

Academic Assignment

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Essay one:

Critically evaluate the concept of 'the professionalisation of the police service', and consider the extent to which 'maintaining professional standards', 'ethical and inclusive' and 'coaching and mentoring' approaches contribute to professionalisation.

The police service is a public sector organisation, and the first modern day police force known as 'The Met' (London Metropolitan) was established in London by Sir Robert Peel in 1829 (Emsley, 2009). Since then, policing has shifted its way of working and is adapting to our ever-changing society. Still, it is said that there has always been what is referred to as 'police culture' and literature suggests this involves police discretion, arguably based on prejudiced opinion, social norms amongst officers, class dynamics and morality (Cockcroft, 2020). The professionalism of police officers is set out by the College of Policing through Code of Ethics and professional standards of behaviour but enforced through the local force Professional Standards Departments (PSD) and Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) (College of Policing, 2019). The extent to which policing is professionalised will be evaluated in this essay along with how this is maintained and monitored. The approaches towards an ethical work force, inclusivity and leadership will be discussed including their impact on the professionalism of officers and the police service.

The Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF) was implemented in UK police forces in 2016 which set out the standard entry and training for all new recruits. This was introduced following the release of Policing Vision 2025 and was inaugurated to ensure skills and knowledge are supported with qualifications, to standardise professional training to meet strategic objectives and to enhance efficient leadership (College of Policing, 2020) (Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, 2016). It has been documented that the degree apprenticeship will generate a breadth of skills, understanding, competence, problem solving and moral reasoning which will increase professionalism (Pepper, et al., 2022). Moreover, research into this new way of training has suggested that the intentions of the programmes are to enhance professionalism, improve critical thinking and decision making, and attract a higher calibre of officers. Yet, it has been concluded that success of the new training frameworks has not been tested through policing outcomes. Further, it is noted that it

cannot be determined which, if any, of the PEQF routes have been efficacious in their aims (Belur, et al., 2020). Regarding the Degree Holder Entry Programme (DHEP) in particular, it appears the professionalisation of the police service is observed to ensure trust, integrity, transparency and public service yet more challenges than benefits are being recognised. This is due to the difficulty in finding a balance between the theoretical aspect and practically learning the role of a constable which in turn impacts the professionalisation of the police service (Hough & Stanko, 2020).

Training and educating new recruits will form a foundation for the role itself but there are several other impact factors that may determine the professionalisation of officers. Policing culture has been discussed for many years and is a concept supplemented by a negative connotation as it has been defined as the exercising of discretion which is sometimes seen as bias or lacking in fairness and legitimacy. Police culture has also been explained as having social norms, common understanding and practices, behaviour and conduct which separates police from the public (Cockcroft, 2020). This can cause issues and even result in diminished or absence of professionalism, inappropriate conduct or general behaviour that may fall below that set out by the Code of Ethics. Outcomes such as these can be caused due to the masculine culture prevalent within the police service. What some officers on a shift may deem “banter” directed at the opposite sex can be regarded as sexual harassment if unwanted or challenged by another person (Middlemiss, 2017). Challenging inappropriate behaviour is another factor that will impact professionalism as it has been recorded in research that the ‘police family’ is real which can entail backing up your mates on shift, conforming to the toxic masculinity norms, covering yourself exercises and overlooking behaviour that may fall below professional standards (Brough, et al., 2016).

Professional standards of behaviour are set out by the College of Policing in the Code of Ethics and should govern all behaviour and decision making by those working in the police service. Incorporating these into everyday policing will empower officers of all ranks to make decisions, act with integrity and legitimacy which will in turn instil trust and confidence in the public (College of Policing, 2021). Research within a UK policing organisation has demonstrated that two of the main factors in public confidence is trust and fairness (Morrell, et al., 2020). It is further concluded that

fairness and trust in the police service is often based upon the public encounters or interaction with officers. A negative encounter will provoke unsatisfactory perceptions of police efficiency, fairness and legitimacy (Bradford, et al., 2009).

A potential contribution to professionalisation of the police service would be to consider coaching/mentoring programmes tailored to officers and staff within the service. Research on UK police has demonstrated that the use of a women's only mentoring programme within a masculine dominated workforce can develop female officers. It suggests that female mentoring programmes can promote learning and development, including increased confidence levels to allow for equality in career progression (Jones, 2017). This development would positively impact the professionalisation of police service whilst enhancing diversity.

This essay has considered and critically evaluated the concept of professionalisation of the police service and factors contributing to said concept. The PEQF programme was introduced in 2016 and is being utilised as a new direction for professionalisation with new recruits now being trained on a standardised programme across all UK police forces. There are supporting and opposing arguments for the PEQF but the predominant consensus being that there is not sufficient evidence to support the framework in professionalising police officers. Research and findings suggest that further work is required to develop the professionalisation of the police service as public trust and confidence is still lacking and outcomes are not demonstrating improved professionalism.

Word count: 976

Essay two:

Digital policing – critically evaluate the role of police in investigating complex internet-related crime.

Word limit: 1000 words.

The world is constantly evolving and modernising particularly regarding technology as we are moving toward being completely digitally enabled. In present day, most things humans do can be done online i.e., shopping, banking, working, socialising. Thus, creating a space for more internet-facilitated crime (Blythe & Johnson, 2021). The Policing Vision 2025 outlined ways in which digital policing will progress to investigate internet-related crime, improve communication with public and digitalise criminal justice system information sharing. In order to do this, the Digital Policing Portfolio set out to deliver three key programmes for consistent services and capabilities nationally (NPCC, 2020). This essay will evaluate critically the digital world, strategies used by police when investigating internet-related crime and the challenges faced in doing so.

Internet related or cybercrime covers a multitude of crimes that can either be solely reliant on digital devices or the internet to be committed, crimes that are assisted or enhanced by use of the internet, or incidents where digital devices can evidence the commission of an offence. Complex internet-related crime can consist of hacking, phishing, fraud but the internet also offers new ways to commit offences and makes it easier for things such as organised crime groups to operate (Gillespie, 2019). It is becoming increasingly easy to access the dark web and commit internet-related crime using onion routers/TOR and VPNs which provide anonymity. This is having a negative impact on law enforcement and therefore making it increasingly difficult to combat internet crime due to lack of knowledge and resources in comparison to the rate of development of the digital world (Cole, et al., 2021). Research into cybercrime within a UK police force will evidence this and has documented challenges faced by police when attempting to investigate internet-related crime. Some pertinent issues arising have been concluded as insufficient resourcing, training, infrastructure and processes. (Schreuders, et al., 2020)

In attempts to tackle the fast-progressing digital domain, policing must also develop to respond and sustain cybercrime investigations. To prevent becoming overwhelmed by

the pace of advancement within internet-related crime, the NPCC have developed a plan between 2020 and 2030 which sets out five digital ambitions. These ambitions include improving communications to allow public to use their preferred method, enabling officers and staff by providing suitable technology and training, improving public and private sector working and address harm by identifying vulnerabilities and being proactive. The delivery plan discusses transforming digital policing through the people by developing culture, skills and structure to allow leadership and innovation to impede internet related crime (NPCC, 2020). An evaluation of some current approaches to cybercrime has concluded that infrastructural and influence policing can be successful in diminishing or disrupting internet criminality. Infrastructure policing tactics may consist of removing or interrupting a booter service which is a method widely used by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Secondly, influence policing utilises analytical cookies from social media and other widely used internet domains to produce advertising campaigns with specific target audiences. For example, the National Crime Agency (NCA) are currently running a #CyberChoices campaign targeting teenage cyber users and their parents to assist them in using their cyber skills to make better choices (NCA, 2020). The evaluation aforementioned discusses the benefits in these approaches as opposed to traditional means of policing such as arrest and sentencing, suggesting that more technically enabled methods will have a greater impact (Collier, et al., 2022).

The dark web is a place beyond the world wide web used by general public and provides a level of anonymity that makes the job of law enforcement especially challenging. Areas for development have been identified by experts when conducting complex investigations relating to internet crime. It has again been noted that training amongst law enforcement is insufficient and officers investigating these crimes are lacking knowledge on the dark web therefore overlooking potential physical evidence. It was recommended that training should be improved across the board and enhanced information sharing on an international level (Goodison, et al., 2019). Moreover, methods of cybercrime investigation have been considered and it is understood that digital forensics are particularly effective when utilised by investigators in digital policing (Bamsey & Montasari, 2022). Digital forensics involves downloading or obtaining data from a digital device, so a downfall of this would be having to have possession of a device in order to retrieve evidence. Furthermore, open-source

intelligence and investigation is regarded beneficial, but it is suggested that further work is required as technology is constantly advancing and although investigators can access material through onion routers, crime groups and individuals are continually identifying new methods of working (Horan & Saiedian, 2021).

As alluded to previously, digital policing can be challenging and there are not only obstacles such as dark web anonymity but also barriers such as knowledge, resources and training. Consequently, in 2019 specialist cybercrime units were established across all 43 UK police forces to allow a department of officers to be dedicated solely to cybercrime investigations. Funding was provided to cover the training and upskilling of officers and staff to ensure they were equipped to investigate internet-related crime and help protect vulnerable victims (Trendall, 2019). Furthermore, a fundamental part of complex investigations is the examination of digital forensics and the role of the police in this aspect is completed by Digital Media Investigators (DMI's). It is recognised that the DMI role offers specialist skilled officers or staff who provide vital assistance from initial stages of an investigation to extract digital evidence and are evolving with the exponential progression within internet-related crime (Wilson-Kovacs, 2021).

Throughout this essay, the challenges existing in the digital world have been considered and the police role within complex internet-related crime has been critically evaluated. It is evident that cybercrime world is particularly perplexing, and investigations are becoming increasingly difficult to sustain. Research and recommendations suggest that specialist cybercrime units are advantageous to police in the time, resource and skill they can offer. Additionally, research implies that police and law enforcement may soon become overwhelmed by the pace of advancement in the digital world unless training, information sharing, knowledge and resources improve.

Word count: 1008

Essay three:

Critically evaluate police methods of gathering information and intelligence. You may choose a specific method of intelligence-gathering for this answer.

Word limit: 1000 words.

Information within policing has been defined as “all information obtained, recorded or processed for a policing purpose”. This comprises data which is information that is processed and intelligence which is information that has undergone an evaluation assessment (College of Policing, 2022). Gathering information and intelligence is an important part of policing and helps to build a picture of suspects, criminal strategies or activities in order to prevent them from happening or to interject. This is particularly beneficial in serious and organised crime (SOC) but can be utilised in any part of operational policing from community to international level. It must always be lawful and proportionate to the circumstances and can often present challenges (James, 2016). This essay will critically evaluate the methods used by police for gathering information and intelligence, with a specific focus on Covert Human Intelligence Source (CHIS).

Intelligence is gathered and used for numerous reasons but must be appropriately collected, evaluated and utilised. A Code of Practice was developed by the secretary of state which outlines how chief officers are responsible for ensuring the standards for managing intelligence are met and explains the principles and procedures of the intelligence model (Home Office, 2005). This code defines the National Intelligence Model as a business process which allows operational problem solving to be applied from low level anti-social behaviour to SOC by identifying gaps or issues that require addressing. The model operates at three levels; level one is local or BCU activity and crime, level two is force, interforce or regional activity and level three is the most serious and organised crime across a large scale. Responsible for the management of the intelligence and operational requirements is the Strategic Tasking and Coordination Group (STCG) which is made up of chief and senior officers who develop a control strategy. The Tactical Tasking and Coordination Group (TTCG) will then conduct a tactical assessment, coordinate a response for delivering the control strategy, manage resources, measure success and commission an operational review. Finally, Daily Management Meetings and

operational reviews are responsible for reviewing the efficacy of tactical activity, conduct debriefs and review objectives to feed back (College of Policing, 2022).

Information and intelligence can be gathered routinely by attending an incident as this will automatically generate information, voluntarily from members of the public or partner agencies who offer information regarding a particular person or issue which has not been requested by police, and finally through tasking collection from things like police systems, CCTV, CHIS, databases and partner agencies (College of Policing, 2022). Intelligence plays a significant role in preventing, investigating and tackling serious and organised crime. A considerable amount of information collected by police is volunteered or is obtained through open source searching where it is readily available to general public. On the other hand, certain information tasked for collection by police is personal or may interfere with Human Rights such as Article 8 right to respect for private and family life (Gov UK, 1998) for example through surveillance of a subject. Thus, there is a requirement for authorisation via Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (2000) to ensure the actions are necessary, lawful and proportionate. This is the case when utilising a CHIS for an operation or within a SOC investigation.

College of Policing have created a list of tactics used within SOC and outline the role of CHIS as collecting intelligence from an organised crime group (OCG) such as their associates, methods of communication, operating and identifying weaknesses to assist police in preventing or disrupting crime (College of Policing, 2016). An authorised CHIS will work closely reporting back to police usually to a dedicated handler who is responsible for their welfare, tasking and any general aspects of the assignment. A study was conducted surrounding the impact rapport between handler and CHIS on intelligence gathering and has concluded that rapport increases the quality and quantity of intelligence generated by the CHIS. Further, it has demonstrated that attention or attentive behaviours displayed by the source handler to the CHIS enhances motivation and intelligence gathering (Nunan, et al., 2022).

An issue that has arisen in deploying a CHIS for intelligence gathering is the potential for a CHIS to be a part of or be present when criminal activity is taking

place. Owing to the factor of wanting to keep their identity concealed, a CHIS will sometimes become a part of OCG operation as will their handler. This compels a question of the CHIS and their handler being held criminally responsible which has been the case according to history. In 2000 RIPA authorisation for CHIS took the onus for some aspects however does not offer immunity. It is documented that the Investigatory Powers Tribunal endorsed the work of CHIS involved in criminal activity when deployed for Security Services however there is no actual legality or evidence to suggest this will provide protection. Consequently, in 2021 the Covert Human Intelligence Source Act was established and a power to grant 'Criminal Conduct Authorisation' to provide criminal immunity in certain scenarios (Scott, 2021). In the interest of protecting the public as well as preventing and tackling crime including organised crime groups, CHIS' have recently been exempted from criminal offences when gathering information and intelligence on SOC, as aforementioned. This is an essential step in the safeguarding of vulnerable victims and averting crime and research within National Crime Agency has demonstrated that the use of CHIS in 2018 resulted in countless arrests, safeguarding more than 200 people and excess of 3000kg of Class A drugs being seized. Additionally, CHIS have assisted in disruption of numerous threats to life and acts of terrorism (Home Office, 2021).

This essay has explored the method of Covert Human Intelligence sources in gathering information and intelligence for UK police forces. It is noted that CHIS can present challenges such as the involvement in criminal activity and the implications that could have for the source and their handler. This has been addressed somewhat with the introduction of Criminal Conduct Authorisation 2021. Moreover, CHIS and handler rapports have been analysed which can be concluded that the better the rapport the greater impact on intelligence yield. Finally, the benefits and efficacy of CHIS are displayed through the outcomes which have been outlined by Home Office and thus it can be said that CHIS is an effective method of gathering information and intelligence for the purposes of preventing and detecting SOC.

Words: 1062

Essay four:

Critically evaluate police strategies for dealing with public protection incidents. Your answer should consider the impact of abuse on victims, the potential impact of bias on the investigative process, and the links between Serious and Organised Crime Groups and public protection issues.

Word limit: 1000 words.

A major part of policing is protecting the public and safeguarding those at risk of crime or harm. Each UK police force will have a specialist unit or department for dealing with public protection investigations and safeguarding vulnerable people. Not only will police have strategies for dealing with public protection incidents, but multi-agency strategies also exist and are vital in protecting vulnerable people and tackling serious crime. According to Home Office (2019), Serious Organised Crime (SOC) can be defined as individuals or groups planning, co-ordinating and committing serious offences. The serious offences can include illegal drugs, child sexual exploitation, cybercrime and fraud. Due to the nature of these offences, there is often links to public protection and vulnerable people. This essay will analyse strategies for dealing with such incidents and consider the link to child criminal exploitation.

Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) is a framework intended to protect victims of crime, vulnerable people and to agree appropriate provisions for managing serious or violent offenders. MAPPA consists of police, prison and probation service, amongst other statutory or voluntary bodies (College of Policing, 2021). Whilst this is designed for management of serious offenders and discussion on a deeper level, there are methods used by policing teams daily where they are initial responders to public protection matters. An example of this is submitting a Public Protection Notice following attendance at any incident where it is believed person(s) may be at risk of harm such as domestic violence, child abuse, incidents involving vulnerable adults or risk of child criminal or sexual exploitation.

When dealing with domestic violence incidents, police submit a DASH (Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment) risk assessment which is a series of questions intended to assist in safeguarding the victim, assess the risk of harm and predict future recidivism by the perpetrator. A study on the predictive accuracy of the DASH tool has been conducted and concluded that the tool improves officer performance, recidivism

predictions and officer risk assessments (Turner, et al., 20119). Conversely, it has been documented that the DASH tool has limited impact in informing police of future recidivism as only four aspects of the risk assessment had some success in predictability (Almond, et al., 2017). DASH risk assessment requires assistance from the victim in answering the questions and therefore they must be engaging with the attending officers to develop a rapport. Victims of abuse are often being controlled by the perpetrator even when they are not around which suggests why they may not be forthcoming with information or interaction with police. Consequently, officers should consider this when dealing with the incident and make a concerted effort to reassure the victim and take positive action (College of Policing, 2016).

Positive action is a strategy used by police forces around the UK which outlines that some form of action must be taken at domestic violence incidents. If an arrest is not lawful in the circumstances, then police must take action to safeguard the victim such as separating the parties, taking them to family or friends, encourage them to speak to support services or consider civil orders. While arrest is the most obvious course of action when dealing with such incidents, it is not always done by attending officers. Research into police response at domestic incidents has identified a gender difference in action taken such as male officers being less likely to arrest, record an offence or offer support services if the victim is male (Fagerlund, 2021). Furthermore, the positive action policy is not always considered positive from the victim's perspective as they are often against the perpetrator being arrested and refuse to engage with police if action is taken against their wishes. This is supported in a study on victim's perspectives and highlights that a victim may be reluctant to call police again as they do not feel listened to (Johnson, 2007). This suggests further work is required on strategies for dealing with domestic related public protection incidents.

It is becoming widely recognised that domestic abuse is closely linked to child abuse and children living in domestic abuse or broken homes will have greater risk associated with them thus requiring additional safeguarding and prevention measures (Peckover, 2013). Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a meeting held to discuss victims at high risk of harm through domestic abuse and what safeguarding measures can be put in place. This is made up of police, health, education, independent domestic abuse specialists and other agencies who will work

together to develop a strategy or way forward with each case (Safe Lives, 2017). Whilst work is being done in attempt to deal with these situations, it is not always successful, and it has been noted within literature that multi-agency working requires some form of accountability or lead from a single agency. Moreover, it is recognised that strategies such as MARAC are not being utilised adequately by professionals in order to safeguard women and children (Peckover & Golding, 2017).

As alluded to previously, being brought up amongst domestic abuse or separated parents generates increased risk to the child, particularly to exploitation whether criminal or sexual. Home Office (2019) designed a disruption toolkit for child exploitation which is aimed to assist professionals such as police in safeguarding vulnerable children from exploitation. The toolkit offers guidance on victims and offenders, as well as proactive and reactive action that can be taken by police to prevent or tackle the exploitation, and multi-agency working is a huge factor in this. Serious and Organised Crime Groups specifically target younger generation for things such as drug running which links to public protection due to the targets being under 18 (Thompson, 2019). Risk indicators have been described as continually going missing, distancing from family, disengaging or being excluded from sports and school. Nevertheless, literature has revealed that parents are not getting the appropriate support in addressing these issues to prevent escalation in the criminal exploitation (Maxwell, 2022).

This essay has evaluated strategies utilised by police when dealing with public protection incidents, specifically domestic violence incidents. It has been concluded that multi-agency work is not always effective and can sometimes lack accountability by professionals. MARAC, Public Protection Notices and DASH questionnaires have been evaluated and have been commended somewhat in their use by police however it is suggested that further work is required in finding successful strategies. The positive action policy used by police is another strategy analysed during this essay which although has safeguarding purposes, is not always appropriate or helpful to victims. Finally, public protection matters can be linked with SOC due to the vulnerable victims that are targeted.

Word Count: 1097

Essay five:

Critically analyse the concept of evidence-based policing and 'what works' in policing by evaluating crime prevention theories and strategies and considering the options available to reduce re-offending. You may choose a specific type of offence for this answer e.g. domestic violence, anti-social behaviour, knife crime. Your answer must be based on academic research, not personal experience.

Word limit: 1000 words.

Evidence Based Policing, referred to as EBP herein, is an approach that utilises research and evidence from case studies to inform policy and practice within modern policing. This method helps police to understand issues within local communities and to develop strategies for tackling crime and anti-social behaviour (College of Policing, 2022). 'What works' in policing is a tool that was inaugurated in 2016 with the election of new Police and Crime Commissioners to facilitate their understanding of the most effective ways to reduce crime in their area, meet demand and reassure the public (College of Policing, 2021). Throughout this essay these concepts will be analysed to provide an understanding of their effectiveness. Moreover, this essay will consider theories specifically relating to anti-social behaviour and community policing.

EBP is a fundamental part of the National Policing Curriculum and can be operated in a variety of ways although the objective remains consistent in that research is conducted to identify a successful way of dealing with a particular aspect of policing. This will usually involve gathering evidence, implementing findings and evaluating the process (Wood, 2021). A crime prevention and reduction strategy that has a breadth of research within the EBP world is problem-oriented policing (POP) as it has been widely trialled within community policing to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB). One of the most used methods within POP is Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment (SARA) which seeks to identify the root of an issue by gathering as much information and analysing prior to testing and evaluating the results. The College of Policing 'what works' crime reduction toolkit states that POP is effective in reducing crime and disorder, specifically noting a reduction of 33.8% (Hinkle, et al., 2020). While there is evidence to suggest that successful implementation of POP can reduce crime and disorder, literature has revealed some challenges in its execution. The issues with POP are said to be complexity in understanding the process which requires considerable resources and time, something police officers do not ordinarily have.

Moreover, it is implied that POP does not compare with other innovative strategies easily applied by frontline officers and the benefits are not observable on an organisational level as with other theories (Bullock, et al., 2022).

In researching and reviewing strategies used by UK police forces in attempt to prevent crime and disorder, many have been tested and evaluated including specifically in relation to anti-social behaviour. ASB is behaviour that does not constitute a criminal offence but is causing harassment, alarm or distress to persons not within the same household and is often targeted at a location or subject. It can include annoying or offensive behaviour that is repeated and gradually impacts a person or group of people within a community which is suggested to be predominantly in urban areas (Millie, 2006). The Home Office published renewed guidance in June 2022 regarding ASB acknowledging the significant impact it can have on victim's wellbeing and quality of life. The guidance highlights the importance of victim's being at the centre of any investigation and subsequent response to ASB whilst ensuring they are kept informed and engaged. Further, it outlines legal aspects and powers that fall under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ensuring all involved agencies are equipped with the knowledge to tackle the issues (Home Office, 2022).

The new approach to dealing with ASB has been evaluated with reflections being made on the informal strategy that was put forward for consideration. The approach recommends that young people partaking in ASB issues should be dealt with informally by increased engagement from youth offending teams and other agencies that can support them as opposed to criminal sanctions being applied. It is implied that formal action or dealing with ASB in the criminal justice system will exacerbate the issue or lead to behaviour increasing to criminal offences and beyond. Thus, it is recommended that frontline professionals should be working on a multi-agency basis to provide or broaden access to support, education, housing and opportunities to steer young people away from ASB (Hopkins-Burke & Creaney, 2014). In view of increased support being considered as a strategy for ASB prevention or reduction, 'what works' has produced an evaluation of the impact of mentoring schemes on young persons. The review is based on 46 studies analysing this type of intervention where a mentor will project knowledge, guidance and skills on to the mentee whilst helping with education and job applications in efforts to prevent ASB or delinquency. The overall

result demonstrated a substantial reduction in delinquency and reoffending by the young persons with mentors in comparison to those without. This success does come with a caveat that the mentoring works best when accompanied by another intervention and has consistent, prolonged contact periods (Jill Dando Institute, 2016). Nevertheless, a positive review within the EBP domain and one that can be implemented by other forces to target ASB.

This essay has analysed evidence-based policing and 'what works' in policing with a specific focus on anti-social behaviour. Findings from research and literature suggest that evidence-based policing and the crime reduction toolkit offered by the College of Policing is an effective way of reviewing strategies for crime prevention and reduction. The research-based practice allows police services across the UK and beyond to understand the impact or efficacy of strategies prior to implementing them within their local areas. Specific interventions relating to ASB considered within this essay include problem-oriented policing, informal approaches and mentoring schemes all of which have positive and negative connotations. Generally, it can be concluded that EBP is a positive way of working and researching crime reduction or prevention theories should be employed to a greater extent.

Word count: 945

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