



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE

Officer Assault Pledge

Our Seven Point Plan



Being assaulted
will never be seen as
just part of the job

For more information
please visit [BTP-ONE](#)

1 Total Victim Care & Victims Code of Practice apply in all circumstances

Assaults on police officers, specials, PCSOs, volunteers and police staff should be investigated with the same care, compassion and commitment as an assault on a member of the public. This sounds obvious, but too often our response to assaults on officers and staff can be rushed or treated as secondary to other offences.

Complying with the Victims Code means keeping the victim updated, discussing outcome options and taking account of the victim's point of view before imposing an outcome.

2 Senior leadership to be informed of any assault

The supervisor must ensure that senior leadership is made aware of the assault so that the appropriate level of support can be put in place. For a minor injury this should be at divisional level; for more serious injuries this should be escalated through the Senior Duty Officer to the Chief Officer Group.

3 Accident Management System must be completed

This can be found on BTP-ONE under **Applications > Core Applications**. It captures important statistics in regards to how the assault occurred and aggravating causal factors like drunkenness / mental health issues. This provides BTP with a richer intelligence picture to understand the reasons behind the assault and will be used to 'problem solve' any trends and patterns.

4 An assaulted officer must not be the Officer in the Case

The assaulted officer must never be the Officer in the Case for the investigation into their own assault. This is not appropriate on any level and even taking statements from witnesses may be inappropriate. The integrity of the investigation and the impartiality of the officer could be called into question, which could undermine the case and/or heighten the impact on the victim.

5 The injured person should not write their own statement

The emotional impact of being assaulted should never be underestimated, even for officers. A self-written statement, provided straight after the events may not contain all of the key facts. As a result, cases sent for prosecution sometimes fail to meet basic evidential needs.

6 Best evidence must be presented to maximise the chance of prosecution

The Officer Assault Investigation Plan should be followed to ensure that the best evidence is presented to maximise the chance of prosecution. Victim impact and community impact statements should be considered, to highlight the severity of the incident for sentencing purposes.

7 The incident should be debriefed

Victims recover better and more quickly if they receive the right welfare and supervision. This also helps to avoid long-term negative consequences. The assaulted person's supervisor should meet with them as soon as it is practical to do so. The victim may downplay the impact on them, but supervisors must recognise the potential effects of the incident and make appropriate and proportionate referrals such as Trauma Risk Management (TRiM).

Organisational learning should be captured through this process and fed into the **Lessons Exploitation Centre (LXC)**.