

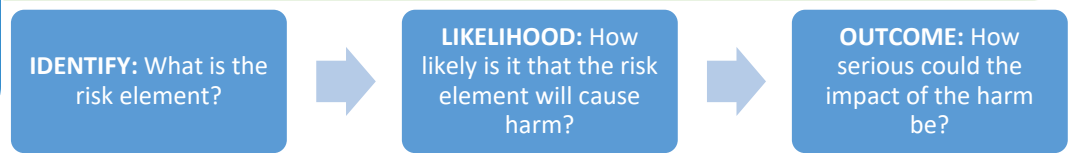
# Missing Persons | Grip & Progression (THRIVE+)



Grip & Progression guidance is relevant for all **missing person** incidents reported to police. **Initial triage, risk assessments, investigation strategies** and **ongoing tasking & review** should be developed using the THRIVE+ decision-making framework.

## Triage:

- PRIORITY ACTION**
- Establish full incident circumstances through CAD review and follow up contact with informant/family.
  - Identify risk elements through informant/family contact, research and appropriate/relevant investigation – **think likelihood and severity of outcomes.**



**THRIVE+**

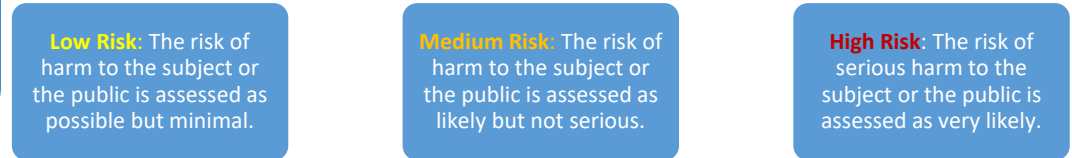
**THREAT:** Explain the threat to, or presented by, the subject relevant to the here-and-now. Clarity of the threat at all stages of the incident will help determine the immediacy and speed of response.

**HARM:** Explain the likely impact and severity of harm for the subject or others (e.g. physical, emotional, financial, reputational). Consider what measures will need to be adopted to prevent this harm occurring or that otherwise may reduce the damage.

**RISK:** Explain the likelihood of the threat happening. Consider what makes it likely or less likely drawing on knowledge of the subject, the circumstances, and the crucial input of family/friends – out of character?

## Risk Assessment:

- PRIORITY ACTION**
- Consider triage findings (initial response) or the incident development to date (at all other times).
  - Record to Merlin a written record explaining the concern for safety in respect of the identified risk elements – ensure the rationale is relevant to the subject and is based in the here-and-now.
  - Determine an appropriate risk grading (low, medium or high risk) with supporting written rationale.



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### Investigation Strategy:

#### PRIORITY ACTION

- Identify actions for completion that are relevant to the risk and circumstances. Avoid wasteful generic actions or deployments – no tactics are mandatory for any case.
  - Is it reasonable to believe that a specific action requested will result in the subject being located or otherwise provide meaningful risk mitigation?
  - Do one or more actions target the same objective (i.e. are redundant)?
  - Is there another, more direct, way of achieving the same outcome?
- Create a written investigation strategy with rationale. For each requested action you should explain briefly what is intended.

**PURPOSE:** What is the action intended to achieve?



**NECESSITY:** How does the desired outcome of the action benefit the investigation?



**ACCOUNTABILITY:** How will the result of the action be recorded?

#### THRIVE+

**INVESTIGATION:** Highlight your investigative strategy, actions and opportunities.

**VULNERABILITY:** Not all vulnerabilities are obvious and may change as the incident develops. Consider knowledge of the subject, information gained during the investigation, and through ongoing engagement with family/friends.

**ENGAGEMENT:** Explore all opportunities to support the subject, their family/friends, or other relevant persons during the incident. See '[The Importance of Informant Contact & Engagement](#)'. Where relevant, consider other agencies, charities, third-party partners and wider community engagement.

**PREVENTION/INTERVENTION:** Think about how we can stop this happening again. Consider appropriate referrals (e.g. social care), problem solving, or preventative work (e.g. [Op Resolute](#)).

### Task & Review:

#### PRIORITY ACTION

- Identify appropriate resources and ensure that the investigation is suitably tasked.
- Create a written record on Merlin to explain how the investigation has been tasked (or CRIS if applicable – utilise CRIS review and action screens).
- Ensure that completed actions are recorded with full outcomes where applicable.
- Ensure that lines of enquiry that remain open or incomplete are given suitable attention and are progressed.

## Understanding Risk & Concern

This reference is intended to assist quantifying risk by considering the most common indicators of concern for adults and children investigated as missing. Where any risk element is identified, the likelihood and level of harm should be considered to inform the risk grading. Do not simply list elements (e.g. subject is at risk of exploitation) - Provide context and explain how the element is relevant to the subject and why it puts them or others at risk.

### OUT OF CHARACTER

- Possibly the most significant indicator of elevated risk. Listen carefully to what the informant is telling you about the subject (particularly if it is a family member or a friend).
- Don't be caught out by the absence of a common concern or easily quantified risk; **an absolute and sudden break from routine can be a serious concern.**

**Length of time missing until now?** Consider in context of other indicators.

**Suspicion of foul play? Homicide or serious violence? Subject to other criminality or concern prior to going missing?**

**Circumstances of last sighting or contact?** Consider timing, by whom, location and disposition.

**Age?** Consider, under 18 or over 65? If child, consider if on Child Protection Register, or subject to a care order - Obtain details.

**Physical health?** Consider diseases, condition, impairment, disability – Ability to interact safely with others.

**Medication?** Consider dependency, when last taken, ongoing access, the effect on the subject or risk to public if missed.

**Drug and/or Alcohol dependency?**

**A&E walkout or self discharge?** Obtain accurate medical view from a clinician reflecting critical concern for safety – Patient should be at significant risk to justify police involvement.

**Mental Health?** Obtain accurate medical view from a clinician reflecting critical concern for safety that would necessitate a police response.

**Alzheimer's/Dementia?** Consider previous episodes, relevant locations – Herbert Protocol forms in place?

**Risk posed to the public or specific individual or community?**

**Environmental conditions?** Consider current/forecast weather, clothing worn, proximity of a body of water.

**PNC Status?** Consider whether known to PNC, warning markers and relevance in the context of this investigation - Does PNC marker relate to ongoing or historic risks?

**Trigger Plan?** Consider agreed actions, planning and prevention. Trigger Plans are multi-agency agreements and should set police and partnership expectations for children at risk of going missing and presenting with enhanced concern.

**Exploitation?** Consider if known or suspected, open or recent CRIS reports - Quantify current risk.

**Gang involvement?** Consider Gangs Matrix, other local Intelligence – Suggestion of County Lines displacement?

**Forced Marriage/Domestic Abuse/Honour Violence?** Consider potential judicial orders in place? - e.g. Forced Marriage Protection Order, Domestic Violence Protection Notice.

**Family/relationship/Personal/ Employment/Financial issues?** - Recently arrested/under investigation or police contact.

**Bullying/Harassment?**

**Radicalisation or extremism?** Consider subject may attempt or have already travelled to conflict zone - any recent indicators of radicalism?

**Missing with others?** Consider mutually agreed or under a controlling influence.