

S.A.F.E.R.

Guidance for Incident Management

There are times when you may be called to attend an incident without a clear picture of what it is you are attending, this can be for many unavoidable reasons. Every effort must be made in the first instance to ascertain the details surrounding an incident before an officer is deployed, but in those instances where a clear picture cannot be established first, there are some simple steps you can take to keep yourself safe.

S – Step Back

Taking a step back, physically and mentally before continuing into a developing situation can allow you time to see things more clearly.

A – Assess

Assessing the situation first will allow you a better chance of seeing any dangers to yourself and others.

F – Find Help

Make sure you have help coming, whether that is colleagues or emergency services depending on how severe the incident is.

E – Evaluate

risk assess the situation and think about what options are available to you.

(P.O.P. Person, Object, Place)

R – Respond

Respond to the best of your abilities and knowledge without risking the safety of yourself or others.

Your priority should always be the safety of yourself and others. You should conduct dynamic risk assessments of the situation to account for developments that could create a change in risk, requiring a different response.