11/12/2025 POPS incidents

POPS incidents

This page is from APP, the official source of professional practice for policing.

First published 23 October 2013 Updated 8 June 2023 2 mins read

Post-incident procedures following death or serious injury

In the event that a member of the public dies or receives serious injury following police contact during an event or operation, forces should follow the guidance given in the Post-incident procedures following death or serious injury APP.

Gold public order public safety (POPS) commanders should also ensure that the relevant post-incident procedures are implemented and followed in such incidents.

Critical incident management

POPS commanders, public order public safety advisers (POPSAs) and POPS planners should plan for a POPS events or operation to develop into a critical incident.

A critical incident is defined as 'any incident where the effectiveness of the police response is likely to have a significant impact on the confidence of the victim, their family and/or the community'.

Critical incidents can be both external (public facing) and internal (confined to a police force and its staff).

Specific guidance on critical incidents is contained in the Critical incident management APP.

Tags

Public order Public safety