



Threat Harm Risk Matrix for Investigative Decision Making

Our Intent

A Constabulary that inspires trust, confidence and pride because we:

- serve the public and place them at the heart of everything we do
- make decisions based on our values, principles and doing the right thing
- have capable, motivated and professional people working for us
- are financially sound, sustainable and resilient, with the right technology, estate and equipment.

Our Values and Principles:

In doing this, we will:

- act with honesty, integrity and humanity
- listen, learn and improve
- be responsive
- take responsibility for what we do and how we do it
- thrive through changes, challenges, collaborations and opportunities
- be creative, innovative and adaptable
- work together and achieve as one team
- promote and value leadership at all levels.

Stage 5: Take Action (and review what happened)

Ask yourself:

- Is this investigation in a form which is ready to be allocated, or as a result of the **THREAT / HARM / RISK** decision making approach?
- Does anything else need to happen to prevent further harm or to mitigate risk?

Record your rationale on the incident or crime.

Stage 1: Initial Assessment

Ask yourself:

- What is happening?
- What has happened?
- What do I know so far?
- Is this part of a crime series / pattern or trend?
- What do Force systems tell me that I need to take into account (previous history e.g. Corvus, Niche, Protect or first time offenders etc)?
- Is this a viable investigation? Are you satisfied with the primary investigation activity?

Stage 4: Identify Options

Ask yourself:

- Do you have the specialist skills or knowledge required to complete enquiries?
- Which function has the people with the right skills to deal with this investigation?
- Is this a critical incident?
- Do I need to bring this incident to the supervisors attention?

Stage 3: Consider Powers & Policy

Ask yourself:

- Is there a formal force policy to follow in this instance or can I use my **DISCRETION**?
- What powers support this investigation?
- Consider all crime outcomes
- ECHR to be considered ie is the response necessary, ethical and proportionate?

Stage 2: Threat / Harm / Risk

Ask yourself:

- Does this investigation arise out of a **CRITICAL INCIDENT**?
- If not, consider the following:
- What is the level of **THREAT** (current or future) attached to this crime, and to whom / what:
 - Person (is victim vulnerable?)
 - Property
 - Community perception of the force
 - Community cohesion
 - Nothing
- What is the likely level of **HARM** attached to this crime; to whom and what is it?
 - Person - Serious injury
 - Person - Minimal or no injury
 - Property - High value damage / destruction
 - Property - Minimal value / no damage
- What is the **RISK** of any any threat or harm occurring arising out of this criminal investigation?

