

To: Policing Stakeholders
By email
7 September 2026

Dear Stakeholders,

Publication of the Emergency Procedures: Initial Response and Command APP

I am writing to inform you that the College of Policing has published new Authorised Professional Practice (APP) for **Emergency Procedures: Initial Response and Command**, setting standards for how police forces in England and Wales plan for and respond to emergencies, major incidents and public events.

The guidance is relevant across all levels of policing, from first responders through to strategic (Gold) commanders, and covers the full lifecycle of an incident from initial notification through to post-incident learning.

Substantially strengthened following a 10-week public consultation, the guidance consolidates relevant content from the Civil Contingencies APP to reduce duplication and improve usability. It reflects lessons learned from major incidents and public inquiries, including the Manchester Arena bombing and the Grenfell Tower disaster, supporting effective multi-agency working in line with the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP).

This work forms part of the College's ongoing commitment to strengthening leadership, standards and performance across policing, helping ensure that when major incidents occur, the public can have confidence in a coordinated, professional response.

The new guidance is available on the College of Policing [website](https://college.police.uk).

Yours sincerely



Chief Constable Sir Andy Marsh QPM

Chief Executive
College of Policing
<https://www.college.police.uk/>