

## Planning and Contingencies

The mobile and dynamic context of MASTS deployments requires detailed tactical planning and thorough consideration of all likely or foreseeable eventualities. This should enable sufficient contingency plans to be in place in order to respond to such eventualities. This should include options and/or contingencies to intercept or intervene.

The difference between interception and intervention should be recognised. The point at which the police interact with the subject is key to recognising the difference between interception and intervention. Generally intervention is concerned with dealing with a subject whilst they are committing an offence and that offence increases the risk to a victim.

**“Intervention”** – Dealing with a subject whilst they are in the act of committing an offence, where potential victims are present at that location, and the subject is physically in a position to carry out the threat. In summary, interventions are implemented:

- during the commission of an offence which directly presents a threat to a victim; and
- the victim is present; and
- the police interaction interrupts or intervenes to mitigate the threat.

**“Interception”** – Dealing with a subject prior to the actual commission of an offence and any potential threat being realised, for example en route to or from an armed robbery. In summary interceptions are implemented:

- prior to the commission of an offence; and
- not in the presence of the intended victim.

Where the tactical plan or contingencies requires intervention, consideration should be given to the use of MASTS officers who are also trained in Module D9, Dynamic Intervention. Dynamic intervention training better prepares officers for dynamic operations where subjects and potential victims may be in close proximity and an imminent threat exists.

An armed interception or intervention may increase the risk to the persons involved. Factors that may influence the decision to utilise the tactic include:

- The ability to abort the tactic on grounds of public safety and adopt an alternative option or contingency.
- The likelihood of establishing a more suitable opportunity or location to arrest.
- The continuing threat and risk to which people may be exposed if the subject is not intercepted or challenged.
- Availability of sufficient time to plan other options and the prevailing circumstances at the intended or believed destination.