

# Critical incidents and community impact assessments

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Force policies relating to critical incidents and community impact assessments can be relevant in some child abuse investigations. They can also be used to promote confidence in the police.

## Critical incidents

Local force policies should be followed where cases of child abuse meet the definition for a [critical incident](#).

## Community impact assessments

Officers investigating child abuse and responding to concerns for children should be aware that the issue may be perceived as relating to a particular community and/or that it may impact adversely on that community. Officers should follow local policy regarding community impact assessments. The force diversity adviser(s) should be informed of the [community impact assessments](#) and the reason why they are being prepared.

## Tags

Child abuse