



Background

In May 2017, the Scottish Government published the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland (NMPF) that set out the following four objectives:

- Prevention
- Respond
- Support
- Protect

Context

In January 2021, Dumfries & Galloway Public Protection Committee identified the implementation of the Scottish Governments NMPF as a priority. Dumfries & Galloway have been working in partnership with the Missing People's Charity to support this implementation.

Next steps: D&G Missing Persons protocol can be found [here](#).

The National Missing Persons Framework (2017) can be found [here](#).

For more info, please contact:
PublicProtection@dumgal.gov.uk
or visit:
www.dgppp.org.uk

To complete the Return Discussion eLearning training contact:
PublicProtectionTraining@dumgal.gov.uk

Content: The Protocol covers:

- An understanding of why people go missing
- Risk assessments
- Information sharing
- Process
- Single & multi-agency roles and responsibilities
- Information on Return Discussions
- Missing People's Charity Resources

Definitions: A missing person is defined in the NMPF (2017) as, anyone whose whereabouts are unknown and:

- Where the circumstances are out of character or,
- The context suggests the person may be subject to crime, or
- The person is at risk of harm to themselves or others.

It is critical to the success of this protocol that this definition is embedded into single agency policies and procedures.

Purpose: This protocol is for all practitioners who would be involved in the prevention, response, support, and protection of people, which includes both children & adults, who are at risk of or go missing. Every year Police Scotland receive over 30,000 calls reporting people missing and all agencies recognise a robust & consistent partnership approach is critical to prevent people going missing in the first place & to locate them as quickly as possible when missing.

Aim: Our aim within this protocol is to build on existing good work already being undertaken in Dumfries & Galloway in relation to missing people and

- Prevent people from going missing in the first place, and
- Limit the harm associated with people going missing.

