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**Return Discussions
Collaboration in Edinburgh 2021**



Out of doors mobility is an important part of living well with dementia (Bantry White & Montgomery, 2015).



Poor topographical memory leads to **poor navigation** and increased risk of getting lost (McShane *et al.*, 1998). Therefore, people living with dementia are **at risk of becoming lost** even in familiar environments (Rowe & Bennett, 2003).



The individual may or may not feel like they are lost.



Despite their elevated risk, the majority of people with dementia who go missing are found **safe and well**. Concern about missing leads to **preventative measures**.



High complex cases have a **high mortality and morbidity rate**, place a high burden on police and search teams, and results in immense stress for families and individuals themselves.



In Scotland, 2% (538) of investigations involved someone with dementia (Police Scotland, Missing Persons Annual Report 2017/2018).



From 1 March 2020 to 1 March 2021 in SCOTLAND

Total number of people missing with a diagnosis of Dementia – 488

Female 150/ Male 338

Living at home – 306

Average amount of time missing – 7.72 hours

Average age is 67.2 years

Source: Police Scotland National Missing Persons Unit Database

Dementia

Adults who go missing

People, including those with dementia, can and do go missing from communities across Scotland. Work in local authority areas to respond to this issue vary depending on the local circumstances, but all agencies engaged focus on locating those who have gone missing. The response to a missing person is determined by the available information – or in some cases the lack of information. There are particular groups who may be at higher risk of going missing, including children and young people in care and adults with dementia.

Police Scotland have developed and piloted protocols, with partners, for three high-risk groups, including adults who go missing from care homes in Scotland. The pilots began in 2015 in three Police Scotland divisions with the aims of safeguarding and preventing people at risk of going missing, and of activating the appropriate response when they do go missing to ensure they are found safe and well.

COMMITMENT 16: We will consider the upcoming recommendations of Police Scotland Missing Persons report for the dementia client group.



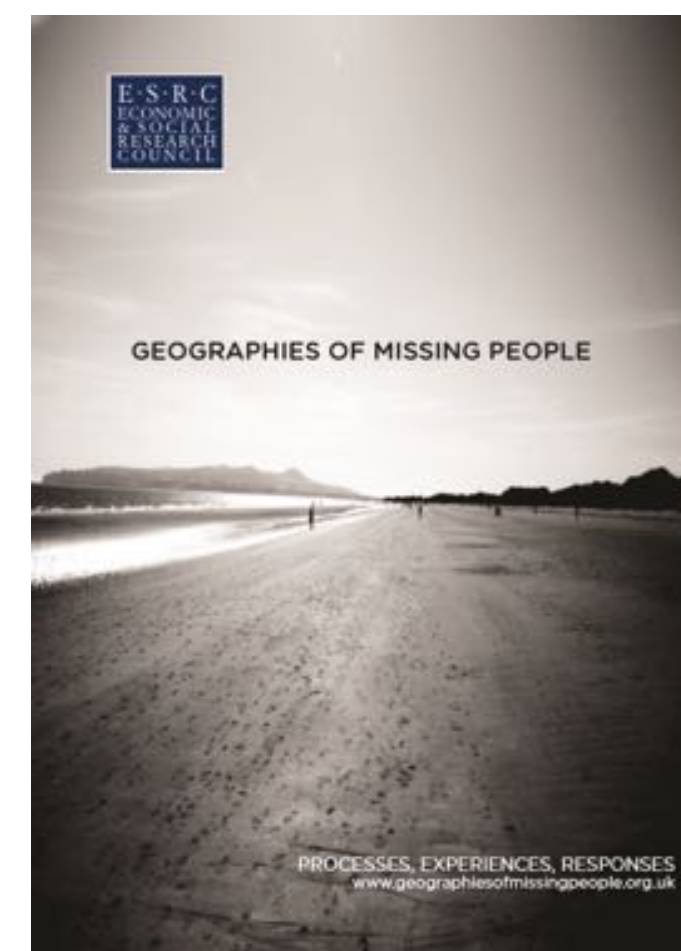
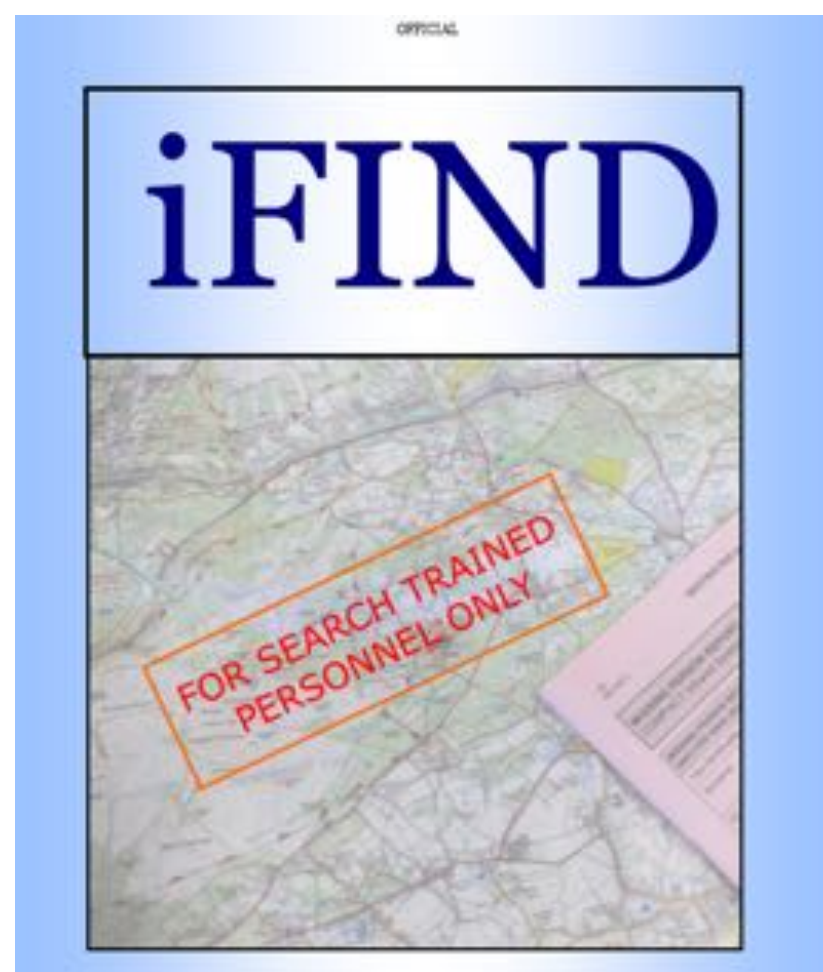
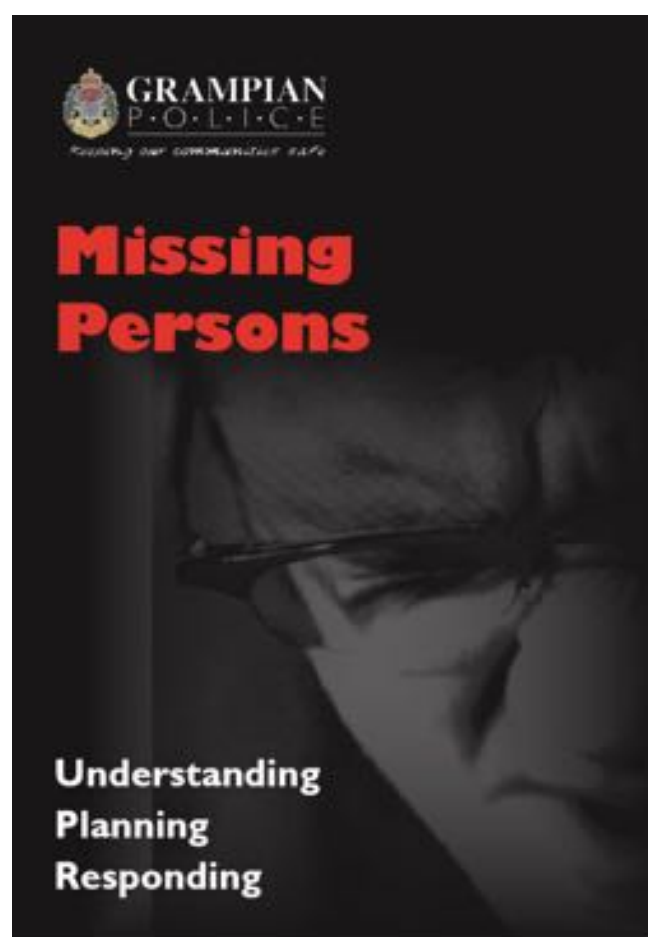
NATIONAL MISSING PERSONS FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTLAND

Commitment 8: Government to ensure that risks of harm are highlighted in all relevant training and guidance.

There is already a wide range of existing relevant guidance and training for professionals, at both a national and local level. Recent national strategies and guidance (for example, Scotland's Dementia Strategy 2017-20; and the National Guidance for Child Protection) have made the relevant links to going missing. Through this Framework, the Scottish Government will ensure that, where relevant, missing people are accounted for in future national strategies and approaches.

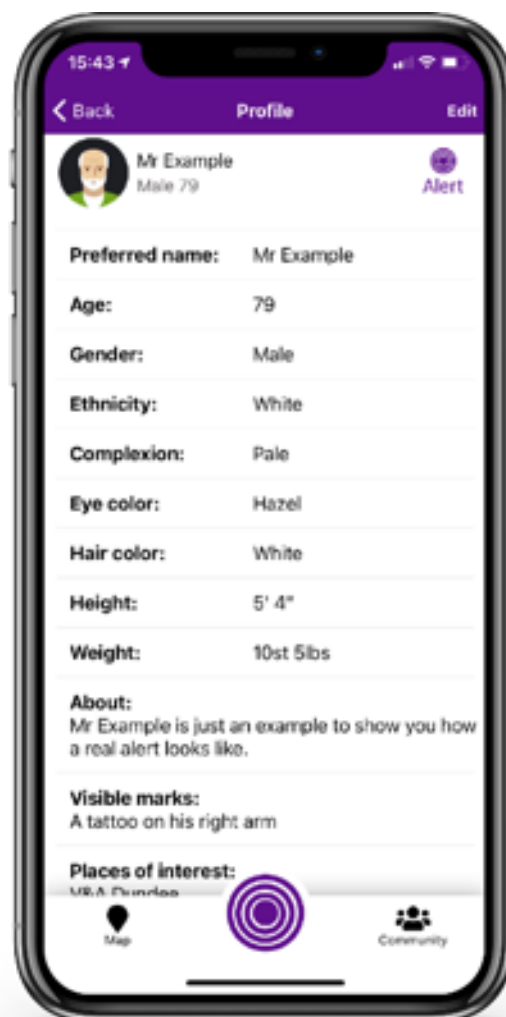
The Scottish Government will ensure that awareness raising about the risks of going missing is included in relevant national guidance.



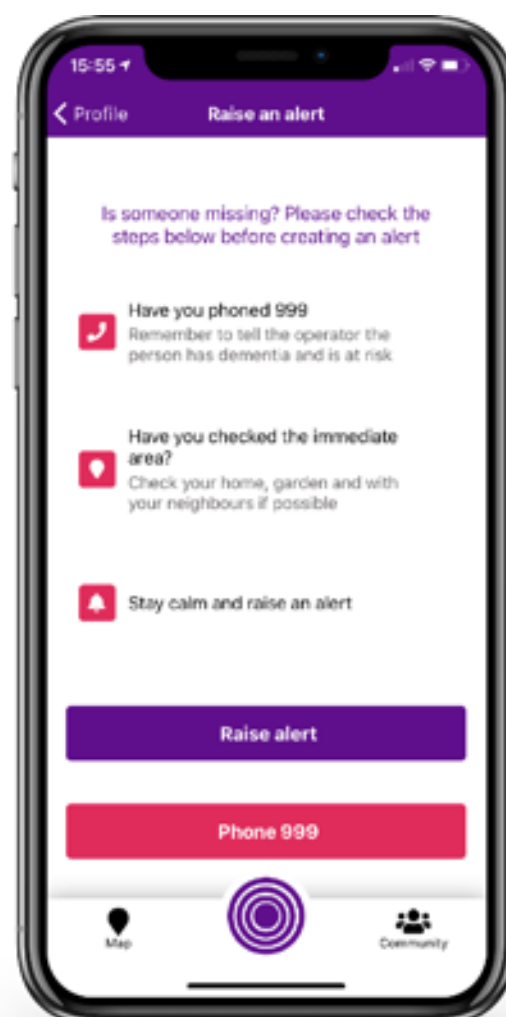




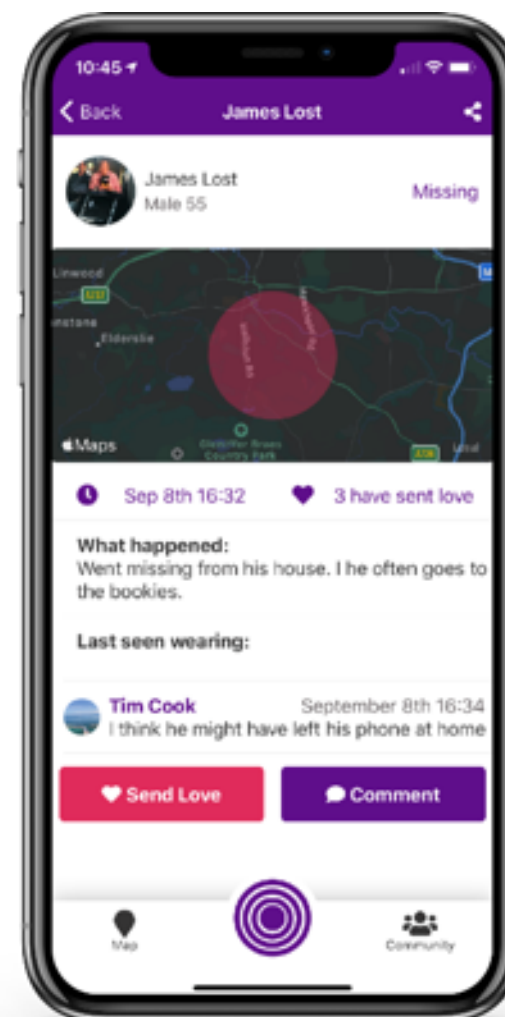
General information	
Full name of the person	
Known as / preferred name	
Current telephone number	
Date of birth and place of birth	
Language/s spoken (please list)	
Marks / scars / tattoos	
Has the person been missing before? If yes, please provide further details, such as, when and where they were found.	
Ethnic group	
WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> Scottish/Welsh/English/Northern Irish/British <input type="checkbox"/> Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Irish Traveller <input type="checkbox"/> Any other White background Please indicate here:	MIXED/MULTIPLE ETHNIC GROUPS <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black African <input type="checkbox"/> White and Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic background Please indicate here:
ASIAN or ASIAN BRITISH <input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Any other Asian background Please indicate here:	BLACK/AFRICAN/CARIBBEAN/BLACK BRITISH <input type="checkbox"/> African, African Scottish or African British <input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British <input type="checkbox"/> Black, Black Scottish or Black British <input type="checkbox"/> Any other Please indicate here:
General description	
Height & weight, build	
Hair colour	
Wig/hair piece	Yes/No/Details
Wears glasses	Yes/No/Details
Facial hair	Yes/No/Details
Medical information incl. GP details	
Has a dementia diagnosis or has memory problems	Yes/No/Details
Any mental health issues e.g. anxiety, depression	Yes/No/Details
Other health issues e.g. Diabetes etc.	Yes/No/Details
Has a disability	Yes/No/Details



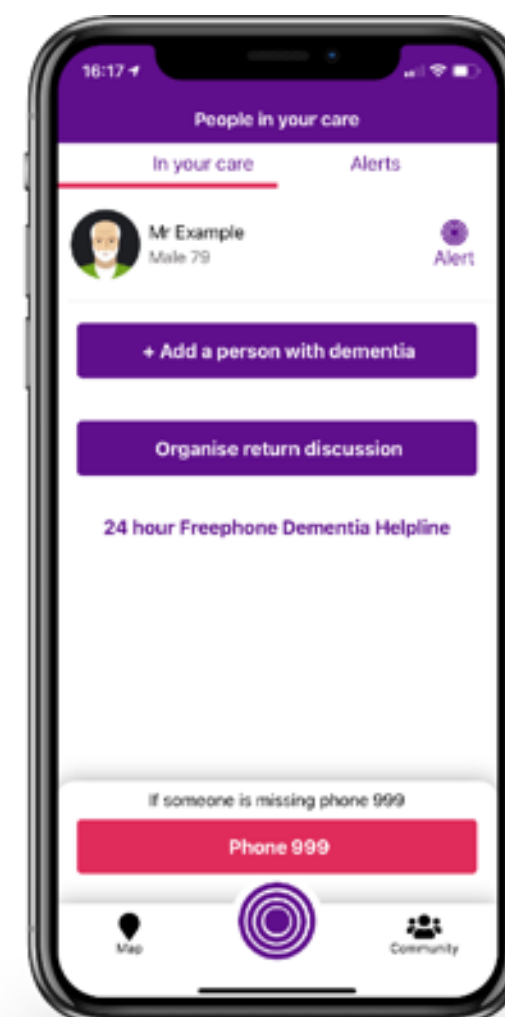
1. Create Profile
for a Person with
Dementia



2. Phone 999,
then raise a
Purple Alert

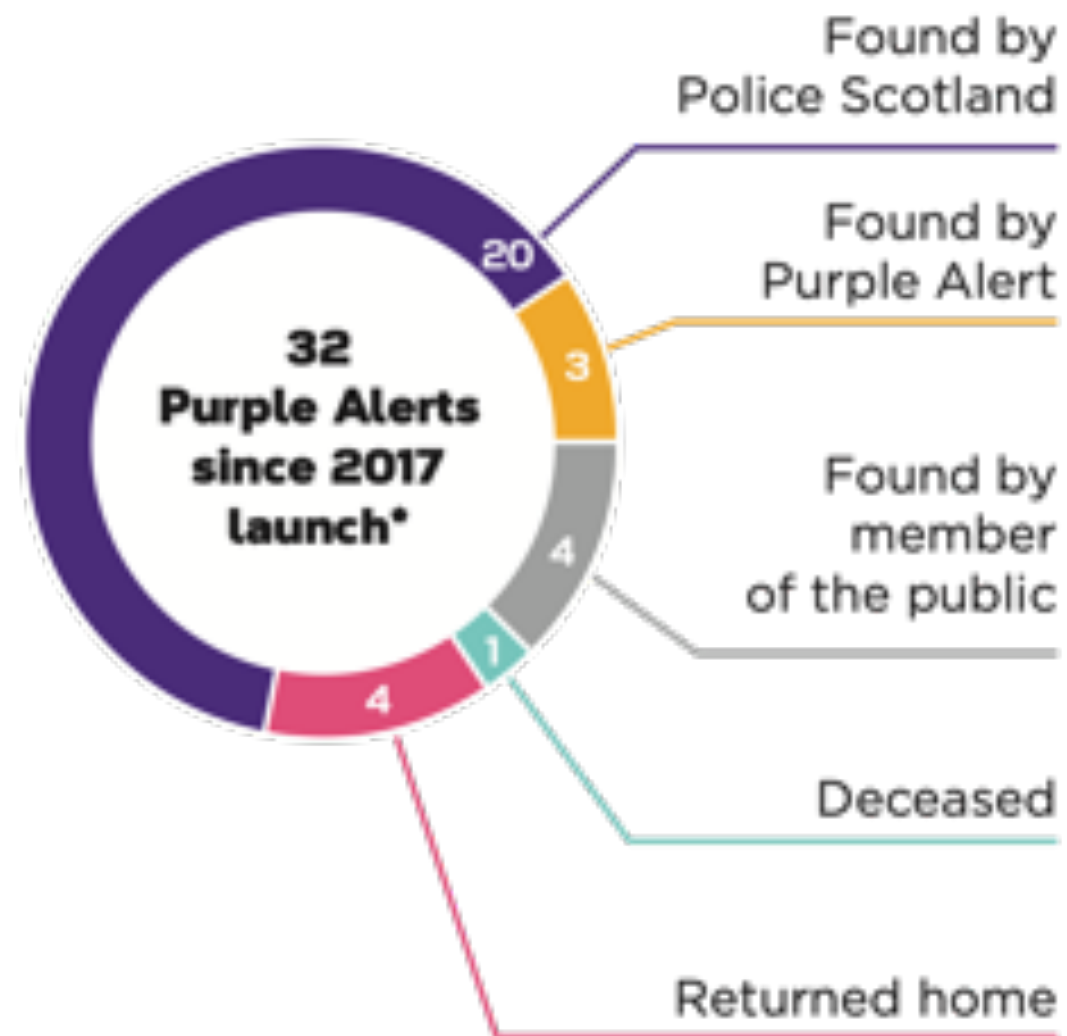
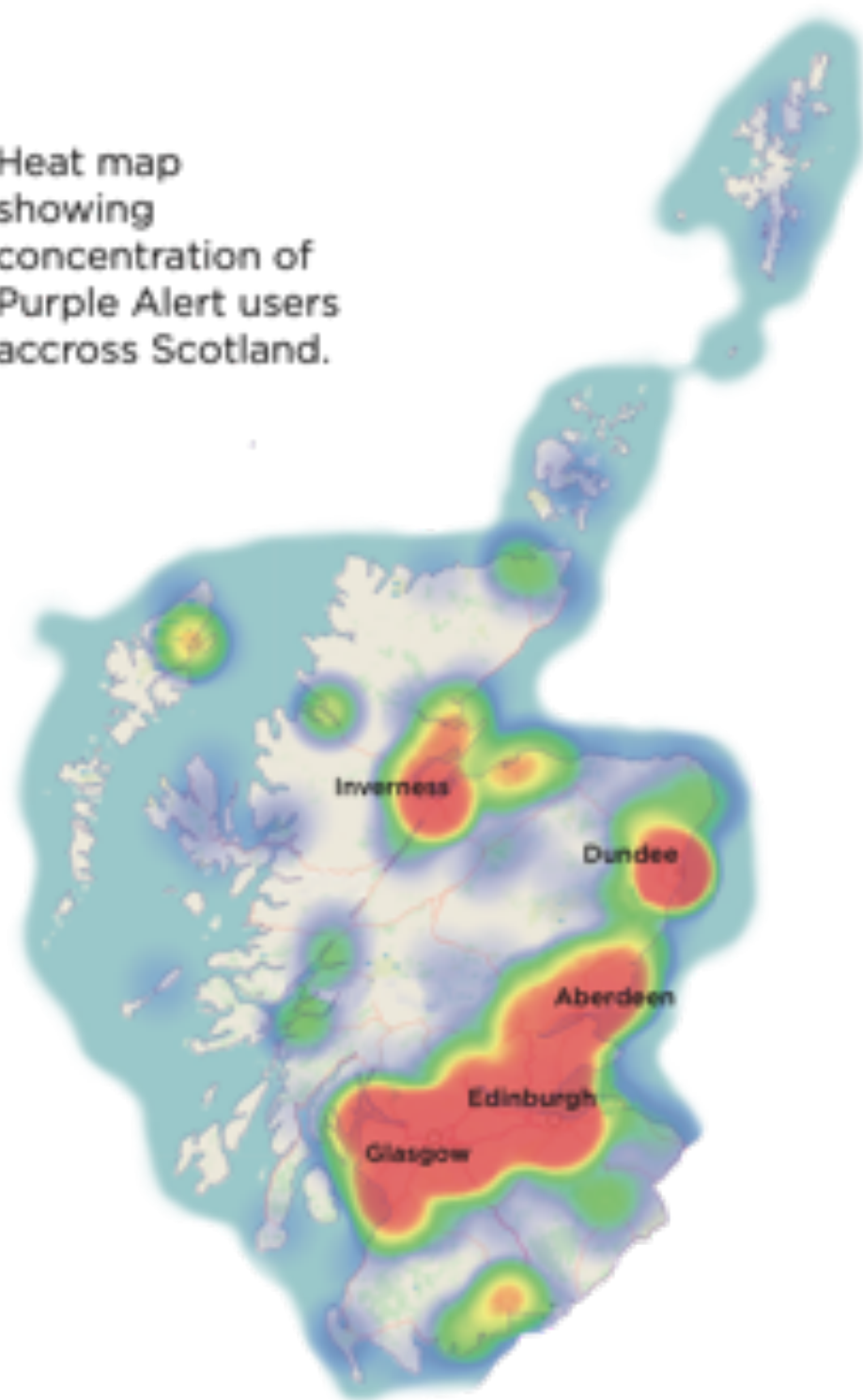


3. The Community
within 20 miles
radius gets notified



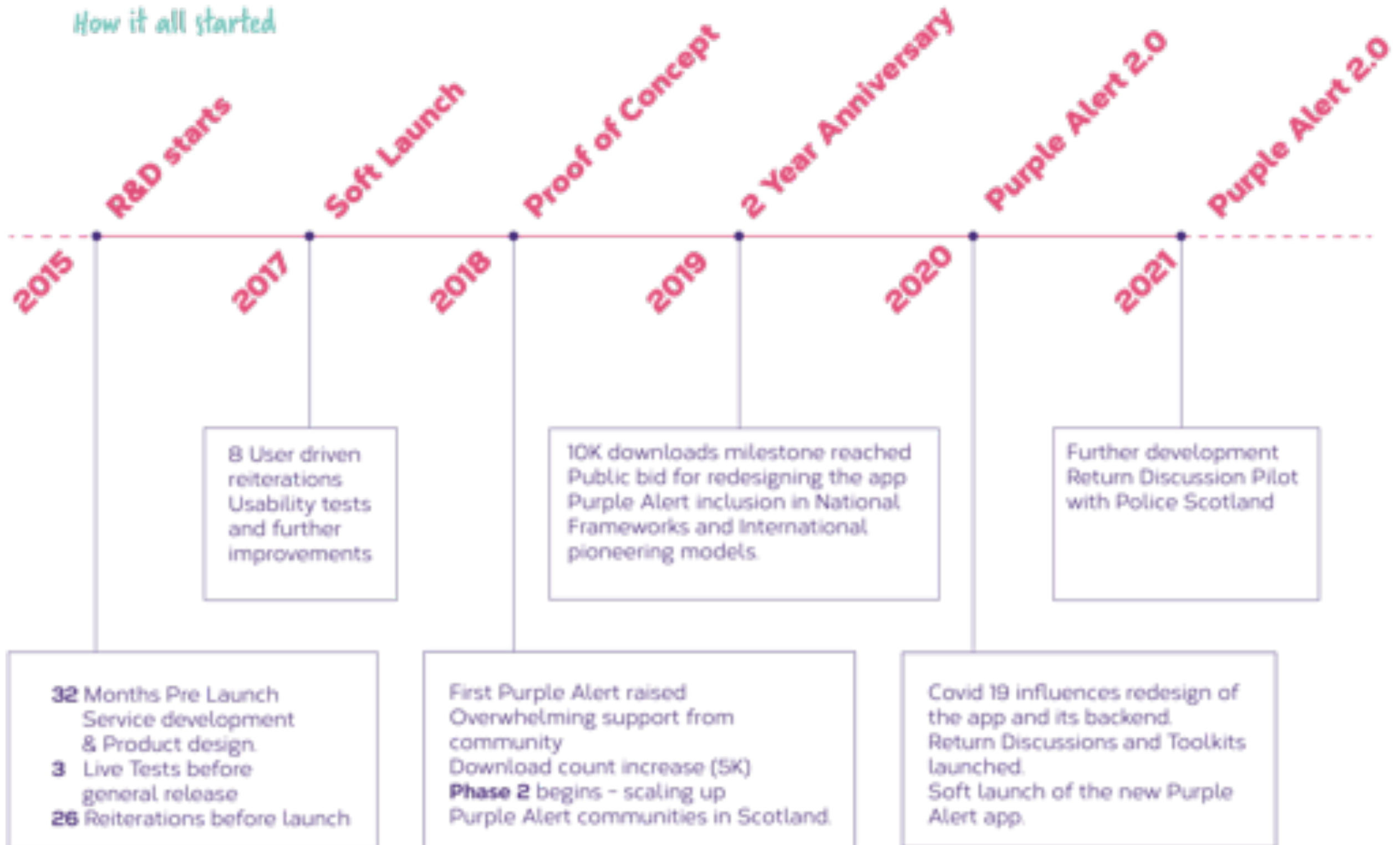
4. After the missing
incident, organise a
Return Discussion

Heat map
showing
concentration of
Purple Alert users
across Scotland.



*Latest statistics 06/04/2021

How it all started





Return Discussions

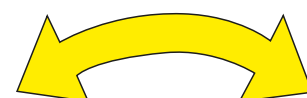
Comfort and reassure carer and
Person Living With Dementia

Debrief

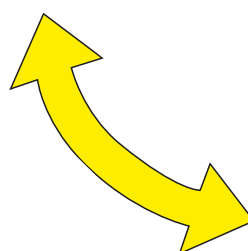
Advise on preventing other
missing episodes



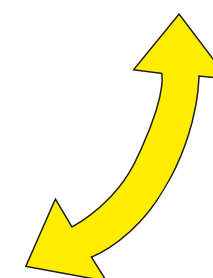
Families affected
by dementia



Dementia Advisors/
Alzheimer Scotland
Services



National Missing
Person Database





THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

New Features Development and Research Study

Measuring impact of Return Discussions:

Repeat incidents

Use of Purple Alert and Herbert Protocol

Quantitative and Qualitative data

Tack!

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