

Graduate Diploma Professional Police Practice

LEVEL 6 - 40 Credits

**Workbook title: Competency Based
Workbook 2 (DHEP/DET)**

***To be completed by DHEP Detective students
only***

**(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) - BMPP6009D

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.*
- *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.*

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Task 1

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

You must choose serious and complex investigation in which you played a significant role with a victim of crime and reflect on what happened.

Give a brief description of the **investigation** 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 during the **investigative process**

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

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

ANSWER:

In my time working on first response I would sometimes be involved in handling investigation into serious and complex crimes, this could be one of more of a multitude of offences such as robbery, burglary, sexual assault etc. In this case I will be going over a case of sexual assault (GOV.UK, 2022) I was involved in where I handled the investigation and managed the approaches and methods used to support and manage the victim as well as the methods to prevent repeat victimisation of the victim and reoffending of the offender.

Investigating crimes particularly ones involving sexual assault require very careful and delicate handling as it often requires obtaining evidence of a sensitive nature such as clothing, swabs and sometimes personal effects, this can be particularly stressful to someone who is already a victim of a serious crime. As such it's very important for investigators to be considerate when asking for these in order to avoid further stressing or traumatising the victim. (Victims' Commissioner, 2020)

In the case of the investigation I will be going over for this task it involved sexual touching over clothes, whilst this meant we wouldn't need to ask for intimate articles of clothing it was still a very traumatic experience for the victim that required delicate handling. This was both to prevent further stress to the victim and to maintain their support in the investigation.

It began early one evening when I and my colleague were answering a call from a female stating that her friend another female had been sexually assaulted.

The suspect, a male had allegedly climbed on top of the victim in an effort to sexually assault her and then tried to force her legs open. The victim had not been able to physically force the suspect off her so she had gotten away by claiming that she needed air and then fled the scene in a taxi, as she did so the suspect had left the building they had been in and chased her and the taxi down the road before she had been able to get away from the scene.

She had then gone to her friend, distressed and in a terrible state, and told her what had happened leading to the victims friend to calling the police.

I was working in first response, when myself and my colleague were informed of the above, we were attached to the incident and assigned with talking to the victim and safeguarding her.

Initially I went to her grandparents address, the area the initial caller had said the victim was in order to speak with the victim and get a first account of what happened. She informed us that she had been at a party with some friends at one of their houses. The male had been drinking and had had at least one bottle of wine earlier that evening possibly more.

Later she had gone to lie down on a sofa, the male had seen her on the sofa and had climbed onto her as she was lying there, she had told him to stop but he had refused to listen to her.

She tried to keep her legs locked together but he used his arms to force them apart, he had then grabbed her wrists and forcibly kissed her.

Eventually the victim made an excuse about getting air and got outside the house, once she had gotten out she called a taxi.

The male saw her as she was getting into the taxi and chased it someway down the street before the taxi got away from him.

She had then called her friend who subsequently called the police leading to my attendance.

With the victims permission we seized her clothing as evidence. As the offence was of a sexual nature an additional 2 officers were required to talk with and later arrest the male, this is due to protocol to prevent contamination between the victim and the suspect.

The male suspect had also messaged the victim prior to being arrested so his phone was seized for download upon his arrest.

The victim was a white 17 years old female, because she was under 18 the presence of an appropriate adult was required for the PPD3, a translator was not required as she was a native English speaker and she was happy to engage with myself and my colleague.

A PPN or Public Protection Notice was put in place to safeguard the victim by notifying relevant agencies in order for them to get in contact with her and offer support.

DASH was also considered but not used as the Victim and the Perpetrator only knew each other through friends and were not in an intimate relationship with each other nor were they related, which is a requirement for DASH and many of the questions

used in DASH would not have been relevant to the case at hand. (bcp safeguarding adults board, 2019) (BCP Council , 2024)

This proved effective as the female was later contacted the next day by the safeguarding team who then helped the victim get in touch with support services. Cases like this can become more complicated if there are cultural or language barriers, cultural barriers as it may make them unwilling to talk to police or unable to requiring specialist translators. (Brown & Hobbs, 2023)

Studies have shown that peoples perception of police, past experiences of engaging with police or other agencies and cultural influences are all potential barriers that could prevent a victim from engaging with police.

There are other factors that can result in barriers between the victim and police relating to the victims experience with abuse such as feelings of self-blame, shame and stigma as well as fear and dependence on the suspect. (College Police, 2024) Fortunately at the time I was speaking with her none of these issues appeared to be present and the victim, whilst shaken by her experience was ready and willing to engage with the police.

She did however ask that her friend who was over 18 be present as her appropriate adult as she did not want her parents or grandparents involved at the time. I am not aware of what services the victim was given however I am aware of multiple services that are available to victims of crimes. Before leaving the victim I made sure to inform her of the following services available to her.

Victim support is a service in south wales that can be contacted by phone, they have a free support line available 2/7, they offer support for victims by offering them a safe place to express their fears, worries, and emotions. Catch-22 is a support service that offers a variety of services such as emotional and practical advice, advocacy and helping victims cope with and recover from being victim to a crime. (Victim Support, 2023) (Catch22, 2023)

Citizens Advice offer both emotional support and practical advice to victims of offences as well as give them advice on giving evidence in court.

Studies have found that while being victim to a crime can result in significant mental trauma and stress that adequate support from police and various social services can be effective in mitigating the impact as well as improving recovery for the victim. (Dinisman & Moroz, 2023) (Moroz, 2023) (Lynall, 2022)

As mentioned previously a public protection notice was written for the victim to signpost her to support services.

The suspect was later released on bail with conditions to not contact the victim, the area the victim lives or to interact with any of the witnesses.

As the victim was vulnerable and a victim of a serious offence she was offered enhanced services and various other services under the Ministry of Justice (2015) Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (the Victims' Code) (Victim Support, 2024)

The code involves a wide range of entitlements for the victim such as a needs assessment to determine what help the victim may need going forward, be kept up to date on the progress of the investigation including suspect bail and court days, support from a court advocate, whether they are required to give evidence in court etc.

The purpose of the entitlements under the code is to keep the victim well supported, informed, engaged with the legal process and to better assist their recovery.

Unfortunately despite the best efforts of the police, the victim later chose to retract her complaint sighting that she had not called the police and had intended to handle it herself in the first place and that she was to understand that had it gone to court it would have effectively been her word against his.

She did however follow police advice to block the suspect on her phone and to avoid the suspect and hopefully prevent a her from being revictimized by the suspect in the future.

At this point in time I am not aware of any further contact between the victim and the subject nor any further incidents including either of them.

A overview of the suspects involvement in previous offences on NICHE, found that while the suspect was known to the police he did not have a history of sexual offences and this appeared to have been his first time involved in such an incident.

After arrest Bail conditions were put in place to prevent the offender from interfering with the investigation and to safeguard the victim, the bail conditions specified that the suspect was not to attend the victims residence nor were they to contact to victim directly or indirectly.

This proved effective in deterring the suspect from interfering with the victim.

In conclusion during the course of this incident there was a lot of emphasis placed on safeguarding the victim, this served two very important roles.

First it helped to keep the victim engaged with the police, police in the UK operate by consent as a general rule of thumb, as such its very difficult for police to pursue a case against a suspect if the victim is unwilling.

The second and arguably more important role is that it aid's in the victims recovery both in the short and long term as well as safeguarding them against being victimised again.

While the victim did unfortunately retract her complaint against the subject thus resulting in the case not continuing, I was at least able to get the victim in touch with various support services who in turn were able to support her and aid in her recovery.

This will hopefully mitigate the trauma and help with preventing any serious long term effects as a result of the traumatic incident that occurred.

In addition through this incident and further study it's very apparent that it's important that the victim receives support both from the police and other social services in order to support the victim as effectively as possible.

In general this will mean police initiating initial safeguarding of the victim as well as investigation and prosecution of the offender whilst the civilian social services focus more on the victims recovery both during the initial stages of the incident as well as post police intervention.

Word count -1852 words

Task 2

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Conducting Investigations

You should choose an **serious and complex investigation** that you have been involved in **that was of a complex nature**, in which you played a significant role.

Critically evaluate the processes employed in a **complex investigation** you have been involved in, and the fast-track actions that you have utilised.

Evaluate the support you have provided to victims, witnesses, and offenders (where appropriate) during a **complex investigation** and reference the management of your own personal values and attitudes in relation to this.

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

Answer:

During my time working as a first responder, I occasionally had to deal with serious and complex crimes. In these incidents it was always very important to manage support for the victims, witnesses and offenders.

This was especially important in the case of victims and witnesses, police in the UK follow a concept of policing by consent. In other words, it is very difficult to investigate, much less prosecute an offender without support and engagement of the victims and witnesses and if they are not properly supported that engagement can be lost very quickly. College of Policing, 2020

Similarly it is also important to consider support for the offenders when appropriate in order to convince them to engage with the police and reduce the likelihood of reoffending. (HMPPS, 2021)

The incident began with an abandoned 999 call by a female who stated that she had been assaulted by her partner earlier that night resulting in a serious head injury.

Initially I was not able to track the victim down as she refused to give me her location, eventually however she called again asking for police and gave her location.

Upon arrival I found the female in the company of two bystanders who had found her and stayed with her whilst I had been making my way to her. After taking their

details I took the female to the back of a marked police vehicle and asked her to tell me what had happened, this is referred to as a first account.

In her account she informed me that she and her partner had been drinking that night at his house when her partner became enraged, striking her and then grabbing her and striking her head against an outcropping corner in her bathroom.

I inspected the site of the injury and after confirming it was not life threatening I took pictures of the injury for use as evidence and then conveyed her to a local police station

Once at the station I took a statement from victim, a statement is basically a formal account of what the witness/victim witnessed for use in investigations and in court. From it I was able to gain a detailed account from the female of what had occurred that evening.

After this I then completed a DASH PPN. DASH PPN's consist of a set of questions aimed at assessing a domestic incident and assisting other agencies. It's a multi-agency tool used to keep victims of domestic abuse safe and making sure that perpetrators of domestic abuse are identified and signposted so that they can be managed. (Laura Richards ®, 2009)

I then conveyed the female to place of safety away from where the incident had occurred.

It's important to when confirm that the place of safety is actually safe and to take details so that the police can get in touch with the victim if needed. (College Police, 2024) (National Police Chiefs' Council, 2021)

In this case she asked to be conveyed to a friends house, I confirmed with her that the location was not known to the perpetrator and that he did not have a key or any other way of accessing the property.

Once I was satisfied that the location was safe I conveyed the female to her friends house and took down the details of the victim.

With the statement taken and all safeguarding measures for the victim complete, the next step of the investigation was to find and arrest the male suspect.

I began arrest enquiries by going to the males home residence, it was into the very early hours of the morning at this point, unfortunately he was not home and attempts to contact him on his phone went straight to voicemail.

After some time I was able to locate him when he returned, he was promptly cautioned, arrested on suspicion of causing actual bodily harm and conveyed to custody at a local police station.

As per safeguarding policy I asked him if he had any medical conditions. He informed me that he had a heart condition which he had medication for in his

apartment as well as an appointment with the doctor the following day. (Home Office, 1984) (Home Office, 2020) (UK Government, 1983)

I entered the property to retrieve the medication and the letter detailing the appointment so that I could hand them to the custody sergeant whilst doing so I identified signs of the altercation the female had informed me of and took pictures for use as evidence.

I then informed the custody sergeant of the circumstances of the males arrest as well as his health conditions.

Once the male was in custody I made a case file and prepped a handover document for the hub. The hub is a part of the police that specialises in conducting further investigations and unlike response officers such as myself they are able to dedicate their full worktime to investigating crimes.

Once the hub handover was completed I had no further part to play in the investigation though sometime later I was made aware that the Crown Prosecution Service had made the decision to charge the male with the offence.

As detailed in the overview, once I had found the victim the first step was to get a first account from her in order to determine what had happened and what to do next. Once I was aware of what happened I could then determine what I needed to do and what evidence I needed to secure.

With the first account taken I began evidence gathering, In theory this would include securing the scene near the outset. However as the victim was not at the scene and as her safeguarding had to be prioritised first I moved to secure evidence from her first.

To begin with I took pictures of the victims injury, the injury makes up a key part of the investigation and is evidence of the victims claim, for this reason it is essential to preserve it by taking images as soon as possible. Once done the images were uploaded for posterity.

I then took a statement off of the victim, statements are important both as an evidential tool and a method of finding further lines of enquiry for an investigation that may not have come to light when the victim gave her first account. In this case the account made mention of damage that had been made to the glass top of the stove in the kitchen when the male perpetrator slammed her head into it.

Later on after arresting the suspect I was able to gather further evidence, after he was cautioned he gave his own first account of what had happened, I recorded this on my bodycam and in my arresting statement so that it could be used when he was interviewed. (College of Policing, 2019)

His items were seized including his phone, however as the alleged crime didn't involve any use of the phone and no mention was made of it by the victim there were no grounds for digital evidence recovery at that time.

After this I then entered the suspects house under Section 32 of PACE (UK Government, 1984), whilst searching the house I was able to find the site of the alleged assault detailed in the victims statement as well as the damaged stove top mentioned by the victim. I then took pictures of the scene for use as evidence before returning to the suspect to convey them to custody.

Later with the immediate and more time sensitive matters completed I moved to conduct other enquiries I had not been able to do prior.

I conducted house to house enquiries and CCTV enquiries. House to house involves going to houses surrounding the area of the offence too find out if anyone saw or heard anything that could relate to the offence.

CCTV enquiries are simply enquiries at local houses, businesses or councils to ask if they have any CCTV cameras in the area and if they have any regarding the alleged incident. Unfortunately both were negative and gave no additional evidence or lines of enquiry for the investigation.

I was not able to obtain any further evidence and as the case was to go the hub the following day I did play any further part in the investigation of the offence.

As mentioned previously, Victim support is almost essential to pursuing an investigation, eventual prosecution and safeguarding the victim. For this reason the police will take measures to support the victim throughout the investigation. (Victim Support, 2024)

One example of immediate support used was to remove the victim from where they were and taking them to place of safety, this way they are safeguarded from the suspect at least in the short term.

A PPN or Public Protection Notice is a multi agency tool used by the police to identify vulnerable victims and signpost them to appropriate help and support services. More importantly as this case involved domestic abuse as DASH form was also completed.

DASH or the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Risk Identification, Assessment and Management Model is a tool that was put into use from march 2009 across all UK police forces.

DASH is a multi-agency tool used by many different agencies that have are aimed at safeguarding victims from perpetrators of domestic violence as well as proactively identifying and managing perpetrators.

The idea with DASH is to take what would normally be a reactive approach to domestic crime and making it more proactive.

It does this through a standardised set of questions which cover violence, coercive control and so called honour based abuse. (Laura Richards ®, 2009)

The use of questions regarding coercive control and so called honour based abuse have been implemented as cases involving those are where victims have more often come to harm or died.

There are a range of Domestic support services that police can signpost a victim to through the DASH/PPN system. Many of which are non-profit and not directly affiliated with government services. (Laura Richards ®, 2009)

In addition police in Wales are also trained to advise the victim to use the Live Fear Free helpline. Live Fear Free are a non profit organisation that provide advice and help for domestic victims of violence, sexual violence and domestic abuse. They also provide help for victims of Female genital mutilation, slavery and Honour based violence. (Welsh Government, 2021)

I made sure to ensure that the victim was aware that this service was available to her should she feel that she needed it.

When working in my role as a police officer I always make sure to keep to the 9 policing principles. Fairness, Accountability, Integrity, Leadership, Selflessness, Honesty, Objectivity, Openness and Respect and the code of ethics. (College of Policing, 2016)

I also made sure to be empathetic with the victim while I was asking her questions related to what happened, these questions by their nature can be quite difficult for a victim to open up about making it important to establish a good report.

I also made sure to remain professional with both the victim and the perpetrator, dealing with a suspect of a crime in such a way can be difficult for some but it's important to maintain fairness and impartiality when investigating a crime and remembering that a suspect is considered innocent until guilty.

In conclusion, I feel that this investigation was handled well, the subject matter can be very difficult to deal with, especially for the victim and the suspect so it's important to properly support and manage them while conducting the investigation.

Word count - 1935

Authentication signature:

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

Signed: David-Klaus Martin Holtschke

Date:

28/10/2024

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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