

# Checking authenticity of disclosure certificates

11.1.1 Criminal record disclosure certificates contain several security features (as below) that can be used to verify whether a disclosure has been counterfeited or altered in any way:

- a 'crown seal' watermark repeated down the right-hand side of the disclosure, which is visible both on the surface and when holding the disclosure up to light
- a background design incorporating the word 'disclosure', which appears in a wave-like pattern across both sides of the document. The colour of this pattern is uniform across the front of the disclosure but alternates between pink and green on the reverse
- fluorescent inks and fibers that are visible under UV light
- ink and paper that will change colour in the presence of water or solvent-based liquid.

11.1.2 DBS notifications sent to an employer via the e-bulk service may be transcribed by the organisation in a letter format and will not be printed on DBS secure certificate paper.

11.1.3 If you are unsure whether a DBS certificate is genuine or if you think that it may have been altered, you should contact the DBS helpline on 03000 200 190.