

Out of Scope




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### Fuel drive-offs

A fuel drive-off occurs when a person dishonestly makes off intending to avoid payment. Police are not to act as an intermediary for payment of fuel in lieu of a prosecution. Police will conduct investigations into all reported instances of fuel drive-offs commensurate with available evidence, prospects of successful prosecution and the efficient and effective use of police resources. Police will not act as debt collectors for service station operators.

4(2)(a)(iii) & 4(2)(a)(iv) & 4(2)(b)



The processes below apply to both metropolitan and regional areas.

When a fuel drive-off occurs the console operator will contact the Call Centre. The Call Centre will:


- enter a SACAD event to 'keep a look out for' (KLOF) the suspect's vehicle as appropriate to the circumstances
- assess the need for patrol attendance
- initiate an occurrence and advise the service station of the occurrence number.

The Call Centre operator will:

- conduct checks to determine:
  - whether the vehicle is stolen, or displaying stolen, altered or unassigned plates
  - whether the vehicle has been involved in other offending (such as police pursuits) or accidents for which the driver is wanted for questioning
  - how many times the vehicle has been nominated for a fuel drive-off within the last year (including the current nomination)
- note any overt behaviour that indicates intent to commit the offence
- the employee receiving the report will initiate a new occurrence utilising the occurrence type of 'theft/receiving'
- enter an occurrence even when the vehicle description does not match its registration details, the most appropriate offence category being 'Petrol drive off 0829/3
- request the reporting person ensure that any CCTV is maintained should it be required for any future investigation
- request the reporting person email a still image of the suspect and/or vehicle to the SCAC (SAPOL.SCAC@police.sa.gov.au)—upon receipt, the SCAC will link the photo with the occurrence or any other related occurrence
- endorse the occurrence accordingly.

The occurrence will be completed and sent to the SCAC for assessment.

4(2)(a)(iii) & 4(2)(a)(iv) & 4(2)(b)



Where the above criteria is not met the supervisor or SCAC member reviewing the occurrence will determine that no police investigation will occur.

All employees receiving a report of a fuel drive-off from a service station will ask sufficient questions and examine Shield for information to establish whether the incident meets the above criteria for an investigation.

#### *Investigation—criteria met*

Where one of the criteria for a crime occurrence investigation is met the normal procedures for investigating crime occurrences will be followed.

The occurrence will be workflowed to the SCAC as required for victim crime occurrences. The SCAC will allocate the occurrence to the relevant DAM or investigations senior sergeant/officer in charge in regional areas for allocation to investigating officers.

When an occurrence has been investigated without charge it is to be returned to the SCAC for filing as appropriate.

SAPOL will not collect CCTV footage in the first instance. Should the matter be assessed as requiring investigation, the investigating officer will determine whether footage is required.

*Investigation—criteria not met*

Where the criteria for a crime occurrence investigation is not met the member is to record a crime occurrence following the normal reporting procedures. The occurrence will be workflowed to the SCAC as required for victim occurrences.

SCAC members reviewing the crime occurrence will ensure that each occurrence of fuel drive-off is assessed against the investigation criteria and ensure that where the investigation criteria outlined is not met, the crime occurrence is filed without further investigation.

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