## **Critical incidents and community impact assessments**

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Force policies relating to critical incidents and community impact assessments can be relevant in some child abuse investigations. They can also be used to promote confidence in the police.

## **Critical incidents**

Local force policies should be followed where cases of child abuse meet the definition for a <u>critical</u> <u>incident</u>.

## **Community impact assessments**

Officers investigating child abuse and responding to concerns for children should be aware that the issue may be perceived as relating to a particular community and/or that it may impact adversely on that community. Officers should follow local policy regarding community impact assessments. The force diversity adviser(s) should be informed of the <u>community impact assessments</u> and the reason why they are being prepared.

