



WHAT'S THE POINT?

INFORMATION PACK

What happens when
you share information
with the Police?

WHY IT MATTERS

Sharing information with the police can feel daunting. You may wonder:

Will anyone know it was me?

Will anything actually happen?

What if I'm not completely sure?

Intelligence rarely comes from a single report. Police build a picture from information received over time from different sources.

This guide explains what happens step by step and how your safety is always a priority.

KEY REASSURANCE

- Your identity is protected
- Information is handled by trained specialists
- Police do not act on information without checks
- Every report helps build a bigger picture
- When information is passed to us by CrimeStoppers and Fearless, we do not know where this information has come from as it is completely anonymous. Crimestoppers and Fearless do not trace IP addresses or ask for any personal information when you contact them. It takes several days for information to be passed to us, so if there is an immediate danger, always call 999.

STEP 1:

You share information

When you contact the police, what you provide is called raw information.

This could be something you've:

- Seen
- Heard
- Experienced
- Been told by someone else

Even small details can be important.



STEP 2:

The information is carefully reviewed

A specialist team looks at the information to understand:

How reliable the source is

- Have they provided accurate information before?
- Is this the first time they've shared something?

How the information is known

- Did they see it themselves?
- Did someone else tell them?

This helps the police understand how much weight to give the information.

STEP 3:

Protecting the person who shared it

Protecting you is a top priority.

- Information is edited to remove anything that could identify you
- Language and details are adjusted so your identity is hidden
- Only specially approved and trained officers have access to source information
- The Police will not act on information if it puts a source at risk or could reveal their identity

This means most officers will never know who provided the information

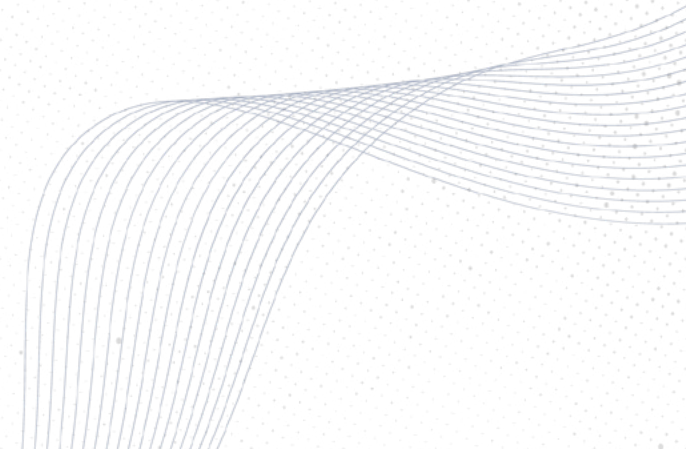
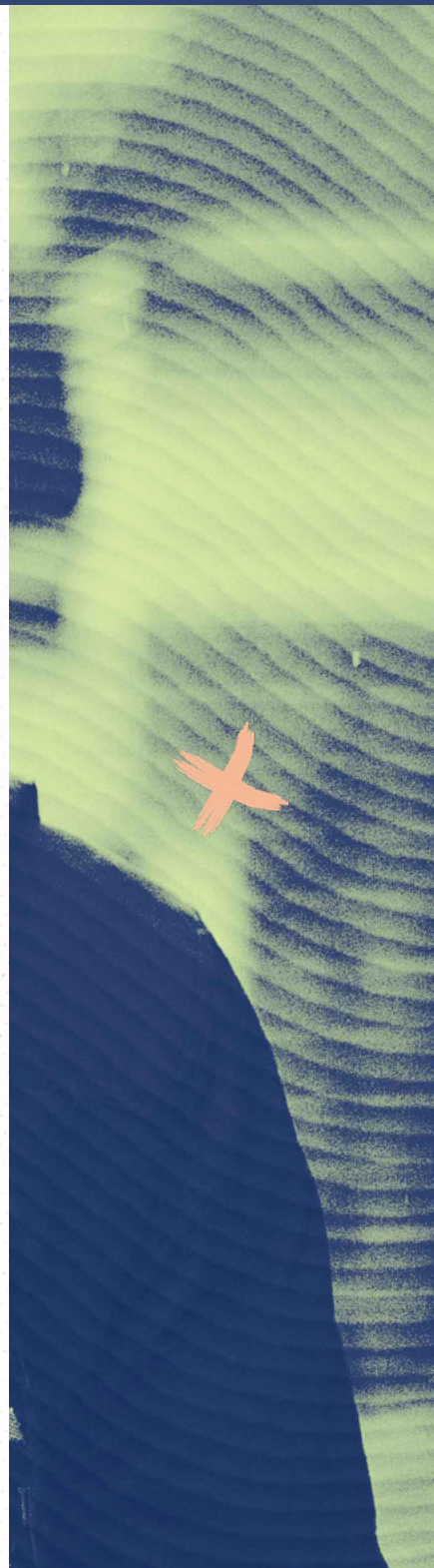
STEP 4:

Building the bigger picture

Your information is shared with specialist teams who:

- Compare it with other reports
- Look for patterns or connections
- Add it to ongoing investigations

Sometimes one report won't lead to immediate action—but it may be a vital piece of a larger puzzle.



STEP 5:

Deciding what action to take

Specialist teams assess:

- **Threat** – Is someone in danger?
- **Harm** – Could someone be harmed?
- **Risk** – How urgent is the situation?

Based on this, actions might include:

- **Support or education (often through youth officers)**
- **Working with schools or partner organisations**
- **Police enquiries or enforcement (when appropriate)**



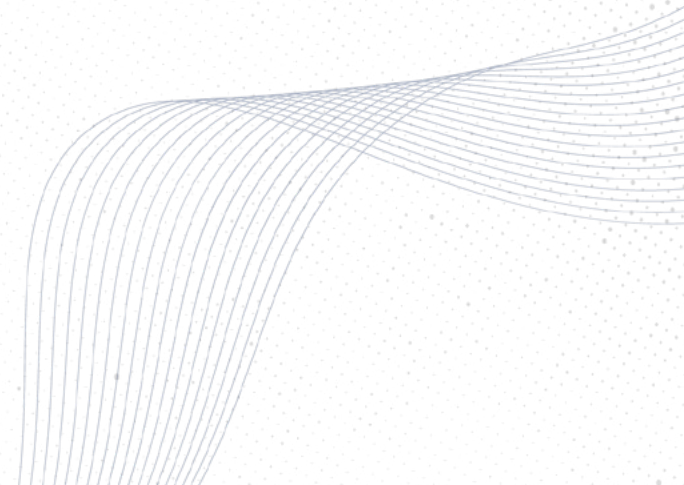
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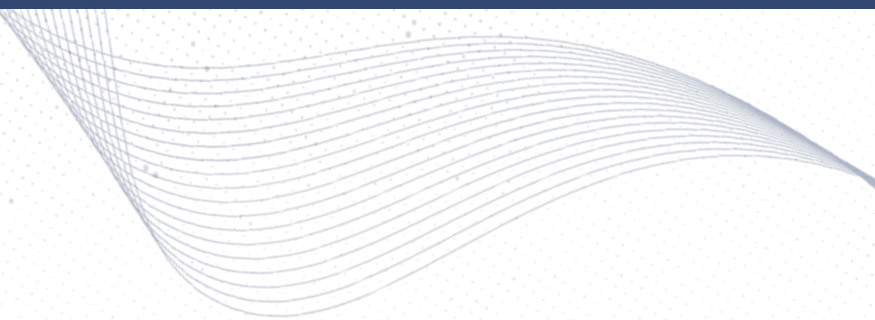
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STEP 7:

Checks before any action

The police will:

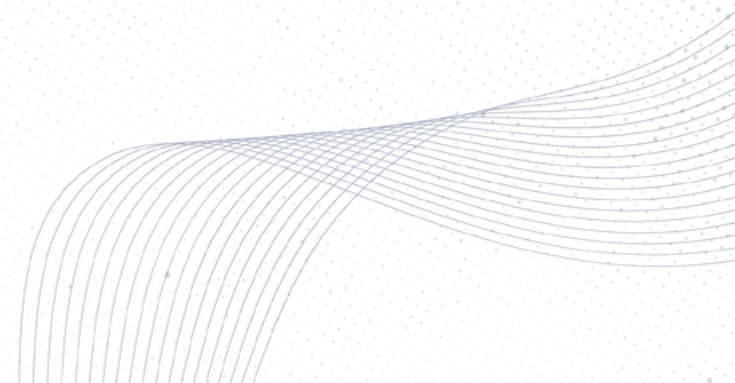
- Seek additional evidence or supporting information
- Cross-check with other sources

The police won't:

- Take action if it puts you at risk
- Your safety comes first

YOUR SAFETY COMES FIRST

- When information is shared directly to the police, only a small number of vetted specialists can access details about who shared the information
- Your identity is not shared with general police teams
- Systems are designed to protect you at every stage



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will anyone know I reported it?

No. When you contact the police directly, we protect your identity. The information you share is protected and only visible to a very limited number of specially authorised staff.

What if I'm not completely sure?

You can still share it. Even partial or uncertain information can help build a bigger picture.

Will something happen straight away?

Not always. Some information contributes to ongoing work rather than immediate action—but it is still valuable.

Could I be put at risk?

No action will be taken if it could put you in danger.

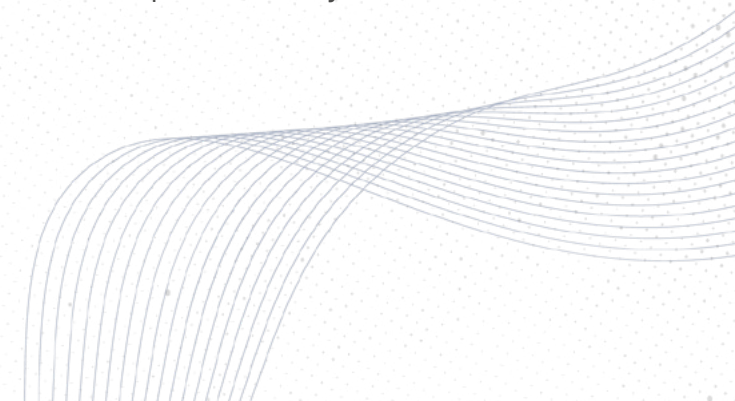
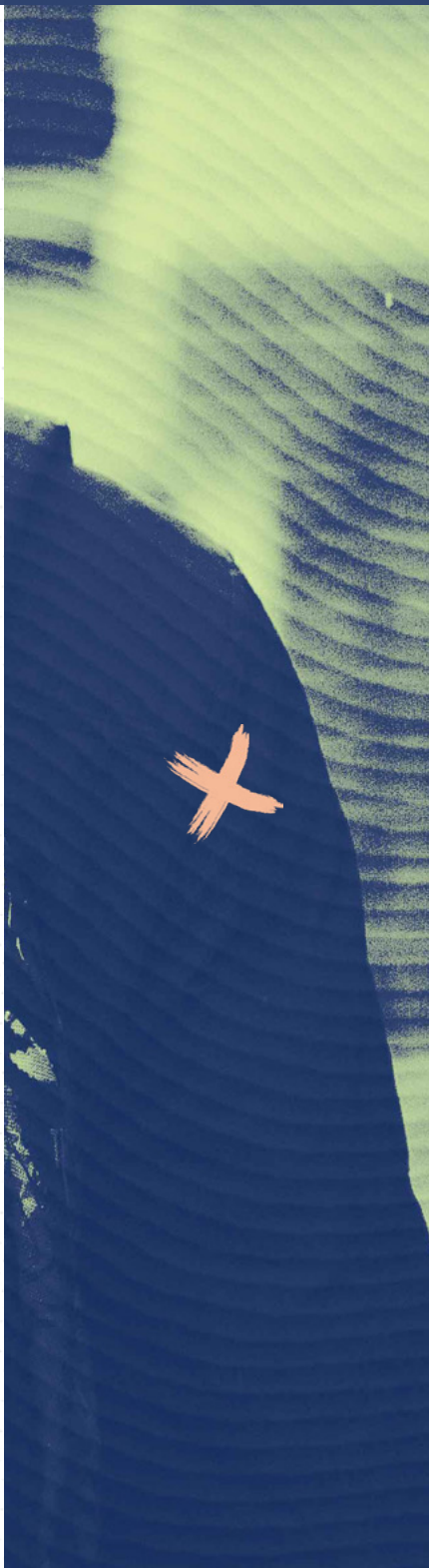
What if the person carrying the knife is my friend or family member?

Sharing information can help keep them and others safe.

Is there a way I can share information completely anonymously?

You can share information with Crimestoppers or Fearless, they are an independent charity who take 100% anonymous reports. They are not an emergency service so if you see a crime taking place, you should ring 999 to report it immediately.

After you have shared information to them, they create a report that brings together all the information you shared with them, making sure it doesn't contain any information that could identify you. They then send the report to the relevant authority to action. It is important to note that information sharing takes time, so if there is an immediate risk or danger, always contact the police directly.





WHAT'S THE POINT?

Every piece of information
helps keep people safe.
Even if it doesn't lead to
immediate action, it could
be the missing piece that
protects someone in the
future and helps save lives.