a wall in the allotted time or lift a barbell), or are overweight, lose 8 % of their salary (they have about 2,570 pounds; this is an average around the country).

Police activities are different in every county and they may be organized in a variety of ways, but the goal of police officers, and indeed the criminal justice system, is essentially the same regardless of what county they are in.

*Language adviser H. S. Babak*