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Essay one:

How might the Code of Ethics help to reduce incidences of professional misconduct and increase public confidence in the police?

Support your answer with relevant evidence drawn from academic sources.

Word limit: 1000 words.

The code of ethics may help to reduce incidents where by officers are guilty of committing acts accounting to professional misconduct which will therefore increase public confidence within the police.

The code of ethics is a set of principles and standards of behaviour that are set out for all police officers to adhere to and follow which will help guide them in the conduct of their actions which will help them remain accountable and trustworthy increasing the public's perception of them. The code of ethics doesn't just apply to police officers, but applies to everybody that works in policing, that being police civilian staff, police constables, volunteers such as special constables and support staff. This ensures that the police service as a whole operates by the code of ethics, therefore giving the best possible service to members of the public as possible (College of Policing, 2014).

The police should adhere to the code of ethics during every situation, whether that be making small decisions such as daily tasks which aren't even involving the public, to admin, workflows or large impact decisions such as what a police officer decided to do with some members of the public, be it arrest, report them or even what they write about them on police systems. The police have a massive responsibility to the public and a lot of their decisions have a real impact of individuals, and their families lives. Positive and negative contact with the police impacts public perceptions. Negatively experienced contact with the police by members of the public, including victims of crime, showed negative associations with public opinions, and were found to be more influential than positive encounters. However, a positive experience can increase people's trust and confidence and influence their willingness to cooperate (GOV.UK, n.d.)

295 words

Essay two:

How effective is a multi-agency approach as a means of managing violent and sexual offenders?

Your answer must be based on academic research, but you may make reference to relevant case studies.

Word limit: 1000 words.

A multi-agency approach is designed and set out to best manage violent and sexual offenders. These types of offences have a profound effect on society as a whole as they are felt more and disagreed on by more members of society. Society as a whole has a perceived tolerance of certain crimes, and some are frowned upon more than others. For an example, some people may be more inclined to sympathise with someone who is stealing items from a brand of store worth millions of pounds to feed their family as they are genuinely struggling. This is compared to an incident where somebody has committed a racially aggravated, unprovoked attack upon a member of society causing the victim substantial injuries. You would be hard pressed to find someone who sympathises with the attacker over a shoplifter. This is also true for perpetrators of sexual offences.

Serious violent offenders and sexual offenders have some of the highest and worst effects on victims and members of the community, and therefore they are required to be managed using a multi-agency approach. This is done by a multi-agency public protection approach (MAPPA). The Criminal Justice Act 2003 provides for the establishment of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements ("MAPPA") in each of the 42 criminal justice areas in England and Wales. MAPPA is not a statutory body in itself but is a mechanism through which agencies can better discharge their statutory responsibilities and protect the public in a co-ordinated manner. MAPPA allows agencies to assess and manage offenders on a multi-agency basis by working together, sharing information and meeting to ensure that effective plans are put in place. Agencies retain their full statutory responsibilities and obligations at all times. All MAPPA offenders are assessed to establish the level of risk of harm they pose to the public. Risk management plans are then worked out for each offender to manage those risks (MAPPA, n.d.)

There are three main categories of offenders managed by MAPPA. Which I will now explore.

317 words

Essay three:

To what extent is 'lifestyle' theory an accurate reflection of what makes certain people vulnerable to becoming a victim of Serious and Organised Crime?

Your answer must be based on academic research into the psychological and socio-economic characteristics of vulnerable people.

Word limit: 1000 words.

The concept of lifestyle theory suggests that certain individuals may be more vulnerable to becoming victims of serious and organised crime based on their lifestyle choices and behaviours. Some of these behaviours may be individual factors such as personal behaviours, routines, choices and financial situations. The theory can be interpreted as victim blaming as it focuses on lifestyle

choices of the victims and doesn't articulate that the criminals are the ones committing the crimes, however it is important to study lifestyle theory as it offers agencies a real way of studying the cycle of crime, how it presents itself and how best to tackle it (Mkhize and Majola, 2021)

Lifestyle theory is a reflection of what makes certain people vulnerable to becoming a victim of crime, however it plays into a bigger organisational playbook for serious organised crime groups, who have a bigger motive and set of playbook strategies to committing crime, and using vulnerable and impressionable members of society to their advantage in the soliciting of crime.

168 words

Essay four:

Why is a partnership approach the most effective way of preventing re-offending?

Support your answer with relevant evidence drawn from academic sources.

Word limit: 1000 words.

Partnership approaches are largely built on the premise that no one agency can be responsible for and know all of the ways to deal with and stop individuals from re offending. It is ideal to have multiple different agencies imputing and discussing ways to help support offender rehabilitate into society as each agency will approach the issue from different perspectives and offer a unique suggestion on how to solve a problem (Berry et al., n.d.).

This is important as in my opinion, each agency will all strive for the same goals at the end of the process, however each agency may have micro agendas taking place, even though the main goal may be protecting the public for example.

As each agency will approach an issue through their own view. A multi-agency approach is the best way to catch cases from slipping through the net and essentially protecting victims. A MAPPA for example would be by means of multiple agencies looking at a case, and each identifying vulnerabilities and aspects of the case would provide the identification of risk early on. It would improve agencies responses by providing a means of information sharing. It would also provide an opportunity for joint decision making to take place to ensure that the priorities are dealt with in the most effective way. This would be done by coordinated action to assess, manage and reduce risk to victims (College of Policing, 2015).

The same philosophy is used to prevent offenders from re offending. If agencies come together to discuss the needs and triggers of an offender. Expertise can be drawn from multiple different agencies to identify these. This will then lead to the right choices and support being offered to offenders. The aim would be to prevent re offending and a smooth transition back into society as a functioning valuable member of society. A multi-agency approach may be a more suited method to prevent re offending as opposed to prison sentence for example. Overall, the evidence into the effectiveness of prison in reducing reoffending is mixed at best. Whilst prison can represent value for money in the short-term when it is used for high-risk serious and/or certain types of prolific offenders, a number of studies have found that community sentences are more effective in reducing reoffending than short-term prison sentences (Scottish Government, 2015). A multi-agency approach may be better suited to imposing conditions/opportunities for the offenders to learn

about effects they are having within the community and support to be given to them such as rehabilitation courses, such as providing them with the opportunity to learn new skills and attend educational courses to offer better prospects in terms of employment.

444 words

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