

MISSING PERSON BEHAVIOUR - MAIN STUDY

Definitions

1. **Terrain** - the area through which the major part of the journey took place
 - Crag/Broken Ground - rugged upland
 - Farmland - lowland arable or pasture
 - Moorland/Upland - remote areas of upland or wilderness where rocky outcrops are in the minority
 - Plantation (dense) - developed forest or plantation, the going may well be difficult.
 - Urban - within the confines of a group of habitations, city, town or village.
 - Water Margin - coastline, shoreline of large bodies of water, rivers as well as the water itself.
 - Woodland (open) - parkland or wooded area where passage is relatively easy.
2. **Subject Category** - of the missing person(s).
 - Child (1 to 6 yr.) - refers to child's chronological age only
 - Child (7 to 12 yr.) - refers to child's chronological age only
 - Climber - on or off route, accessing into or out of the climb.
 - Despondent - anyone where there is evidence that they have deliberately disappeared as a result of clinical depression or intention to harm themselves.
 - Fellrunner - either as a competitor in an event, training or recreation, including orienteering.
 - Hiker / walker - any form of recreational walker, of whatever length, involving persons 17 yr. or older.
 - Miscellaneous - any other use of the outdoors not included in the earlier categories – photographers, mushroom pickers, bird-watchers etc.
 - Mountain Biker - where the bike was the main means of transport, on or off-road.
 - Organised Party - a party with a recognised leader or purpose.
 - Skier - If so equipped, including the walk in and out
 - Vulnerable - anyone who can be described as having significant mental impairment e.g. mentally handicapped, dementia sufferers (senile or Alzheimer's), sufferers of psychoses.
 - Youth (13 to 16 yr.) - refers to child's chronological age only
3. **Subject Condition** - state of subject when found, or, if still missing when the search was suspended
 - Fatality - dead when found
 - Injured - required significant medical treatment when found
 - Unhurt - did not require significant medical treatment when found
 - No Trace - not located, outcome not known
4. **Distance from IPP** – Initial Planning Point - the geographical point at which the search planning starts. This could be the Point Last Seen (PLS) or the Last Known Position (LKP). It could be
 - either (a) distance measured directly (straight line) on a map in Kilometres correct to 1 dec. pl.
 - or (b) using the full OS Grid Reference (of 2 letters + 6 digits) for both the Grid Ref. of IPP and the location where subject found
5. **Location of Find** - the feature that best describes the location of the find
 - Building / Shelter - any man-made structure not usually used for human habitation
 - Forest / Woodland - forest, plantation where progress is difficult
 - Forest Edge/Clearing - open woodland
 - Habitation - building usually inhabited
 - Open Ground - may be sheltering in nature features
 - Path / Track - may be vehicular but not metalled
 - Road - Metalled, classified or unclassified
 - Stream / Ditch - drainage line that can easily be crossed on foot
 - Wall / Fence Line - any man-made structure enclosing land.
 - Water/ Water's Edge - in or surrounding a body of water that could not be crossed easily on foot.

Narratives - any additional information pertinent to missing person's behaviour and the search

6. Circumstances - how had the person become 'lost'
7. Traits - had the person behaved in any particular way, attempt concealment, etc.
8. Medication etc - were any of these a factor in the person's behaviour while missing, etc.
9. Method – details the more effective search strategies / tactics used in this operation.