

Introducing the New and Improved 2025 Investigation Management Document

Launch Date: 6 October 2025

I am pleased to announce the launch of the newly redesigned Investigation Management Document (IMD) and accompanying guidance.

We must see that the absolute right to a fair trial is observed. In so doing we need to be able to show what enquiries we carried out and why, and those we excluded and why. Every decision, every document, every moment spent investigating a case contributes to the integrity of our criminal justice system.

This is the purpose of the IMD. Introduced to address the reasons why cases had collapsed because of a failure to be able to demonstrate that we had thoroughly followed lines of enquiry whether they pointed towards or away from the suspect.

But **we have listened** to you and heard your concerns.

The Investigation Management Document was too long, repetitive, and time-consuming, and there are certain cases where it doesn't add enough value to justify the time in completing it.

My NPCC Disclosure Portfolio has therefore led a national review group, bringing together operational colleagues from across policing and prosecution. Together, we asked the right questions. We challenged assumptions. And most importantly, we listened to you, those who use the IMD every day. **And we acted.**

What's new?

- **Streamlined Format:** The new IMD is not just a shorter form. It's a smarter one. Reduced from 11 pages to just 3. Duplicative sections removed. Guidance embedded directly into the form.
- **Targeted Use:** The IMD is now required only where it adds real value to the criminal justice system.
 - ✓ Crown court cases (excluding elected cases)
 - ✓ RASSO cases
 - ✓ Youth cases with Indictable only offences
 - ✓ NGAP Magistrates / Youth cases with Either Way offences AND,
 - Large or complex digital material / search parameters set
 - Substantial or complex TPM / overseas material
 - Substantial or complex forensic enquiries
 - Complexities arising from linked investigations
 - ✓ Where the investigator or their supervisor considers the IMD beneficial
- **Smarter Timing:** Now completed at the pre-charge stage, ensuring relevance and reducing waste where cases don't proceed.
 - Mandatory completion ahead of Early / Charging Advice for Full Code & Threshold Test cases.
 - Optional completion from the outset of the investigation where the investigator or their supervisor feels this would be beneficial.

- **Simplified Updates:** No more exporting and reloading—just create a continuation IMD to capture new developments.
 - Once sent to CPS, new content goes on a fresh ‘Continuation IMD’, so no need to export and re-import the form.

The IMD remains a vital tool – not a burden – helping us build stronger cases and avoid unnecessary work later down the line. It helps us build stronger cases, communicate effectively, and ensure that everyone involved in an investigation is working from the same page.

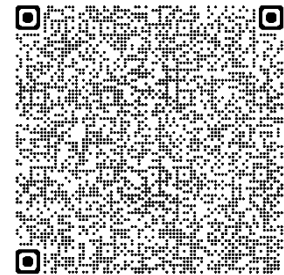
This is the investigators IMD. Built from your feedback. Designed for your needs. And shaped by your experience.

Together we have made it better. It is for all of us now to make the best use of it in investigations and prosecutions, to secure justice and public confidence.

Forces should implement the new IMD as soon as able, completing this within at least 3 months from release.

The following content can be found on our NPCC Disclosure Knowledge Hub Site – [Click here](#)

- NPCC IMD 2025 Template
- NPCC IMD 2025 Guidance & FAQs
- NPCC IMD 2025 Best Practice Examples
- NPCC IMD 2025 Posters
- NPCC IMD 2025 Launch Video



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim De Meyer', written over a horizontal line.

Tim De Meyer

Chief Constable

NPCC Lead for CPIA Disclosure

NPCC Criminal Justice Coordination Committee