

## **Information security: Overview**

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## Introduction

### Application

This chapter applies to all users of Police information and ICT, including contractors and other non-Police users.

Reliable and secure information and technology is crucial to all day to day and long-term Police activities and objectives. Easy access to timely, relevant information enables us to be better placed to prevent crime and road trauma, and to respond and resolve them more quickly. Most of us also access and use information and ICT services more frequently and diversely than at any time in the past.

Unauthorised and inappropriate use or a lack of security in relation to information, resources and technology, poses risks for Police, users and the public. Risks to Police include loss of capability, productivity and performance, inability to effectively carry out its functions and obligations, and loss of trust, confidence, and reputation. Risks to users include risks to their personal privacy and safety, breaches of duty and law, and disciplinary or civil action. Risks to the public relate to their privacy, safety and wellbeing, and their trust and confidence in Police.

The requirements and guidelines in this chapter are intended to help you to make best use of available technology and information whilst limiting the Police, the public and your own exposure to security risks.

### Principles

Information security is a combination of protective, detective and responsive controls to mitigate risks associated with producing, handling and protecting Police information and assets. It includes measures relating to the confidentiality, availability, and integrity of information processed, stored and communicated by ICT and other means.

The guiding principles applied to information management, privacy and assurance are:

- As a government agency, Police follows the Government's minimum security requirements defined in the [Protective Security Requirements \(PSR\)](#) and the [NZ Information Security Manual \(NZISM\)](#). The PSR outlines the Government's expectations for information, physical and personnel security. The NZISM details processes and controls representing good practice essential for the protection of Government information and systems.
- Access is provided to systems, equipment and information to help make your job easier and more effective, but that is routinely based on trust rather than restrictive technical controls. It is expected that people use Police ICT and information responsibly, in a manner that reinforces a professional image and reputation.
- We all ensure information is only used and shared for authorised purposes and is kept secure across all environments. Classified and sensitive information is handled in accordance with government requirements and situational risks. Information is managed in accordance with applicable legislation such as the Public Records Act and the Privacy Act.
- Reasonable personal use of Police systems is permitted; but this is a privilege which may be altered if necessary. Such usage is at each user's own risk, and it may be logged and monitored.

### Legislation governing information

The key legislation governing information use and management is:

- **Policing Act:** Under section 50 of the Policing Act 2008, a person commits an offence who without lawful authority or reasonable excuse, has in their possession any Police property, including Police information.
- **Privacy Act:** The Privacy Act 2020 mandates protection of personal information about any person. The Privacy Act establishes principles relating to the collection, storage, use and disclosure of information relating to individuals.
- **Official Information Act:** The Official Information Act 1982 applies to all requests made to public sector agencies for information that is not about the requestor.

Other legislation governing aspects of security, privacy and information management include:

- [Public Records Act 2005](#)
- [Criminal Records \(Clean Slate\) Act 2004](#)
- [Criminal Disclosure Act 2008](#)
- [Copyright Act 1994](#)
- [Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Act 2009](#)
- Various other legislation also makes it an offence to access, use, distribute or publish offensive, objectionable or discriminatory

material.

## Related information

Specialist information security policies are available for:

- [Redaction and disclosure](#)
- [Sharing information with other agencies](#)
- [Working with information classified CONFIDENTIAL and above](#)
- [People managers](#)
- [ICT projects and service delivery.](#)

Related information is available in the [Departmental Security](#), [Privacy and official information](#), [Photographing and videoing members of the public](#), [Information and Records management](#), [Criminal disclosure](#) and [Social media](#) chapters, as well as [Our Code](#) and the Ten-One [Protective security](#) pages.

## Security roles and responsibilities

All Police employees, contractors and other service providers are responsible for providing and maintaining the security of Police resources and the resources of others in our care. Each role and contract may have specific, additional, responsibilities.

All staff must complete the basic security training course (Essential Security Awareness) and make themselves aware of the core security requirements relevant to their access and responsibilities. Anyone else with unescorted access to a Police building or a Police ICT system should be provided with similar training and awareness.

The key Police employees, committees and groups with specific information security responsibilities are listed under [Roles](#).

## Authorisation, clearances and briefings

All Police employee, contractors and other people with unescorted access to Police premises, information or other resources must be Police vetted. All employees may be provided access to any RESTRICTED or SENSITIVE information they have a valid business reason to access. Employees with a need to access CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET or TOP SECRET information must also hold a current security clearance at the appropriate level.

Access to Police information is based on trust, rather than solely on the implementation of technical controls to block access. It is designed to improve day to day access to information. This is balanced by increased monitoring and compliance reporting, with the focus on early intervention, education and increased user awareness. It is also aligned to a higher expectation on employees and contractors regarding the appropriate use of information and technology.

## Use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Our information and ICT assets are of enormous value not only to Police but also to other agencies and, potentially, adversaries. All users of Police devices and computers should be aware of the security of such equipment and information, and take reasonable steps to avoid risk or compromise.

Physical access to Police ICT equipment must be controlled. That means handling equipment in ways that minimize the opportunity for unauthorised access, and challenging or preventing unauthorised people from using, or seeing information on, Police devices.

Adding or changing ICT services, software or hardware must be done via the ICT Service Desk. This includes purchases - including cloud services - connecting hardware, installing software, connecting to any non-Police network, removing equipment from Police premises, and disposing of equipment.

Police users provided with laptops, smart phones, or other portable devices, should be particularly careful to avoid loss or theft. Report lost equipment to the Service Desk as soon as possible.

Users must not use or attempt to use another person's logon or share mobility devices. Passwords, PINs and other authentication items must be kept private.

In the event of an ICT security incident, report the event immediately to ICT ([Create Incident](#)) as well as your manager and into SPIR ([Security and Privacy Incident Register](#)).

All Police employees and others with access to Police information and ICT must ensure that they take adequate measures to maintain:

- **Confidentiality of information:** Ensuring that information is not made available or disclosed to unauthorised individuals, entities, or processes.
- **Integrity of information, data and services:** Protecting information from alteration or unauthorised destruction and preserving accuracy and consistency.
- **Availability of information and services:** Implementing technology and processes so that information and services remain accessible and useable by authorised people.

The expectations on users of information and ICT is provided in [Acceptable Use of Information and ICT](#).

### No expectations of privacy

Users of Police technology and resources should not have any expectations of privacy of private communications made on, over, or through the use of Police systems. Business and personal or private information and communications may be subject to monitoring and review by being recovered and examined with or without the knowledge and consent of the user. User activity is logged by various applications and equipment, including email servers and printers, and may be audited without notice. Police telephone systems, including mobility devices, are also subject to logging and reviewing of activity. This may include, for example, calls, voicemail, texts, emails and internet use.

### Your login QID and password

Each Police user is assigned a unique QID (Police Query Identifier) **s.6(c) OIA**

You are responsible for all activity undertaken using your login profile so be careful when selecting passwords and PINs, and protect them from other people.

Do	Note
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Make passwords at least 10 characters long with a mixture of letters, digits, and symbols. Or, if the system allows it, make it at least 16 characters just of letters or digits.</li> <li>- Choose something unique and difficult to guess, but easy for you to remember without writing it down.</li> <li>- Use the Police password storage app (PasswordState) to generate and keep track of multiple passwords.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Don't use any words (or parts of words) associated with your identity as part of your password, including your QID, vehicle registration, position title, or names of any family members.</li> <li>- Don't use the same passwords or PINs in Police systems or services that you use or have used elsewhere.</li> <li>- If you need a written copy of a password or PIN, keep it in a secure place that is not close to any device that it is used to unlock.</li> <li>- Alternative authentication may be approved following formal risk assessment, <b>s.6(c) OIA</b></li> </ul>

Do not attempt to use another person's login, or let another person to use your login profile, unless for a short time and under your supervision. Do not share your login passwords or PINs with any other person. If you do get in a situation where someone else might know your password or PIN, change it as soon as possible.

## Police computers, phones and services

Staff are responsible for the physical protection of any laptops, phone and other devices issued to them whenever the device is outside Police premises.

Ensure you take all reasonable measures to protect ICT devices and information, including:

Condition	Computer security instruction
If possible	Enable the password-protected screen saver, to automatically start within 15 minutes of inactivity for computer and 5 minutes for smartphones
Computer or smartphone is left unattended temporarily	Lock the device e.g. Ctrl-Alt-Del
Computer is likely to be unattended for an hour or longer	Log off
Undocked portable computer	Power off and, if applicable, ensure the remote access authentication (RSA) token is kept separately

## System integrity

Do	Note
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request to ICT that useful software be considered for authorisation and apply via the Service Desk to request particular access that is blocked by controls.</li> <li>- Be cautious of suspicious websites, emails, attachments, and links. Notify the Service Desk immediately of any suspicious activity or suspected system infection.</li> <li>- Only use accredited Police systems and services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Don't install or run unapproved software on any Police system or use unapproved cloud services.</li> <li>- Don't attach additional hardware, peripherals or other devices to a Police device or network, without specific authorisation from ICT.</li> <li>- Don't interfere or attempt to circumvent security measures or access controls on any Police device, system or service.</li> </ul>

### Note:

- Attackers can disguise the source of emails, so being vigilant doesn't just apply to unknown addresses.
- Malware sent in email attachments will often be disguised, such as having two or more file extensions (e.g., filename.jpg.exe).

## Removable data storage media and devices

Removable data storage media (i.e., optical disks, USB flash drives, camera memory cards, portable hard drives) and devices may be used but the risks of malware infection and accidental information disclosure must be managed. You may use them for work purposes without having to request access, but you should:

- scan media for viruses before or as soon as you use it in a Police device
- wherever possible, encrypt media that could be taken out of the Police environment to ensure that, if it is lost, whoever finds it will not be able to access the data. If you only want to read externally provided or published content from a USB device you do not need to encrypt it.

In situations where the media cannot be encrypted, it should be marked with an indication of the content and its classification, if any.

Once locked, encrypted media containing SENSITIVE or RESTRICTED information only needs to be protected as an IN CONFIDENCE item. USB devices only need to be set up for encryption the first time you plug them into the Police network. All files already on these devices will be automatically encrypted once the process is complete. Instructions are available from the Service Desk.

## Bluetooth and other wireless communications



Bluetooth is a popular technology that interacts with computer peripherals such as printers, smartwatches, headphones, vehicle infotainment systems and data storage.

Bluetooth is disabled on Police laptops and desktop computers.

Bluetooth and other peer-to-peer networking may only be used with other Police devices in the following situations:

1. Where the device type and/or configuration has been pre-approved by the CISO or the IT Security Manager. The only currently approved usage is:
  - a. Connection of a Police mobile phone to a Police vehicle's onboard infotainment system. Full pairing of a Police mobile phone to rental or personal vehicles (i.e., where the contact database is shard) is **not** allowed.
  - b. Personal or Police-issue wireless headphones and hands-free telephony may be used if the link cannot share stored information such as address books, **or**
2. Mobility apps with Bluetooth that have been approved via ICT's assessment process.

Where wireless functionality is enabled, those devices must be configured to reject all unexpected pairing requests and, where possible, be set to be undiscoverable except when being paired. The networking functionality should be turned off when it is not needed.

## Repair and disposal

### Disposal of computing equipment and media

Special care is required to ensure there is no possibility of official or personal information being retrieved from media, devices and other equipment once they are out of Police control. Therefore, all Police ICT equipment (including cellular phones) must be disposed of through the ICT Service Desk.

Computing equipment to be released from Police control must be purged of all information, using a deletion utility program approved or compliant with the standards in the NZISM and provided by ICT. Alternatively, the storage media should be destroyed (e.g., by shredding). In some situations where the media is encrypted, ICTSC may use alternative methods to ensure the content cannot be recovered.

Removable storage media that is no longer needed, if not wanted for re-use within Police, must also be wiped as above or disposed of through a secure waste contract (e.g., a DDS Blue Bin).

If (non-smart) mobile phones cannot be reimaged, at least ensure that all contact and call information is deleted and cannot be recovered.

### Repair

Police computers, devices and telephones (including mobile phones) must not be taken for repair or service by people or companies other than those approved by ICT. If the functioning of the equipment makes it possible and practical, information should be deleted before access by repair service people.

Service providers should sign a non-disclosure agreement in respect of any information retained on the equipment under repair or received incidentally during their work.

## Use of non-Police ICT

### BYOD and other non-Police ICT devices

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is **not** supported at NZ Police. Personal devices such as laptops, tablets and smartphones must not be connected to the Police Communications Network (PCN/Enterprise Network).

In the rare circumstance that a non-Police device does need to connect to the PCN (e.g. for pre-arranged penetration testing), it must be approved by Director: Networks and Infrastructure.

Only peripheral equipment approved by ICT Group may be connected to Police devices. For example, Police laptops are not to be connected to home and other non-Police printers.

Personal information of the public or operationally or corporate sensitive Police information must never be copied to or handled on personal devices.

### Cloud and other outsourced arrangements

Police information planned for outsourced or offshore ICT arrangements must be notified to the CISO. The security Certification and Accreditation process is likely to be necessary to ensure security risks and requirements are adequately managed.

## ICT procurement and changes

### Procurement of software, hardware and IT-related services

All software used by Police must be authorised, certified and installed or modified by Police ICT or an ICT-approved outsource vendor. All other software is prohibited and must not be installed onto Police technology.

Only employees, contractors and other third-party users authorised by ICT may modify software or software configuration. This includes anti-virus software, which must remain operational as installed and configured by ICT.

Software may only be used for the purpose for which it is intended, e.g., word processing, spread sheeting etc. It must not be copied or used outside the license agreement.

Police hardware and software must only be procured, certified and supplied by ICT, including any technology equipment that:

- connects to the Police network, such as servers, PCs, laptops, mobile devices and printers
- is used to deliver ICT services, such as cloud services, mobile phones, etc.

ICT hardware is labelled with a Police inventory identification number. This label should not be tampered with.

### Changes to technology systems

All employees may:

- connect or disconnect Police-supplied docking stations, monitors, portable printers, keyboards and mice to laptops
- move laptops, or connect or disconnect them from the network
- replenish computer consumables.

However, only authorised agents such as ICTSC employees or contractors authorised by the CIO may make material physical changes to components of Police technology systems (e.g., relocating desktop computers, adding a new computer to the network or installing software).

## The Internet and communications

### Online access

Police provides access to Internet websites and information - including social media - for work and reasonable personal use from Police devices. That access is subject to:

- restrictions on sites or content that are suspected of containing dangerous, inappropriate or objectionable material. Exceptions may be justified and approved through a request to the Service Desk in some circumstances
- logging and review of the sites and pages visited, with the generation of alerts if a user attempts to access prohibited sites
- interacting publicly in accordance with the [Social Media policy](#).

The Internet is an unsafe environment, so all reasonable steps must be taken to prevent:

- unauthorised disclosure of Police information over the Internet
- the introduction of malware or vulnerabilities into the Police environment.

Only use the Internet in line with the [Code of Conduct](#), [Acceptable Use](#) and the [Social Media policy](#). For instance, do not (non-exhaustive list):

- access sites or disclose information that exposes systems or official information to unauthorised access or increases the risk of such access
- access material that is sexually explicit, racist, abusive or otherwise offensive, unless such access can be demonstrated as being required in your work
- perform online gambling
- knowingly subscribe to services or distribution lists that could result in frequent or large messages that interfere with Police services or ICT performance.

Be careful when using public services such as social media that you do not (unless expressly authorised):

- identify yourself as a Police employee
- release official information
- express views that may be interpreted as being the Police policy.

Follow the guidance for sending and managing [emails and texts](#).

## Telephones and telephone services

Police business relating to unclassified and IN CONFIDENCE matters may be discussed by telephone of any type. SENSITIVE or RESTRICTED matters may be discussed when both callers are on Police One NZ devices. Otherwise, take particular care and use guarded language and guarded references whenever possible.

Consider the risks of interception and overhearing when discussing private or operationally sensitive information over the telephone or conferencing systems.

### Answering services and voicemail

Telephone message systems can be vulnerable to hacking so voicemail should not be used for sensitive messages. Change the access PIN as soon as possible after being allocated a new telephone number.

### Mobile phones

Mobile networks offer some security if both callers are using the same digital phone network. However, as number portability between One NZ and Telecom now exists, the number is no longer a reliable indicator that callers are on the same network (e.g., a 021 number could be on either network). Depending on the nature, scale and security risk for any particular operation, assume that a digital mobile call can be overheard or intercepted so be careful where and what you discuss.

### Radios

Operational staff should use encrypted digital radios whenever possible to protect information. Where encrypted radios are not available (e.g., where analogue radio is still used), note the potential to be overheard or intercepted and therefore be guarded on the nature of information to be disclosed.

### Secure telephone

Police provide secure (encrypted) telephones to secure voice communications for classified information. They can also be used in normal or insecure mode, so make sure they are operating in Secure Mode with a compatible phone at the other end before discussing anything of a classified nature.

## Information protection

Information is one of the most valuable tools to Police, and it is often entrusted to us by other parties, so it is important that we respect its significance and take all reasonable steps to protect it. Information should only be accessed when needed, and handled carefully in accordance with law and Police policy.

‘Need to Know’ is a fundamental security principle. The only people who should receive classified information are those who need it to perform their duties. It does not include ‘nice to know’ or ‘convenient to know’, and should not be provided merely by virtue of position, rank or clearance level.

The ‘Release’ principle - enshrined in the Official Information Act - balances ‘Need to Know’. Official information should be made available to the public unless there are good reasons to withhold it. Classification is not by itself justification for withholding information if it is requested: the criteria in the Act must be applied.

All information held by Police must be:

- only made available to people who have a legitimate ‘need to know’, or subject to policy
- only accessed if there is a legitimate need to do so, especially if it is personal information
- handled carefully, especially when it is being handled or sent outside Police premises
- released only in accordance with legislative requirements, directives of the Government or Courts or Police policy.

Security classifications help guide this appropriate treatment of information. Information may be classified if its dissemination could be damaging to the interests of individuals, groups, commercial entities, government business, the community, or national security. The definitions of each level of classification are based on escalating consequences of compromise.

The government *National Security classifications* are RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET, and TOP SECRET. These may only be applied to information which has bearing on New Zealand’s security or diplomatic relations. The *Policy and Privacy* classifications (i.e., those that do not relate to national security) are IN CONFIDENCE and SENSITIVE.

Almost all Police official information is either unclassified, IN CONFIDENCE, SENSITIVE or RESTRICTED. All Police employees, contractors, and third parties who have successfully completed the Police vetting and validation process are approved to apply these and access classifications if their duties require it. However, a government National Security Clearance at the appropriate level is required for access to CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET and TOP SECRET material.

Protected information may also be endorsed by other markings that indicate a special level of care. These usually relate to the specific nature of the information, temporary sensitivities, or limitations on availability, circulation or access.

Public information or other information that does not reach the threshold for IN CONFIDENCE information may be marked as “Unclassified” to indicate that an assessment of the information has taken place. This practice removes any assumption regarding the classification of the information. While unclassified information may not require the same level of protection as IN CONFIDENCE information, security controls may still be necessary to protect its confidentiality, integrity and/or availability.

For minimum standards for protecting and handling information see [Information classification and protection](#).

## Information collection, management, storage and release

Police information collection, use and management must satisfy legislation including the Public Records Act, the Official Information Act, the Privacy Act and the Criminal Disclosure Act.

Information and other digital content must only be collected in line with legislation and Police policy. For instance, there are specific [restrictions and processes around taking photographs of the public](#).

See the information and records management chapter for policies and guidance regarding information management.

## Information sharing, disclosure and redaction

Personal or classified information shared between Police and any other agency must be protected and managed to ensure legal requirements and security risks are addressed. Guidance on developing formal agreements is available in [Police Interagency Agreements Policy](#). Additional security guidance is provided in [Sharing Information With Other Agencies](#).

The [Privacy and official information](#) chapter provides guidance on balancing the need to share information with Police obligations to withhold information.

Electronic documents and other formats often contain non-visible information like hidden fields and track changes, increasing the risk of inadvertently leaking unintended information when sending or releasing those files outside Police. Information that is redacted incorrectly might also be trivial to recover. The policy and guidance is covered in the [Electronic Redaction and Disclosure policy](#).

## Printing and scanning

When printing or scanning documents, follow the security advice in the table to minimise the risk of information loss or being accessed by unauthorised personnel.

<b>Secure print</b>	The secure print service requires users to log on to multi-function devices, using an access card, prior to printing documents. It reduces the risk of printed documents being picked up in error by somebody else, so it should be used where available.
<b>Scanning documents</b>	Multi-function devices provide the capability to scan documents and load them directly to a folder on the Police network. The scanned document folders can be accessed by all Police users, which might result in unwanted access. To reduce this risk, use the scan-to-email function instead, or copy the scanned images to a secure or personal folder, then delete them from the scanned document folder.

Contact the Service Desk for further information on any of these functions.

## Protecting where you work

### Station and office security

Site physical security measures are in place in all Police premises to protect equipment from theft or damage. They should include:

- staff and visitor identification and access control
- video surveillance
- out of office lock-up routines
- monitored intrusion detection and environmental systems
- the housing of sensitive information and ICT equipment in secure rooms and/or lockable cabinets, with access restricted to specifically authorised personnel
- a review of security whenever equipment is moved to another location or a site is rebuilt or modified.

Sensitive material should not be left on your desk when you are not there. Keep it in locked cabinets or drawers to prevent unauthorised or accidental viewing. Desks should be kept as clear as possible when not in use.

Laptop, desktop and smartphone screens should be locked when unattended.

Also consider the location of displays, keyboards and printers and the chance of an unauthorised person seeing the screen, a password being entered or sensitive hardcopy documents. Printers should be configured for Follow-me printing (i.e. secure-print).

### Working away from Police premises

Remote working is work involving official information that would normally be done in Police premises being carried out at home or another location.

Special considerations are required as remote working can increase the risks of:

- compromise of Police information
- loss or damage of equipment if it is transported to and from home and office
- inadvertent introduction of malware (e.g., viruses) to the Police environment.

The risk of information being compromised usually increases with the sensitivity of the information being worked on, and the length of time the remote working is conducted. If the option is taken because of convenience for the employee, this may be offset by the right of Police, as employer, to be assured about security.

All premises used for storage or processing of unencrypted Police SENSITIVE or RESTRICTED information must be approved in advance by Protective Security.

When remotely accessing the Police network:

- protect the computer, storage media and hardcopy from theft
- connect to the Police network remotely using your encrypted Police laptop
- log off when you leave the device or are not using the network
- ensure any external storage used is encrypted.

Do not send Police information to your personal computer or email accounts or send passwords or other authentication information via email.

Remote access to the Police network is available through Police-provided and configured laptops and smartphones via a Virtual Private Network (VPN) secure channel between your device and a secure access point on the Police network.

You can apply for remote access if you need to work away from a Police station or office. The [Police flexible working policy](#) may also allow you to work from home or an external office.

Remote working involving any classified or operational material must be approved by a Superintendent or higher. Advice may be obtained from the Service Desk or Protective Security. More information is available in the [Remote Access page](#).



Remote access authentication tokens must be locked, locked away and/or kept with you when not in use.

Lost devices or remote access tokens should be reported to the Service Desk as soon as possible.

## **Travelling overseas**

The risk can also increase if the remote work is conducted from outside NZ, so any proposal to take Police devices outside Australasia  
**s.6(c) OIA**

## Reporting and managing information security incidents

This section provides an overview of the process to report and manage ICT and information security incidents, such as:

- accidental or unauthorised access to official information
- inappropriate use of Police technology
- attempted penetration of the Police network, systems or cloud services
- infection by malware
- intentional denial of service (DOS)
- damage, loss or theft of a device or computer equipment
- unauthorised physical access to Police information or equipment.

When a security incident occurs, it is crucial to report and manage it quickly and with appropriate rigor to minimise the damage it causes to the affected assets as well as NZP objectives and obligations.

The priorities are to:

1. Prevent further loss or damage
2. Preserve evidence if an investigation may be needed
3. Ensure the appropriate managers and stakeholders are kept informed.
4. Notify other staff and/or the public if the incident is likely to escalate, spread or continue.

If the incident involves accidental disclosure of information, attempt to have the unwanted copies of the information deleted to limit its exposure. Should personal or official information be inadvertently released or other inappropriate access or use occurs, then it is vital that the incident is managed quickly and appropriately.

Incidents need to be reported through the [Security and Privacy Incident Register](#) (SPIR). Reporting them immediately can help to reduce the damage and ongoing risk. The SPIR system will ensure that the applicable District Operations Manager and the specialist Protective Security, Privacy and Cybersecurity teams are informed.

Depending on the specific situation, you may also need to notify one or more of:

- the Service Desk for any security matters to do with ICT systems or services. The Service Desk will contact Cybersecurity and other ICT specialist teams as necessary.
- Integrity and Conduct if it involves a breach of the Code of Conduct
- Legal Services if it involves a legislative breach
- Police Prosecution Services if it involves a criminal disclosure matter
- Media and Communications if it involves a matter of media or public interest
- High Tech Crime Group if it concerns cybercrime.

The general phases for security incident handling are (note, they can occur in parallel):

- **Identification:** This phase deals with the detection and determination of whether a deviation from normal operations needs to be handled as a security incident. It also involves assessing the scope of the problem and triaging how it will be handled.
- **Containment:** The primary purpose of this phase is to respond quickly to limit the damage and prevent any further damage from happening. It may also include system back-up to preserve evidence. For ICT security incidents that are potentially a targeted attack:
  - collect relevant artefacts, logs and data, and remove them for further analysis
  - implement mitigation steps to stop further spread or damage while avoiding tipping off the adversary that their presence has been discovered
  - consider obtaining additional incident response support from NCSC, CERTNZ, High Tech Crime Group and/or a specialist incident handler to provide additional expertise and technical support to the incident response.
- **Eradication:** This phase deals with removal of the threat from the environment and restoration of affected information, systems and services to a known good state.
- **Recovery:** The purpose of this phase is to bring the affected systems and services back into production in such a way that it will not lead another incident. It is essential to test, monitor, and validate the systems that are being put back into production to verify that they are not still vulnerable to the same or similar threats. It might also include further investigation and/or a post-

incident review to reduce the risk of follow-on problems or incidents.

Activities around victim notification, media relations and criminal investigation may also be needed throughout all phases.

Any privacy breach that could cause or have caused serious harm to an affected individual or individuals, or is likely to do so, must follow the [Privacy Breach Management process](#) and be reported to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and the affected individual(s) as soon as practicable after becoming aware that the breach has occurred.

Large privacy or security incidents should be managed in consideration of [TENR](#) in a similar way to a large investigation or a [CIMS](#) incident:

- agree an Incident Manager. The Incident Manager must manage the incident to its resolution, including involving the relevant stakeholders above
- assign other key roles such as: Business Representation; Communications; Legal; Investigation; Response; Recovery; Privacy; Security; Information Management
- establish a log of events and associated information management
- schedule regular incident management meetings with all key contributors
- provide scheduled and/or milestone updates to stakeholders, including the CISO, Chief Security Officer and Media Relations
- for incidents involving ICT, adopt the ICT Incident Management Process.

Where applicable, incident liaison will also need to be established with the following authorities:

<b>External party</b>	<b>NZP liaison point</b>
<b>Office of the Privacy Commissioner (OPC)</b>	Chief Privacy Officer
<b>Government Chief Privacy Officer (GCPO)</b>	Chief Privacy Officer
<b>Government Chief Digital Officer (GCDO)</b>	Chief Information Officer
<b>State Services Commission</b>	Chief Assurance Officer
<b>Government Chief Information Security Officer (GCISO)</b>	Chief Information Security Officer
<b>Computer Emergency Response Team (CERTNZ) and the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)</b>	Head IT Security Management

Liaison points with other parties and sectors may also need to be included in the incident management structure depending on the nature and scope of the incident.