

---

Home > APP content > Critical incident management

## Critical incident management

Critical incident management ([CIM \(\)](#)) has its [origins](#) in the response to the public inquiry which followed the investigation into the murder of Stephen Lawrence in 1993.

The overriding tenet is risk management. However, a number of [principles](#) underpin [CIM \(\)](#), and it is rarely one factor alone or the actions or inactions of just one person cause a critical incident.

Different types of incidents can become critical. Often they are regarded as high profile, serious or homicide related, but this is not always the case.

The police service has a duty to respond to every incident in the appropriate way, first time every time and at every level. A proactive response prevents a significant loss of confidence in the police.

There are [three phases of critical incident management](#).

A [full index](#) of the content of Critical incident management [APP \(\)](#) is available.

Critical incident management [APP \(\)](#) consolidates information from a number of decommissioned documents. For a full list of titles click [here](#).

**First published:** 23 October 2013    **Last modified:** 23 October 2013

---