

What can I do?

Police realise that this is a very traumatic time for you and that you need support and feedback from them, but this is also a time where you can help them by making enquiries yourself.

Please remember that even though this may be the first time that you have had to report someone missing, Police have years of experience as investigators and with the assistance of other agencies we will try and bring this investigation to a swift conclusion.

Sometimes the persons who go missing may wish for their location to remain anonymous, and they do have that right, which we must respect. We will always tell you if this is the case.

Contact telephone details for agencies that may assist you if you need further help.

Contact Point at	Police Station
Tel:	
Ref:	

National Missing Persons Helpline

0500 700 700

www.missing persons.org

Samaritans

08457 90 90 90

www.samaritans.org

British Red Cross

020 7235 54 54

www.redcross.org.uk/trace

Reunite

www.reunite.org

A Guide to the Reporting and Investigation of Missing Persons

Now that I have reported them missing, what happens from here?

Once a police officer has taken a report from you about the missing person, they enter all the information onto a computer at the police station and circulate them as “missing” on the Police National Computer. Now that that information is on the computer any police officer nationally, or internationally, can contact us to find out more in-depth details.

Immediate enquiries are done by the initial investigating officer to try to find the missing person as soon as possible.

Should they still not be found then the investigation is allocated to an officer within the Police Station who will now deal with all further enquiries that can be carried out.

What can they do?

The investigating officer will firstly make sure that we have all the necessary details to conduct an efficient investigation, these will include details of,

- Friends or relatives,
- Places that the missing person is known to frequent,
- Health or medical conditions that they may suffer from,
- Financial account details (such as bank account, credit and debit card details),
- Details on any benefits that they may receive, and the location they may collect them,
- A number of recent photographs,
- Events that could be linked with their disappearance,
- DNA sample for subsequent forensic examination.

Officers will, with your consent, also need to search the home address to establish if there are any further evidential leads, (this is a normal procedure).

Consent to publicity will also be sought from you as Police may wish to widen the scope of the investigation.