

 West Mercia POLICE		POLICY
Security Classification	OFFICIAL	
Disclosable under Freedom of Information Act 2000	Yes	

POLICY TITLE	Kidnap and Extortion (Crimes in Action)
REFERENCE NUMBER	WMP026
Version	1.1

POLICY OWNERSHIP	
DIRECTORATE	CRIME & VULNERABILITY
BUSINESS AREA	SOCU – SPECIALIST OPERATIONS

INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION DATE	February 2020
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	August 2024
RISK RATING	HIGH
EQUALITY ANALYSIS	LOW

West Mercia Police welcome comments and suggestions from the public and staff about the contents and implementation of this policy.
Please e-mail policiesandprocedures@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

1.0 POLICY OUTLINE

This policy explains how West Mercia Police will deal with reported incidents of kidnap & extortion, blackmail and product contamination offences.

The policy will also be applicable in all incidents where it is deemed necessary to establish a Green Room. Such incidents may include high risk missing person enquiries.

The policy is aimed at operational police officers, police support staff and their supervisors to ensure that there is a corporate and importantly a standard approach to dealing with kidnaps & extortions, blackmails and product contaminations together with other incidents of crime in action.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- APP guidance for Kidnap and Extortion
- NCA AKEU 100 guidance document
- NCA – SIO practice advice on management of Kidnap and extortion (2018) ***note this is restricted APP guidance and can only be accessed via an accredited SIO, the College of Policing K&E lead, or the NCA***
- [NCA Advice on the Management of Financially Motivated Sextortion](#)

2.0 PURPOSE OF POLICY

West Mercia Police are committed to reducing harm and bringing offenders to justice.

This policy seeks to ensure that officers and support staff that are required to work on investigations involving kidnap & extortion, blackmail, product contamination or other incidents of crime in action can do so efficiently and effectively.

The policy has been developed in recognition that incidents of kidnap & extortion, blackmail and product contamination are unique and require a specialised investigative response.

3.0 IMPLICATIONS of the POLICY

The Detective Superintendent for Specialist Operations is the responsible owner for this policy and will review as required.

LEGAL

The legal basis for this policy stems from the common law duty of the police to protect life and property, prevent and detect crime and with particular reference to:

Kidnap - Common Law

Product Contamination - Public Order Act 1986 sec (38)

Blackmail – Theft Act 1968 Sec (21)

Child Abduction Act 1984
 Human Rights Act 1998
 Equality Act 2010
 Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984
 Criminal Law Act 1967
 Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000
 Police Act 1997 (Property interference)
 Race Relations Act 1976 amended by the Race Relations (Amendment) 2000
 Investigatory Powers Act 2016

4.0 CONSULTATION

<i>Business Lead Consulted</i>	<i>Date Consulted</i>
Supt Investigations	April 2022

This policy has been shared with the Federation, Unison, Legal Services, Risk Management, Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity and Head of Specialist Operations & Head of Crime.

5.0 DOCUMENT HISTORY

The history and rationale for change to policy will be recorded using the below chart:

Date	Author / Reviewer	Amendment(s) & Rationale	Approval / Adoption
		Previously approved at JNCC meeting	JNCC 19/09/2014
Apr 2020	C Moore	Review – minor amendments, revert back to West Mercia Policy v1.0	February 2020
Mar 2022	A Gough	Review. Minor amendments v1.1	April 2022
Aug 2023	G Smith	Reviewed – No Chnages	August 2023

6.0 PROCEDURE

Please see separate document [follow link](#)

7.0 ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS

The Equality Analysis (EA), Health & Safety Assessment (HAS) and Risk Assessment (RA) associated with this document are available on request.

8.0 MONITORING / EVALUATION

The monitoring and review of this policy is the responsibility of the policy owner.