

Emergency procedures - Guidance overview

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

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Overview

This authorised professional practice (APP) provides guidance for managing incidents that require a dedicated command structure. It sets out guidance on responding to emergencies that have the potential to be declared major and/or critical incidents, as well as planning for non-spontaneous events.

The command structure set out in the APP is scalable in its application. It supports effective joint working with other police forces, emergency services and/or wider partners, through the application of interoperability principles.

Where applicable, responsibilities have been assigned to specific roles, including:

- chief officers
- commanders
- force incident managers (FIMs)
- control room supervisors
- initial responders

The APP applies to both Home Office and multi-jurisdictional police forces. Because of the nature of emergencies, there may be incidents where a partner agency leads on the response. The APP may, therefore, also be of interest to partner agencies.

Definitions

Major incident

A major incident is an event or situation, with a range of serious consequences, that requires special arrangements to be implemented by one or more emergency partner agencies.

Critical incident

A critical incident is an 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.

For more information, go to the [Civil contingencies APP](#).

Tags

APP Critical incidents Major incidents