

Graduate Diploma Professional Police Practice

LEVEL 6 - 40 Credits

Workbook title: Competency Based Workbook 2 (DHEP)

**(SOUTH WALES POLICE, GWENT POLICE AND
UWTSD)**

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FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMME

Module title: Policing in the Workplace 3 (DHEP) - BMPP6001D

Workbook Guidance

Please read these notes carefully. They provide essential information. The documents you will use in developing your workbook are on the following pages.

What is the workbook for?

The purpose of this workbook is to enable learners to demonstrate and provide evidence of how they meet the learning outcomes set by the College of Policing, for the Graduate Diploma in Professional Policing Practice. You are being asked to outline your experiential learning based upon your theoretical understanding in a range of operational situations.

- Wellbeing and Resilience
- Criminal Justice
- Conducting Investigations
- Decision making and discretion
- Maintaining Professional Standards
- Leadership and Team working
- Policing the roads
- Information and Intelligence

You may wish to use the same incidents as you have outlined in the Occupational Competence Portfolio.

How should the workbook be presented?

Blank electronic copies can be found on Moodle of this workbook. You must submit this document electronically therefore it is important that you save your work regularly and upload the final typed version through Turnitin on Moodle.

Word count policy can be found in chapter 7 of the Academic Quality under section 7.7 (this applies to presenting work above and under the specified word count).

https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/media/uwtsd-website/content-assets/documents/academic-office/agh-chapters/chapters---en/Chapter_07_Assessment-Taught_Programmes_Pages_72-79-UPDATED-05-11-2019.pdf

Reflective practice is a core aspect for your workbooks and although there is a variety of useful resources on Moodle, there is one particular book, that is specifically based on reflective practice in policing, here is a link to one chapter from Selina Copley's Reflective Practice for Policing Students:

https://moodle.uwtsd.ac.uk/pluginfile.php/298870/mod_resource/content/1/Reflective%20Practice%20for%20Policing%20Students%20-%20Selina%20Copley%20Chapter5.pdf

How is the workbook assessed?

Advice and support about the completion of this workbook is available to you. Please contact Kelly Andrews direct using k.andrews@uwtsd.ac.uk with any questions or queries you may have.

Dates of workbook submission can be located within the General information tile within Moodle.

Once submitted your workbook will be assessed and marked independently. You will be provided with individual feedback once the work has been marked.

Confidentiality

It is important that no individual can be identified either directly or indirectly from the information in the workbook. However, you must:

- adhere to guidance in the Candidate Handbook about confidentiality.
- not identify individuals including witnesses, victims, or offenders by name.
- not write information that enables any individual to be identified indirectly through the description you provide. This includes references to names, colleagues, places (including hospitals, schools, town, villages, streets) specific incidents which were high profile and could be identified due to past publicity, other professionals or any other personal information including medical or other conditions.
- take personal responsibility for adhering to confidentiality rules.
- not include any dates of any incidents or anything that specifically identifies an actual incident.

Please be aware that any content that is deemed to be inappropriate, disrespectful, or abusive will not be tolerated. Following review of any content of this nature the information will be shared with the employer of the student responsible.

Should any health and wellbeing concerns be raised because of disclosures made by the student within this workbook, the employer of the student will be informed.

NOTE

Your workbook will be submitted electronically via Turnitin on Moodle. Guidance on this is in the Candidate Handbook.

Remember that the workbook is YOUR responsibility you must not rely on the assessor or anyone else to pick up any confidentiality breaches as this is your work and you must accept full responsibility for confidentiality. Meeting all the confidentiality requirements is particularly important.

Dyslexia and other special circumstances

If you have any condition that you feel may affect your ability to deal with any part of the programme, please see the Candidate Handbook for further guidance. The University has a Student Services Unit that may be able to help but ***it is the learner's individual responsibility to contact them.***

Competency Based Workbook 2 - Learner Workbook

Guidance:

- Your workbook must contain items 1 - 5 below (in the order given).
- You should use the pro-forma to insert your text within each section.
- Note that this module has 2 components with each weighted at 50% of the overall 100% marks total.
- You should upload your completed document as a saved pdf file of this workbook; if this is not possible then a Word Doc file is acceptable. Do not send a scanned file from a photocopier, an apple.dot file, or a Microsoft publisher file as Turnitin will not be able to assess them, despite you being able to upload them.

Contents

Component 1 50%	Area of Professional Practice	Word count
Task 1	Vulnerability and Risk Evidence-based policing	2000
Task 2	CHOOSE ONLY 1 OF THESE 'ADVANCED LEARNING AREA' OPTIONS. IT SHOULD BE ONE THAT HAS BEEN AGREED WITH THE FORCE TO STUDY IN YEAR 2.	All options are 2000 words
Task 2		2000
Option 1	Response Policing	
Option 2	Policing Communities	
Option 3	Road Policing	
Option 4	Information and Intelligence	
Option 5	Conducting Investigations	
	Bibliography	

Task 1

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum: Vulnerability and Risk, Evidence-based policing

You must choose **a policing incident** in which you played a significant role with a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour and reflect on what happened.

Give a brief description of the incident including social and legislative contexts and any relevant cultural, ethnicity and language issues.

Critically evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches (by professionals and the police) in supporting or managing vulnerable people or people at risk of harm.

Explore what works in relation to tackling repeat victimisation and repeat offending. Consider the use of evidence-based policing.

2000 words (+/- 10%: include your actual word count at the end of each section)

ANSWER:

I am asked to discuss an incident whereby I have played a significant role in dealing with a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour and, to evaluate the approach adopted by different agencies in dealing with vulnerable members of society. I am further asked to explore how agencies work towards tackling repeat victimisation and how to reduce re-offending.

Throughout this essay, I will be reflecting on my approach to the incident, as well as the measures I implemented to provide support and reassurance to the victim. To do this, I will be following the Gibb's model of reflection (Gibbs, 1988), which will aid my explanation as to how and why I made certain decisions.

To answer this question, I will be focussing on an incident whereby a report was received that the aggrieved, who resided in an affluent area, had observed, through CCTV, an unknown person spray a white substance on his vehicle, causing transient damage to his bonnet and windscreen. The aggrieved could not provide any details of the offender due to it being committed during the hours of darkness however, having previously had his vehicle damaged, was adamant that he was being targeted.

Upon attending the incident, I could immediately notice that the white substances, that was presumed to be paint, had been sprayed over the vehicle, causing a significant amount of semi-permanent damage.

When attending the above incident, I considered The Criminal Damage Act 1971 (Legislation.gov.uk, Criminal Damage Act 1971, n.d.) to be the primary offence, with the offender damaging the property belonging to the aggrieved without lawful excuse or being reckless as to whether the property of the aggrieved would be destroyed or damaged, in that they had sprayed a toxic white substance without consideration as to how it could damage the paintwork of the vehicle. Whilst on route to the incident, I was also made aware that the aggrieved has recently been suffering with his mental health, having recently attempted suicide by cutting his lower arms and attempting to throw himself from a bridge. Upon hearing this information, I also began to consider that the aggrieved may be vulnerable,

meaning I would need to adopt a different approach to the incident, that ensures the aggrieved felt safe and reassured in my presence. In coming to this conclusion, I considered the definition of vulnerability, which outlines that a person may be vulnerable if their current situation or circumstances mean that they may be unable to take care or protect themselves, or others, from harm or exploitation (College of Policing, March 2020). Having considered the definition of vulnerability, I was satisfied that the aggrieved was vulnerable due to his poor mental health and recent attempt to end his own life.

I considered it necessary to explore the circumstances surrounding the aggrieved previously having his vehicle damaged, which had since led him to believe that he was being targeted by the same unknown offender. This information led me to consider whether the aggrieved was a repeat victim and what measures could be implemented to ensure he was not the victim of criminal activity going forward. In concluding that the aggrieved was a repeat victim, I considered the number of occasions whereby his vehicle had been damaged, the circumstances of the incidents and the evidence available at the time. Dorset Police defines a repeat victim as the following: *'A repeat victim is a person who, within twelve months, becomes the victim of personal ASB, personal crime and/or personal non-crime on more than one occasion'* (Police, Repeat Victimisation Policy and Procedure, December 2003). In line with this definition, I concluded that the aggrieved should be provided with an enhanced service to ensure he did not lose confidence in the police to apprehend the offender, who was evidently causing him misery and upset. According to the IOPC public perception tracker summary report, 13% of survey takers stated that they have negative thoughts about the police as the service is failing to deal with crime and failing to respond appropriately to offenders. Further, 18% of survey takers stated that they would improve their confidence in the police service if there was a heightened degree of police presence in their communities (Independent Office For Police Conduct (IOPC), May 2022).

Additionally, it was evident that the aggrieved was a repeat victim, having previously made several reports regarding damage being caused to his vehicle. Within these reports, the aggrieved referred to his windscreen being smashed, his tyres being slashed and his wingmirrors being damaged, all by an unknown offender during the hours of darkness.

Despite the vehicle belonging to the aggrieved being damaged, I immediately made the decision to prioritise the safeguarding of the aggrieved, who was visibly distressed following the incident. The aggrieved, who was not only angry due to the damage being caused to his vehicle, was also underwhelmed by the response provided by the police, which resulted in him shouting and abusing myself and other attending officers.

The aggrieved further stated that he believed the unknown offender had targeted him due to his sexual orientation, due to the fact he was a homosexual, referring to his homophobic neighbours as likely offenders. Upon being made aware of this, I immediately considered whether this offence was a hate crime. As defined by The National Chiefs' Council and Crown Prosecution Service, a hate crime is defined as *"any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race; religion or perceived religion; sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; disability or perceived disability and any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender."* (The Home Office, Revised June 2022).

When considering the effect that this incident had on the aggrieved, I considered several safeguarding mechanisms that I could implement to ensure the aggrieved was protected going forward. Firstly, I felt it necessary to submit a Public Protection Notification on behalf of the aggrieved, which has now been implemented into The Care Act 2014 (Legislation.gov.uk, Care Act 2014, n.d.), which creates a statutory framework for the police service to work in partnership with other agencies to identify and support adults at risk by

preventing abuse and neglect (College of policing , 2014). In submitting this referral, my intention was to notify third party agencies of the ongoing issues so that additional wellbeing support could be offered by means of mental health advice and guidance which, in my professional opinion, should take precedent and is a right under the Victim's code (Ministry of Justice , November 2020).

In support of this approach, I considered how repeat victim of crime often suffer poor mental health, the suffering of intimate relationships and occupational functioning, such as maintaining a steady occupation or hobby (Rochelle F Hanson, Genelle K Sawyer, Angela M.Begle, Grace S. Hubel, 2010). In this instance, the aggrieved referred to how the ongoing incidents had caused arguments between himself and his husband and unnecessary stress.

In this instance, it was evident that the ongoing incidents had begun to have a negative effect on the aggrieved, which in turn, created the aggrieved an additional target to criminal behaviour. This stance has further been amplified following a report produced by the mental health charity MIND, who outlined that those who suffer with mental health were more likely to be the victim of crime, compared to the wider community (College of Policing , March 2021).

When reflecting on my decision to prioritise the deteriorating mental health of the aggrieved ahead of the criminal offence that had occurred, I believe I can justify my decision to safeguard an individual who appeared vulnerable, with the hope that this in turn would prevent any further incidents from occurring.

I spent a period considering why the aggrieved was being targeted by the unknown offender. Whilst I could acknowledge that the aggrieved was the victim of a crime, I considered two possible reasons as to why this incident had occurred:

Firstly, I considered whether the aggrieved, due to his poor mental health and ongoing issues with his neighbour, may have unconsciously participated in having his vehicle damaged. In considering this, I investigated past incidents and conducted house to house enquiries, discovering that the aggrieved had previously been engaged in verbal altercations with his neighbours, causing them to contact police. This approach, known as the victim precipitation theory, does not aim to blame the victim however, as used by Wolfgang, aims to identify what role the aggrieved played in the incident (Petherick, 2017).

In addition to the above theory, I also considered whether the offender had targeted the aggrieved specifically due to his lifestyle preferences. Further, having identified that the aggrieved can demonstrate aggressive and questionable behaviour, I considered whether this had also motivated the offender to cause the damage. This theory, known as the lifestyle theory, identifies several reasons why one may be the victim of crime, one of which being the attractiveness or desirability towards valuable items owned by the aggrieved. Further, it identifies how occasionally, offenders carefully choose their victim based on their social status, behaviour, and position in society (Andromachi Tseloni, Karin Wittebrood, Graham Farrell, Ken Pease, 1 January 2004).

In using these methods, I was able to alter my approach to identify whether the aggrieved could confidently identifying the offender. In deciding on my approach, I made sure to respect the aggrieved, whilst also putting pressure on the aggrieved to speak truthfully and honestly, as opposed to maintaining his stance of being faultless. In taking this approach, my aim was to ensure the aggrieved understood the importance of speaking openly, as this was the only way I could appropriately safeguard him from future incidents. Speaking candidly, I advised the aggrieved that his own actions may contribute towards him being the victim of crime and provided advice as to how he can ensure his own safety. This approach was not to blame the aggrieved however, to educate him on how our behaviour can

influence the behaviour of others. Initially, the aggrieved denied any wrongdoing and claimed to be an innocent party however, upon investigating the dynamic between the aggrieved, his neighbours and the offender, it was clear that this was not the case. In this instance, and whilst I originally prioritised the mental wellbeing of the aggrieved, I was now able to change my approach, confident that third party agencies would protect and enhance the mental wellbeing of the aggrieved, whilst I made efforts to investigate the offence.

To ensure the aggrieved was not targeted further, I adopted several tools that would aid in the safeguarding of the aggrieved. Firstly, I informed the local neighbourhood team and PCSO's to conduct local patrols around the area and to adopt neighbourhood surgeries. In implementing this, I believed that the local community, and specifically the aggrieved, would increase their confidence in police if presence was intensified. According to HMICFRS, 78% of the public believe it is important to have police/PCSO's visible in communities (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, 2018). An increase in police visibility would also act as a deterrent to offenders as this would heighten their chance of being caught and prosecuted.

Secondly, I submitted a target hardening referral, which allows the aggrieved to access improved home security measures by way of CCTV cameras, smoke alarms, activation lights and burglar alarms. According to Roe (2009), those who have a basic level of security were nearly 10 times less likely to be the victim of crime (His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services , n.d.).

I also made efforts to record crime appropriately for each incident of damage as this will support the need for additional resources to be allocated to specific areas and to specific crime. In recording crime appropriately, a risk assessment can be conducted, and an appropriate response plan can be created to safeguard the aggrieved and prevent further offences (The Home Office , 2011). In collaboration with this, I also submitted a critical marker on the address of the aggrieved, which would ensure future incidents were dealt with appropriately and graded an emergency.

Upon reflecting on the way in which I dealt with the incident, I believe I could have made use of the police force's social media platforms to showcase the efforts conducted by officers to patrol areas targeted by crime and for members of the public to view collected CCTV to possibly identify the offender. Overall, I believe the appropriate action was taken and I responded correctly given the situation, placing the vulnerability and the wellbeing of the aggrieved at the forefront of priorities.

Words - 2119

Task 2

This is a reminder that this TASK 2 section is an opportunity for you to answer one question which should be relevant to the “advanced learning” area that you have chosen. The advanced learning lecture that you choose to attend will assist you in answering this task.

Choose 1 of these 5 options to answer

(Note for officers who have an interest in becoming a detective and wish to specialise in this role, you **MUST** choose option 5)

1. Response Policing.
2. Policing Communities.
3. Road Policing.
4. Information and Intelligence.
5. Conducting Investigations.

Task 2 Option 1:

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Response Policing

A core part of the policing mission is to prevent crime and disorder. Domestic abuse causes both serious harm and constitutes a considerable proportion of overall crime

You should choose **a domestic abuse incident that was of a complex nature**, in which you played a significant role in providing a response.

Critically assess the challenges associated with a domestic abuse incident that you have attended, and the strategies developed for effective policing in such challenging situations.

2000 words (+/- 10%: include your actual word count at the end of each section)

ANSWER:

In this essay, I am asked to discuss the challenges associated with domestic abuse incidents and the strategies adopted by police, alongside focussing on a complex domestic abuse incident in which I played a significant role.

Throughout this essay, I will be using Driscoll's model of reflection (Driscoll, 2006), to reflect on a domestic incident which I attended and, the strategies I adopted to mitigate risk and to document what, if any, challenges I encountered.

Domestic abuse is defined as '*Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender, or sexuality*' (Women's Aid, n.d.). This definition has now been included in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, which outlines that domestic abuse can consist of physical and sexual abuse, as well as violence or threats, controlling or coercive behaviour, financial abuse, or psychological and emotional abuse. This act also sets out the statutory framework for agencies, to ensure the victims of domestic violence receive a higher standard of safeguarding and support (Legislation.gov.uk, The Domestic Abuse Act 2021, 2021).

According to the National Crime Survey for England and Wales in the year ending 2021, an estimated 4.8 million women and 2.2 million men aged between 16-59 had been the victim of domestic abuse since the age of 16, with the abuse varying between physical violence, emotional and financial abuse, threats, non-sexual abuse, sexual assault, coercive and controlling behaviour, stalking and harassment. Overall, there were approximately 845,734 domestic abuse incidents reported to police in 2021, which is a 6% rise since 2020 (Office for National Statistics, 2021).

To address this question in its entirety, I will be applying an incident whereby a report was received by a female, disclosing that her partner had assaulted her, alongside her 14-year-old son, by grabbing them around the neck when intoxicated. Whilst on the phone to police, the aggrieved stated that during an altercation, which had commenced in the presence of two young children aged 5 and 14, her partner had become verbally aggressive, before punching her to the face and grabbing her by the neck and squeezing tightly. Additionally,

the aggrieved stated that her son had attempted to remove the male from the home address however, had subsequently been dragged along the floor and grabbed by the neck.

Whilst on route to the home address of the aggrieved, police received a further call from the female to report that her ex-partner had now left the address and police were no longer required, stating that she had overreacted to the incident and did not wish for police to attend. Despite the aggrieved not wanting police to attend, myself and my colleagues continued to attend on an emergency basis.

Upon our arrival, it was evident that an altercation had occurred at the address and immediately, efforts were made to ensure the aggrieved, alongside her children were safeguarded. Upon entering the home address, officers conducted a welfare check on all children, subsequently locating the offender in an upstairs bedroom. When speaking to the aggrieved, she was evasive and provided little detail as to the events that had taken place, stating that no argument or altercation had occurred.

As stated by the College of Policing, police officers have a duty to take positive action when dealing with domestic abuse incidents and officers should be able to justify the decision to not arrest an offender, where that power exists. In addition, if an officer identifies the presence of any risk, having utilised the National Decision Model, leaving the aggrieved in the presence of the offender would not be appropriate (College of Policing , 2015). In line with this guidance, the offender was arrested on suspicion of assaulting the aggrieved and her son. In making the decision to arrest the subject, I was hopeful that this would give the aggrieved and her son an opportunity to feel safe and comfortable to speak to police about the event.

In this instance, I firmly believe that the presence of the subject inside the home address of the aggrieved was the motive behind why she was failing to engage with police and discuss the incident in which she reported, and that the removal of the subject was the appropriate response to mitigate any further risk to the aggrieved and her children. Having conveyed the subject to custody, it gave officers the ability to speak to the aggrieved and safeguard her children. In the absence of the subject, I was able to complete a DASH with the aggrieved and complete a witness interview booklet with the aggrieved child, which allowed the collection of evidence to secure a conviction.

Overall, the aggrieved was extremely reluctant to support police action, stating that whilst her ex-partner had caused her injury, she was confident that something similar would not occur in the future. Upon hearing this, I felt perplexed as to why the aggrieved could not identify that both she and her son had been the victim of an unprovoked and aggressive attack, which had resulted in her son becoming distressed and upset. However, on the flip side, I could also see that the aggrieved was concerned that any police involvement could result in repercussions by her partner but also through social services involvement.

During incidents of domestic abuse, there are multiple challenges, one of which is the presence of children. In this incident, a large amount of my concern was on the child who had become physically engaged in the altercation, subsequently suffering injury. Where police are called to a domestic abuse incident, the safeguarding of children must take precedent, even if they were not present during the altercation. In this incident, the brawl had occurred in the company of two children, meaning that the appropriate safeguarding referrals should be submitted, and sufficient support should be implemented. Following such referrals, social services will notify the educational establishment of the child within 24 hours, to ensure they receive the appropriate support (Katy Barrow-Grint, Jacqueline Sebire, Jackie Turton, Ruth Weir, November 2022). In 20.5% of domestic abuse cases, the abuse was in the presence of at least one child, who had seen or heard the abuse, and in 40.9% of domestic abuse cases, there was at least one child under the age of 16

living in the household who although did not witness the abuse, was in proximity to the altercation (Office for national statistics , 2018).

Additionally, in a large quantity of domestic abuse cases, the aggrieved party often does not feel confident in engaging with police, due to concerns that this may result in third party agency involvement and a change in dynamic to household. According to the National Crime Survey, only 17.3% of victims had reported an incident of domestic violence to the police. Of those victims who had not contacted police, 45.5% of victims believed that the incident was irrelevant, with 39.5% of victims believing that the incident was of no concern of the police service. Most shockingly, 34.2% of victims believed the police could not help or offer support. (Office for national statistics , 2018).

In addition to victims being worried about the repercussions of reporting incidents of domestic violence to police, many victims do not have the confidence that an outcome will be achieved if police are made aware of the ongoing issues. According to the Office for National Statistics, police made approximately 33 arrests per 100 domestic abuse related crimes in 2021 however, the CPS charging rate has decreased to only 70%, which is a 6% decrease in charging decisions in comparison to March 2018 (Office for National Statistics , 2021). Understandably, these statistics do not encourage victims to confidently report incidents of domestic abuse, where the offender may subsequently face no further action. I would argue that not all domestic incidents include violence or fear of harm, and a domestic incident can include a verbal argument only, which would very rarely result in an arrest. In addition, many prosecutions face evidential difficulties such as having no independent witnesses to the offence, no injuries and often, a reluctant witness or victim, who does not wish to support police action.

To deal with these challenges, the police service has several instruments to identify, safeguard and support victims of domestic violence incidents. In this incident, I made use of the below mechanisms:

As previously stated, within all domestic abuse incidents, I am expected to complete a DASH with the aggrieved, to identify and manage any risk. Having been introduced by the Association of Chief Police Officers (now NPCC) in 2009, the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment risk assessment, which comprises of 27 questions, is designed to identify risk and subsequently offering appropriate intervention to those who require support. The introduction of a DASH created new era of policing culture, whereby domestic incidents were no longer considered private and family matters, and not the responsibility of police (Sebire, Turton, Weir, & Barrow-Grint, 2022). In response to the result of the risk assessment, victims proceed to receive support by an independent domestic violence advocate, who work alongside agencies to provide support to high-risk victims of abuse throughout the criminal justice process and beyond, including the implementation of special measures for vulnerable witnesses (College of policing , n.d.).

In many situations, like the above-described incident, victims will be referred to a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), which was created to specifically deal with high-risk incidents of domestic violence. During the conference, several agencies, to include the police, education, housing, mental health, and youth offending/education will attend, collaboratively sharing any recorded information and offering guidance and support to safeguard the aggrieved (Robbins, McLaughlin, Banks, Bellamy, & Thackray, 2014). According to statistics, the number of cases discussed at MARAC had risen in the year of 2021, with 46 adult females being discussed per 100,000, compared to 43 in 2018 (Office for National Statistics , 2021). Following my attendance at the described incident and having deemed the aggrieved at serious risk from the subject, I submitted a MARAC referral in the hope that both she and her children would receive additional support and that the children were protected by their educational establishment and the appropriate

agencies were aware of the events that had taken place, that may result in the children experiencing Adverse Childhood Experiences.

If, upon investigating a domestic violence offence, there is no prospect of charge or conviction, The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 includes a statutory provision that allows senior police officers to grant a Domestic Violence Protection Notice if certain conditions are met. In authorising a Domestic Violence Protection Notice (DVPN), an initial notice is served upon the subject to provide immediate safeguarding to the aggrieved once the subjects released from custody and allow for the aggrieved and subject to re-elect on the incident, whilst allowing the aggrieved to seek support if required, in the absence of the potential abuser. A superintendent may authorise that the subject may not return to the home address of the aggrieved or communicate with the aggrieved in any way. As a result of a DVPN being authorised, a Domestic Violence Protection Order may be granted by a magistrate's court, containing restrictions on the subject for up to 28 days. According to HMICFRS, DVPO's have been found to reduce re-victimisation and provide safeguarding to the aggrieved, in comparison to the subject being released from custody with no further action (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary , 2014).

Lastly, to support any vulnerable witness/ victim or child who have been the victim of a domestic incident, efforts are made to collect evidence through specially trained officers, who can identify any vulnerability and adapt their approach to obtaining vital evidence accordingly. Through a process referred to as Achieving Best Evidence (ABE), several categories of individuals are provided with the opportunity to speak to a police officer in a safe and comfortable environment to provide evidence. The aim of ABE is to visually record and document the account provided by the witness or aggrieved to assess their suitability to provide a written statement or pre-recorded evidence, which may be played at any subsequent court trial. Specifically, ABE interviewing is aimed at supporting children, those with disabilities, those who feel intimidated, sexual assault victims and individuals who require support when communicating (Dr Kevin Smith (National crime agency), Professor Gary Shaw (University of Sunderland), January 2022).

In closing, I believe by attending several complex domestic violence incidents throughout my service, that I am confident in identifying the risk to victims of domestic abuse and can safeguard the victim and any other effected person, through implementing the resources available to me. Going forward, I believe I could improve my response and involvement in domestic violence incidents by liaising with third party agencies more efficiently and developing my own training, to be able to interview vulnerable victims. Overall, I believe domestic incidents are arduous to police as there are multiple factors that can affect the investigation and outcome however, with the support of policies and procedures, as well as a multi-agency approach, safeguarding witnesses and victims is becoming increasingly more accessible. Whilst I'm aware that having areas of development are crucial, I do not believe I would change my approach to the situation and the subsequent conviction of the subject emphasised that I acted appropriately.

Words: 2229

Authentication signature:

Please sign to confirm that the work submitted is your own and has not been copied from another:

Signed: WTP Pearce

Date: 05.02.2023

Bibliography

The bibliography should only include sources referenced within the workbook using the Harvard referencing system. Information about referencing in written assignments and how to avoid plagiarism can be found on Moodle. It is important that you are aware of the importance of ensuring that the work submitted is your original work.

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