

Introduction

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This guide is designed to assist police officers and staff who are involved in an incident where the death of, or serious injury to, a member of the public occurs following police contact (a DSI); or have a role or specific responsibility within the procedure to be implemented in those circumstances. It is intended to provide a summary of the information that is relevant to individuals, based upon that involvement, role or specific responsibility. The full procedure is explained within the authorised professional practice (APP) for **post-incident procedures (PIP) in DSIs following police contact matters (APP-DSI-PIP)**.

The **European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) Article 2** imposes a duty on the state to conduct an effective official investigation when individuals have been killed or seriously injured as a result of the use of force by the police. The Articles of the ECHR are contained in the **schedule to the Human Rights Act 1998** and are therefore incorporated into UK law. The requirements under ECHR Article 2 are relevant and can extend to any situation in which a DSI occurs; during an incident or operation where police are involved, regardless of whether force is used.



This guidance is not applicable where a DSI results, directly or indirectly, from the discharge of a firearm or less lethal weapon by a police officer or member of police staff. There is a separate **APP for armed policing (APP-AP)** which incorporates a post-deployment procedure and is reflective of the specific requirements and considerations of that procedure.

Any DSI incident will be referred to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC). The IOPC has issued **Statutory Guidance to the Police Service for Achieving Best Evidence in Death or Serious Injury Matters** which should also be considered together with the APP- DSI-PIP. The key considerations within the IOPC statutory guidance are referenced where appropriate.

The guide has been divided into four parts in order to focus on specific roles and associated responsibilities. All police officers and staff whose role brings them into direct or indirect contact with the public could potentially be involved in a PIP, and should be aware of the content of **Part 1** of the guidance as a minimum, in order to understand the procedure. Those with other specific roles should be aware of the part of the guidance that relates to their role, together with the preceding parts (eg, FDOs should be aware of **parts 1-3** inclusive).

Guidance

Part 1

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A guide for all officers and staff who may have direct or indirect contact with the public

Part 2

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A guide for supervisors whose staff may have direct or indirect contact with the public

Part 3

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A guide for force duty officers (those with direct responsibility for the force control room, and has force command and control responsibility)

Part 4

> 16

A guide for chief officers and delegated senior officers with overall responsibility for the procedure

