NCA
National Crime Agency

NATIONAL CYBER CRIME UNIT
YEAR IN INDUSTRY PLACEMENTS

CLICK HERE TO
START YOUR JOURNEY

Serious and organised crime is one of the gravest threats to the UK's national security. The National Crime Agency sits at the heart of the law enforcement response, protecting the public by disrupting and bringing to justice those serious and organised criminals who pose the highest risk to the UK.

NCA officers work at the forefront of law enforcement. Building the best possible intelligence picture of all serious and organised crime threats, relentlessly pursuing the most serious and dangerous offenders, and developing and delivering specialist capabilities on behalf of law enforcement and other partners.

There's no such thing as a typical NCA officer. We come from different backgrounds and cultures, speak many languages, and have diverse skills and experiences. What we have in common is dedication and a commitment to protecting the public from serious and organised crime.

Would you like the opportunity to contribute to the fight against serious and organised crime? Are you ready to join the team?

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ABOUT THE NCCU

The National Cyber Crime Unit (NCCU), part of the National Crime Agency (NCA), leads the UK's fight against cybercrime.

We use specialist capabilities and expertise to support law enforcement partners across the UK and coordinate the entire UK response to cybercrime.

We LEAD the response to the highest priority cyber threats, including elite criminals and "iconic untouchables", and working with partners in the UK and overseas to respond at pace and scale to critical cyber incidents.

We SUPPORT domestic and international law enforcement investigations, enhancing partner capability to respond to cyber-dependent and cyber-enabled crime sustainably and effectively.

We COORDINATE the UK response to cyber crime through Forward Workplans, including the reactive and proactive response to nationally significant cyber incidents and prioritised threats.

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MEET THE CURRENT PLACEMENTS AND INTERNS

Meet Tom – a recent Politics Graduate from the University of Bath who has joined the Prevent team for a year in industry.

What attracted you to this opportunity?

"I had a friend who recommended the NCCU as a place to work. I was really fascinated about Cyber and as I didn't have a technical background – I wanted to find a route in that didn't require this of me. I was also really keen to work for a Government organisation."

What are you hoping to get out of the experience?

"I am looking forward to living in London, working in a fast pace environment and learning more about Cyber. I am also keen to understand what opportunities there are for me with regards to my career within the NCA and am taking the opportunity to learn from experienced colleagues."

Meet Serena – a recent Health & Medicine Graduate from Kings College London.

What attracted you to this opportunity?

"I was looking for the opportunity to expand my experience and in particular around project management. I wanted to lead on projects and be able to demonstrate that I can adapt to new situations."

What are you hoping to get out of the experience?

"At the interview I asked about career progression and development opportunities. My Line Manager has been great at talking to me about this and looking for opportunities where I can develop and grow. "

Meet Rafi – a Masters graduate who joined the NCCU for a 3 month internship in 2019 (and now has a full time role)

What were the main highlights?

"I was given a big project and had 3 months to do it. I loved the autonomy I was provided and I got exposure to really senior stakeholders across government. I had the opportunity to present my final report and it's great to know that it's being used and has served an important purpose."

How did you find the NCCU to work for?

"There are amazing training opportunities in this unit (10 development days opposed to 5 in the rest of the Agency). Also the scale of what we're involved in is really exciting – you really feel as though you are doing worthwhile and important work."

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Operation Venetic: More than 50 arrests in 'unprecedented' crime raids

🕐 2 July 2020   f 💬 🐦 ✉ ◁ Share

BBC: More than 50 people have been arrested in Scotland as part of a major UK-wide operation which has dismantled several organised crime gangs.
The arrests were made after the NCA penetrated a secret communications system used by criminals. The operation was said to have been "unprecedented" in scale and success.

July, 2020

Read full article

US charges Russian 'Evil Corp' hackers with $100m banking scheme

The Guardian: US prosecutors have charged two members of a Russia-based hacking group that calls itself Evil Corp with masterminding a global banking fraud scheme that netted the unsubtly named gang more than $100m. The US also entered Evil Corp, which also called itself the "Dridex Gang", into its Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List. The Dridex malware developed by the group was spread through a massive phishing operation, where targets were infected after clicking on internet links. US authorities worked in coordination with Britain's National Crime Agency. The director general of the British agency, Lynne Owens, said that Yakubets and Evil Corp "represent the most significant cybercrime threat to the UK".

December, 2019

Read full article

Sheep farmer convicted of contaminating baby food products with metal and blackmailing Tesco

Herts Police: A man who contaminated baby food with metal and blackmailed three major companies, including Tesco, has been found guilty at The Old Bailey.
He was arrested on February 25 this year following a major investigation led by the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Major Crime Unit, who were assisted by law enforcement partners including the National Crime Agency together with the victim companies.

August, 2020

Read full article

Forensic firm used by police targeted in cyber attack

Independent: A criminal probe has been launched after a forensics firm widely used by police to help with investigations was targeted in a cyber attack.
Submissions to the firm, which are thought to include finger print and other crime scene data, have now been temporarily suspended, while the National Crime Agency leads an investigation into the attack. Rob Jones, the NCA's director of threat leadership, said: "Specialist cyber-crime officers are working with partners from the National Cyber Security Centre and the National Police Chiefs' Council to mitigate the risks and assess the nature of this incident.

June, 2019

Read full article

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THE PACKAGE – NCCU YEAR IN INDUSTRY PLACEMENTS

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR?

There's no such thing as a typical NCA officer. We come from different backgrounds and cultures, speak many languages and have diverse skills and experiences.

But we do ask that you are interested, passionate and willing to learn.

No previous cyber experience is necessary, but you should be curious to find out more. We want to work with like minded individuals, individuals who are inquisitive and ask questions to drive work forward.

We are looking for people from a range of backgrounds and degree disciplines to spend a year working with the National Cyber Crime Unit (NCCU). To apply, you should be approaching your year in industry or have finished your studies within the past 12 months.

WHAT WILL YOU GET?

All Officers in the NCA are members of the UK Civil Service. You will be eligible for:

- A salary of **£28,840**[1]

- We know that taking a break is key to a successful workforce – so we offer **26 days of annual leave**, on top of UK bank holidays

- We take the health and wellbeing of our employees very seriously and can provide **flexible working patterns** if the role in question is suitable

- We will invest time in your development and give you access to the **latest training opportunities**

EXERCISING & OPERATIONAL LEARNING

The NCCU's Exercising Team works to test the preparedness of the UK to large scale cyber events at the highest priority level across national and regional levels. You should be comfortable building relationships and communicating as you will be working closely with national and regional partners to improve law enforcements response to major cyber incidents and to develop the capability of UK law enforcement. The team debrief operations and so experience of analysing information and statistics will be beneficial.

Find out more

STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE

The Strategy and Performance teams leads the NCCU's strategic engagement with HMG, Team Cyber UK (incl. NCSC) and other Partners in support of the response to cyber crime. The team lead on corporate briefings and supports senior leaders across the agency as they represent the NCA on cybercrime issues. The ability to analyse data, information and statistics and write reports will be beneficial, as will any background in political science, criminology or equiv. You will be helping to raise awareness and understanding of the threat of cyber crime.

Find out more

CYBER ENGINEERING

The Cyber Engineers working within the NCCU research and develop tools to further NCCU operational and intelligence work, creating bespoke solutions during "Crime in action" scenarios. The team consists of different skill sets – Software Developers, Data Scientists, Infrastructure Engineers and those working in Technical Research & Development and therefore a passion for one or more of these fields will be important.

Find out more

PREVENT

The NCCU Prevent team designs and executes novel and innovative techniques to deter, divert and disrupt individuals from becoming involved in and committing cyber crime. The aim of most techniques is for a non-traditional outcome (i.e. not to arrest) and this allows for more creative and wide-ranging approaches to be used. An awareness of the Cyber Security landscape and emerging technologies will be beneficial, as well as experience of planning projects and working to deadlines.

Find out more

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About Exercising

The NCCU's Exercising Team works to test the preparedness of the UK to large scale cyber events at the highest priority level across national and regional levels. We work closely with national and regional partners to improve law enforcements response to major cyber incidents and to develop the capability of UK law enforcement. The team are also responsible for the debriefing of operations and delivering cyber exercises in preparation for developing cyber threats.

As part of the Exercising team, your role would include:
- Collaborative working with the National cyber Security Centre, NPCC, ROCUs, local forces and the x-HMG Cyber Exercising Cadre.
- The scoping, design, delivery, review of exercises led and supported by NCCU.
- Conducting operational, strategic and tactical debriefs in relation to ongoing operations.
- Analysing data and information from a wide range of sources to provide detailed reports and recommendations.
- Supporting the overall UK effort to build cyber capability across UK law enforcement and government.

The location of the position can be our London office or North West Hub (Warrington) Office. Please note that there will be a requirement to travel to the London or North West Office (expenses paid by Agency)

Qualification Criteria

- There are no qualifications that are essential for this role

What Skills are important for this role?

For all the roles in the NCCU we want you to demonstrate a keen interest and awareness of cyber crime and cyber threats.
In addition for this role the important skills are:-
- **Skill One:** Experience of planning, projects and working to tight deadlines
- **Skill Two**: Experience of analysing data, information, and statistics from a wide range of sources

What Behaviours are important for this role?

- **Communicating and Influencing:** the ability and confidence to discuss ideas and recommendations with stakeholders, and brief managers
- **Working Together:** Forming strong business relationships with people both externally and internally

Important Information
- If we receive a high volume of applications, we will long list applications on the basis of your interest and awareness of the Cyber Security Landscape (question 2 and 3).
- To meet National Security Vetting requirements you will need to have resided in the UK for at a minimum 3 out of the past 5 years for SC clearance. Please see the NCA website and FAQs for further guidance.

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About Strategy and Performance

The remit of the NCCU Strategy & Performance includes coordinating the proactive response to the highest priority cyber threats, developing UK and International law enforcement's strategy for fighting cyber crime and communicating this to the NCA and the wider communities.

They develop the operational strategies for protecting the public from cyber crime as well as mechanisms for measuring tactical and strategic outcomes for the purposes of NCA performance reporting.

The team assists with the secretariat functions for the Cyber Strategic Governance Group and associated Threat Groups, in order to create a collaborative UK effort against cybercrime with common priorities.

Please be advised that the location of the position for the Threat Response role can be our London office/ North West Hub (Warrington) Office. Please note that there may be a requirement to occasionally travel to the London Office (expenses paid by Agency)

Qualification Criteria

- Studies in political science, criminology, policing or equivalent will be beneficial but not essential

What Skills are important for this role?

For all the roles in the NCCU we want you to demonstrate a keen interest and awareness of cyber crime and cyber threats.
In addition for this role the important skills are:-
- **Skill One:** Experience of planning, projects and working to tight deadlines
- **Skill Two:** Experience of analysing data, information and statistics from a range of sources

What Behaviours are important for this role?

- **Changing and Improving**: This role requires the ability to problem solve, to seek out opportunities to create effective change and suggest innovative ideas for improvement
- **Communicating and Influencing:** The ability to communicate clearly and concisely both orally and in writing. Also have the confidence to discuss ideas and recommendations with stakeholders

Important Information
- If we receive a high volume of applications, we will long list applications on the basis of your interest and awareness of the Cyber Security Landscape (question 2 and 3).
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About Cyber Engineering

The remit of Cyber Engineering is to research and develop tools to further NCCU operational and intelligence work and create bespoke solutions during "Crime in action" scenarios. Cyber Engineering works across the NCA and with a range of partners to develop this niche catalogue of capabilities.

Depending upon your experience – you will work as either a Data Scientist , Cyber Engineer or Infrastructure Investigator.

A Data Scientist working within the NCCU will utilise technology to aid investigations, exploiting modern machine learning techniques with the best data science tools to cause real world impact against cyber criminals. They will collate and manipulate large datasets to create analytical products that inform NCA operational delivery and will play a key role in embedding the use of data science across the Agency.

A Cyber Engineer working within the NCCU will join other Software Developers, Infrastructure Engineers or Research & Development experts (depending on expertise). You will make a direct contribution to Operations through the use of technology. This will range from the development and deployment of capabilities covered under the Investigatory Powers Act, through to systems to analyse and exploit data at pace.

An Infrastructure Investigator utilises their knowledge and the available tools within the NCCU to analyse and identify criminally controlled infrastructure. Supporting operations through analytical products and the production of technical reports to highlight technical or legislative outcomes

Please be advised that the location of the position for the Cyber Engineering roles will be our London office only.

Qualification Criteria

- HND or Degree in a technical / scientific related discipline, or equivalent relevant experience will be beneficial but not essential

What Skills are important for this role?

For all the roles in the NCCU we want you to demonstrate a keen interest and awareness of cyber crime and cyber threats.
In addition for this role the important skills are:-
- **Skill One**: Good knowledge in working with Linux environment and some familiarity with cloud technologies, such as AWS and Azure
- **Skill Two**: Experience/knowledge working in one of the following programming languages: Python, JavaScript and associated frameworks

What Behaviours are important for this role?

- **Changing and Improving**: This role requires the ability to problem solve, to seek out opportunities to create effective change and suggest innovative ideas for improvement
- **Working Together:** Forming strong business relationships with people both externally and internally

Important Information
- If we receive a high volume of applications, we will long list applications on the basis of your interest and awareness of the Cyber Security Landscape (question 2 and 3).
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About Prevent

The NCCU Prevent Team designs and executes novel and innovative techniques to deter, divert and disrupt individuals from becoming involved in and committing cyber-crime. They seek to cause disruption to the activities of key individuals, groups and online criminal communications and have the ability to use non-traditional law enforcement outcomes to target a range of potential offenders.

The team will develop the necessary intelligence on those committing cyber crime at a low level and use national intelligence databases to develop clear, detailed feedback. They then coordinate the activity which allows national Prevent Officers to act on those who have started along the path to committing cyber offences. The team works closely with the Operations teams to pro-actively target those on the cusp of offending however minor the actions taken and have a good working knowledge of law enforcement activity and how it is applied.

It is vital that our understanding of the pathways in cyber-crime are known, so we work closely with industry, law enforcement and other partners to understand motivations, methods and trends through behavioral science and strategic analysis. The team then develop innovative activity to combat what they see – creative national campaigns, communications strategies, diversionary tactics and influence activities.

Please be advised that the location of the position for the Prevent role can be our London office/ North West Hub (Warrington) Office. Please note that there may be a requirement to occasionally travel to the London Office (expenses paid by Agency)

Qualification Criteria

- Studies in criminology, behavioural science, game engineering, marketing or media, journalism and film studies would be beneficial but not essential

What Skills are important for this role?

For all the roles in the NCCU we want you to demonstrate a keen interest and awareness of cyber crime and cyber threats.
In addition for this role the important skills are:-
- **Skill One:** Experience of planning, projects and working to tight deadlines
- **Skill Two:** An understanding of how applying proactive prevention techniques can disrupt criminal activity.

What Behaviours are important for this role?

- **Changing and Improving**: This role requires the ability to problem solve, to seek out opportunities to create effective change and suggest innovative ideas for improvement
- **Working Together:** Forming strong business relationships with people both externally and internally

Important Information

- If we receive a high volume of applications, we will long list applications on the basis of your interest and awareness of the Cyber Security Landscape (question 2 and 3).
- To meet National Security Vetting requirements you will need to have resided in the UK for at a minimum 3 out of the past 5 years for SC clearance. Please see the NCA website and FAQs for further guidance.

500 WORD APPLICATION & CV	COMPETENCY & TECHNICAL INTERVIEW	TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT*	NCA VETTING CHECKS
What: Complete the application form within this advert, along with your CV and email it over to us **Why:** This gives us the opportunity to consider whether you will be a good fit for the NCCU and what skills you'd bring **Things to think about:** When answering the questions on your application think -Why the NCA? Why the NCCU? Why the specific team? What are your strengths and what do you think you'd bring? **Send to NCCU.people@nca.gov.uk by NOON on the 15ᵗʰ November 2021.**	**What:** If successful at shortlisting, you'll be invited to attend an interview where you will be measured against 2 Grade 5 competencies (you can see these in the team information) **Why:** We'd love to get to know you better. We'll ask you some behavioural based questions and a few technical questions to understand your skillset **Things to think about:** Have a look on the Civil Service website for some hints and tips on how to prepare **Interviews expected throughout week commencing 13ᵗʰ December 2021.**	**What:** You may be asked to complete a technical assessment **Why:** Having the opportunity to show us how you'd approach an actual technical task is a really useful assessment of your potential **Things to think about:** Don't worry! We'd just be looking at how you apply your technical knowledge. We'll give you more info ahead of time.	If successful post interview, you'll be offered a role as a Grade 5 Placement (yay!) Just some standard NCA vetting checks to get through – and you must pass the mandatory drug test. **Expected start dates are July/ August 2022**

Please note: *Applications submitted after this date will not be considered in the selection process, regardless of the reason. Should you be successful at shortlisting but can not attend on the date/time allocated to you The Recruitment Team can not guarantee an alternate date, regardless of the reason. Due to the volume of applications we receive, it is NCA's policy not to give feedback on applications to candidates.*

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Please copy and paste the below into a word document and respond to the following questions.

1. Please state which team you are interested in joining. (Only one team per application form).

2. In no more than 100 words please tell us why you are interested in a placement with the National Cyber Crime Unit.

3. In no more than 100 words, please tell us about your awareness of the Cyber Security landscape and how you believe this will benefit the NCCU if successful with your application.

4. The two key reasons I am interested in joining this team are *(no more than 100 words in total):*
   1.
   2.

5. There are 2 key skills highlighted as being important for joining this team. Please write no more than 100 words (per skill) evidencing your capability for this specific skill area.*(This could be something you've done in your personal life, at work or as part of your studies).*
   1. Skill 1 is _____. A good example of where I have evidenced this is
   2. Skill 2 is _____. A good example of where I have evidenced this is

Make sure you send this, together with your CV to NCCU.people@nca.gov.uk by NOON on the 15ᵗʰ November 2021.

PASTE INTO YOUR EMAIL SUBJECT BAR: NCCU UYIIP Application - *insert team name*

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