

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/aqh-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	
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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:

In this essay I will be discussing a particular incident and my role in supporting a victim of crime, reflecting on how the support put in place for that victim by police and other agencies safeguarded them and reduced the risk of repeat victimisation. I will be using Borton's (1970) model of reflection in order to do this.

The College of Policing (2020) provides that a person is vulnerable if "they are unable to take care or protect themselves", and this can be affected by their situation or circumstances. HMIC (2015) highlights that one of the core indicators to a police forces effectiveness is how successful it is at identifying and protecting those who are vulnerable. Vulnerable people can come into contact with the police in many ways, but it is important to identify it as early as possible and put in the relevant interventions. The College of Policing is clear that the police and police officers should have the relevant skills and training in order to identify when a person is vulnerable (College of Policing, 2021). As part of their inspection into the effectiveness of each force in how they protect vulnerable people and support victims, HMIC found that South Wales Police identifies and supports vulnerable

victims effectively (HMIC, 2015). What research has found though is that despite the police being increasingly asked to assist the vulnerable, signposting vulnerable individuals to the most appropriate services that can support them is important (Keay and Kirby, 2017).

Borton (1970) model of reflection requires us to consider what has happened, what our role was and what happened when we reflect on our experiences. This particular incident was one of domestic stalking and harassment. Domestic abuse related crimes rose 6%, with 845, 734 being recorded in the year ending March 2021 (Office for National Statistics, 2021). The report by HMIC (2015) highlights that South Wales Police offers vulnerable, high-risk, victims of domestic abuse a high level of service and care. Of the recorded domestic abuse crimes in 2021, the police recorded 215,173 domestic abuse-related stalking and harassment offences, accounting for a quarter of all domestic abuse-related crimes (Office for National Statistics, 2021). Harassment and stalking crimes are serious and damaging, and in some cases have even led to death. However, each person is different and the experience and impact of stalking can vary greatly between victims, where behaviours that may be considered annoying to one victim may have a more devastating effect on another (Stalking Risk Profile, 2011). The incident did not pose any cultural, ethnicity or language issues. However, I am aware that a person's cultural or religious background can make them more vulnerable to domestic abuse incidents and create issues for the police in terms of safeguarding victims.

In relation to this incident the report came from the victim after a prolonged period of unwanted contact from her ex-partner, including threatening, abusive messages and calls and unannounced, unwanted attendance at her address. Such behaviour was having an adverse impact on the victim and her way of life. Clearly there was an element of risk posed to the victim in this incident due to the perpetrators behaviour. In the case of stalking, victims will have specific needs that will be dependant on the severity of the stalking and harassment. Indeed, one of the main actions as set out by the NPCC's National Vulnerability Action Plan (2021) in identifying and managing risk, is to support all in policing to carry out the best risk assessments for people with vulnerabilities. The College of Policing (2021) provides that officers require "the ability to recognise vulnerabilities and risk of harm", and that

they must “understand their responsibilities” and know “the most appropriate action to take”.

In cases such as this most forces, including South Wales Police, use the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment (DASH) risk assessment model in order to assess risk and identify vulnerabilities in such incidents, and this is a model used by other partner agencies, which helps in providing a consistent approach to victims (College of Policing, 2015). However, there are limitations to the use of such tools. For example, the accuracy of such tools to assess risk can depend on information provided by the victim, and research has shown that the DASH tool seems better suited to ‘specialist’ officers who are able to build a rapport with the victim in order to devote time to obtain more detailed context to the questions asked (Robinson et al., 2016). In addition, the tool can often be seen by frontline officers as a ‘tick-box’ exercise rather than a tool to identify risk and vulnerability and make the right decisions to effectively safeguard victims (HMIC, 2014). Indeed, despite being introduced to such risk assessment tools as part of my initial training I feel I was not fully trained on how to effectively use such tools to assist me in the identification of risk and vulnerability.

In the context of stalking, research has shown that approaches adopted by police in dealing with vulnerable victims of stalking and harassment minimise complaints and can often result in victims being misunderstood and feeling ignored. Korkodeilou (2014;2017) suggested that the police can often put a focus on tangible harms, such as physical violence when determining the seriousness of cases. As a result, victims of stalking feel that they are not heard, their needs for support and safety are not addressed and that their emotional turmoil is not recognised (Korkodeilou, 2014). Further research has also shown that in such cases, victims feel that the police do not see the bigger picture, with the police and prosecutors treating incidents as single events and not understanding the patterns of stalking behaviours (HMIC, 2017).

As stated above, the College of Policing (2021) highlights the need for officers to be suitably trained in order to identify when a person is vulnerable. However, it this does not necessarily mean that they solely deal with the problem,

but that they need to recognise when intervention from partner agencies is necessary (Home Office, 2014). Initial police interactions with vulnerable victims provide important opportunities for the police to refer and involve partner agencies who have the relevant skills and resources to support vulnerable victim's. However, Jerath, Thompson and Belur (2020) found that victims of stalking pointed out a lack of understanding of their situation, which ultimately led them to feel isolated and to cope with things on their own. Similar findings were also found by Logan & Walker (2018), findings showing that many victims of stalking and harassment feel isolated and confused. Research has shown a need for victims to feel emotionally supported and understood, with victim advocates being heavily relied on to help in building relationships with victims to help identify their needs (Jerath, Thompson and Belur, 2020). Indeed, the value of victim advocates to help victims access the relevant resources appears to be appreciated by victims (Boehnlein et al., 2020).

The NPCC's National Vulnerability Action Plan (2021) highlights the need to engage other organisations and individuals so that they can make their contribution to making vulnerable people safe. With regard to this incident, I ensured that appropriate referrals were made to the relevant agencies through PPN's, and that discussions with Women's aid/IDVA's and victim support services were had. Indeed, support for victims of crime is reliant upon what services are available to them, and effective communication between agencies is vital in supporting and safeguarding victims, especially with regard to domestic abuse cases (College of Policing, 2015). Due to the nature of stalking offences being varied between victims, support that addresses a victim's needs and vulnerabilities require a multi-agency approach. Cleaver et al (2019) highlight the importance of such multi-disciplinary working in order to improve outcomes for victims. However, victims of stalking have voiced concerns over the lack of adequate information and support from relevant services (Galeazzi et al. 2009; Korkodeilou, 2016). Jerath, Thompson and Belur (2020) point out that although there are no specific interventions for victims of stalking, knowledge of addressing victims needs and vulnerabilities in relation to domestic violence can be transferrable.

Due to the nature of the crimes of stalking and harassment victims will be repeatedly offended against. A report conducted by HMIC (2017) has shown a

number of failures with regard to victims of stalking and harassment cases that ultimately led to victims being more vulnerable to repeat victimisation. This included failures in applying for restraining orders, appropriate bail conditions, a lack of communication between the police and prosecutors, amongst other things. Recommendations, as a result of this report, pointed to the need for officers to have better guidance on crime prevention advice for victims.

Research shows that victims of domestic violence incidents have a greater probability of being repeat victims (Walby and Allen, 2004), with the Home Office (2021) finding that women are generally at higher risk of repeat victimisation. However, findings from research provide a clear indication for risk assessment and the treatment of victims, which in turn offer opportunities to empower them and prevent future violence (Kujipers, van der Knaap & Winkel, 2012). Indeed, with this case following contact with police and referrals to partner agencies the victim was able to put in place suitable safeguarding measures for herself and her young children to prevent future incidents. Success in reducing domestic violence has come from reducing repeat incidents, with such reductions coming by incorporating repeat victimisation strategies (Farrell and Pease, 2001). However, such strategies can be difficult to implement due to domestic violence incidents being highly under reported, with HMIC (2014) finding through an online survey of victims of domestic abuse that 46% of respondents never having reported domestic abuse to the police. This was an issue in this particular incident, with the victim not reporting several incidents of domestic abuse, stalking and harassment resulting in safeguarding measures to reduce re-victimisation not being put in place sooner. Research has shown that positively changing the willingness of victims to report incidents has been important to improving police response to victims of domestic violence (Koppensteiner, Matheson & Plugor, 2022).

The West Yorkshire Domestic Violence Repeat victimisation pilot project demonstrated positive outcomes for victims, which restored their faith in the police and their fears. This model to prevent re-victimisation was built on what worked in the Kirkholt Burglary Project (1988), and was adapted to suit domestic violence crime. Hanmer et al. (1999) pointed out that what worked with this project was the focus on both victims and offenders, with the inclusion of other partner agencies to

provide support. It resulted in better service quality and assistance provided by police and partner agencies. With regard to offenders, HMIC (2017) point out that “early, effective and positive” action against perpetrators when such incidents are reported can prove important in order to protect a victim in the future. However, what was difficult with regard to the offender in this case was that he evaded police, thus making such early intervention and action difficult.

An important aspect of Borton’s (1970) model of reflection is to reflect on what we have learnt, and it has helped me to consider how I could better support vulnerable victims in the future. I have been able to identify that when dealing with vulnerable victims of crime I need to be mindful of their needs and aware of the support I am able to offer them, also being mindful of my limitations and making referrals to appropriate support services that are better able to support them. An understanding of the victim’s needs is important, which can be assisted by effective risk assessment at an early stage, something I feel I need further training on. The desired outcome when supporting victims of domestic incidents, particularly stalking and harassment incidents, is to prevent re-victimisation and to empower them. What I felt was important in this case was positive engagement with the victim to get her to engage with the process, given she had not reported a number of incidents to police previously. This ultimately helped in supporting the victim moving forward and to identify appropriate services for her to engage with.

To conclude, there is clearly much more that can be done to ensure victims of crime have a better service and are ultimately supported to prevent re-victimisation. Officers need to be better trained in order to identify a victim’s needs and vulnerabilities, which will effectively help them in identifying appropriate support or services victims can be referred to achieve better outcomes for them. This is particularly important for victims of stalking and harassment cases, where identifying appropriate support and protection for vulnerable victims can be important in preventing significant harm in coming to them. HMIC (2017) provide in their report on stalking and harassment that there is still much work to be done, not just for police, but on every level, in order to improve the experiences of victims of such offences and ensure they have a high-quality service.

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 5

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Conducting Investigations

You should choose an 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*)

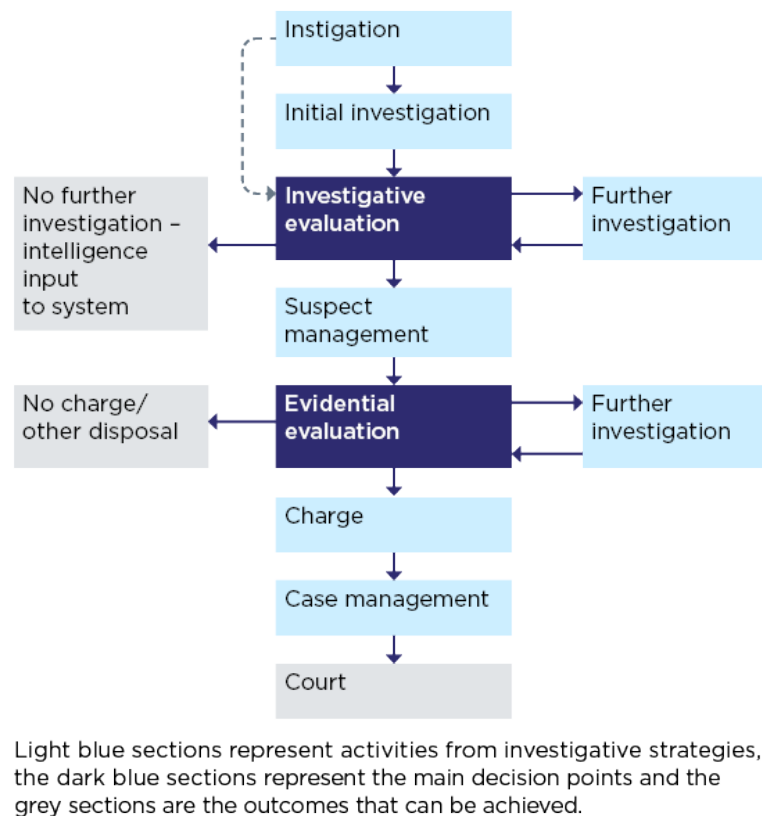
Answer:

In this essay I will be discussing an investigation in which I played a significant role, and will be evaluating the processes that were employed throughout the investigation. This will include the support provided to the victim and contact made with the suspect throughout the investigation.

The Code of Practice to the Criminal Procedure and Investigation Act 1996 (CPIA) provides that a criminal investigation is one completed by officers to establish “whether a person should be charged with an offence, or whether a person charged with an offence is guilty of it”. There does not appear to be a set definition of what constitutes a serious and complex crime, and the Serious Crime Act 2007 does not provide one. However, the College of Policing’s Professionalising Investigations Programme (2018) outlines that certain factors can identify if an offence is serious and complex. Rusch (2014) provides that the investigation of complex crime typically requires the use of multiple methods and techniques in order to secure the necessary evidence. There are four levels of investigator within the police, as defined by the Professional Investigation Programme (2018). All police officers have a responsibility to investigate crimes, but offences that are more serious and complex in nature are investigated by officers who are accredited as PIP 2. Such investigators utilise a range of appropriate investigative techniques to gather material and their aim is to safely and effectively investigate serious and complex crime to achieve appropriate outcomes.

The investigation discussed in this essay is one in which I was officer in case. It initially involved sexual communication with a child; with the victim residing in Scotland and the accused living in South Wales. However, the investigation became more complex in nature when indecent images of other children were found on the defendant’s phone, resulting in the further investigation of other offences. A report by HMICFRS (2023) provides that the investigation of online child sexual abuse and exploitation is a complex area of work.

Depending on the type of offence being investigated the material and evidence gathered, and the methods used to obtain this, can vary. However, all investigations tend to go through the same process as highlighted in the below image from the College of Policing (2013):



As outlined in the image above, all investigations will start at the instigation phase where the report is made to police and information is gathered in order to assess risk and decide on the relevant action to take. Initial reports with regard to offences relating online grooming are usually received from a parent or carer of a child, as was the case with this incident. This report was made to Police Scotland, where the victim resided, where the initial information was recorded and all relevant material was passed onto an initial investigating officer, who was a response officer. Deslauries-Varin and Fortin (2021) provide that the ability of a police force to adequately respond to a crime can be impacted by the various techniques and methods available to investigators following the commission of a crime. Often

different forces throughout the UK have different policies and procedures when dealing with crimes and victims of crime. A report into the investigation of such cases by HMICFRS (2023) found that most forces will often assign response officers to conduct the initial enquiries. Many of these officers, despite not being confident in dealing with such cases, are able to recognise children at risk of harm and act in appropriate ways to safeguard and help the child HMICFRS (2023). The actions and process undertaken by Police Scotland in this instance did not appear to have been too different to what South Wales Police as a force would have employed.

Initial actions undertaken by Police Scotland were to speak with the victim and ensure that appropriate support and safeguarding was put in place, due to the nature of the offence reported. In such cases detailed questioning of a victim is not appropriate. However, the Ministry of Justice (2022) highlights that initial questioning may be needed to get a brief account of what has happened to assist initial decisions about the criminal investigation plan, and to risk assess and put in place appropriate safeguarding. Sufficient information from the victim in such cases can assist investigators to initiate fast-track actions. The College of Policing (2013) provides that fast track actions, if pursued immediately, can assist to “establish important facts, preserve evidence and lead to the early resolution of the investigation”. Despite findings from how well the police initially deal with such offences suggesting officers do not consider the risks to children and do not follow up lines of enquiry to trace the suspect (HMIFRC, 2023), the fast-track actions undertaken initially by Police Scotland in this instance secured the physical evidence of the messages that had been sent to the victim. This in turn assisted them to undertake work on the username that had contacted the victim, which subsequently led to the identification of the suspect who resided in South Wales.

An investigation of this cross-force nature relies on quality communication between the forces. This ensures that the information and evidence gathered during the initial investigation by one force is passed onto the other who will take primacy of the investigation. Given the suspect resided in South Wales primacy of this investigation sat with South Wales Police. However, the quality of the investigation relied heavily on the initial actions taken by Police Scotland in liaising with the victim and identifying the suspect, and the transfer of this information to South Wales

Police. Indeed, the College of Policing (2016) provide that in order for cross-border enquires to be successful, the initiating force needs to ensure all relevant information is passed to the force that will manage the subsequent enquires and that it is important to ensure the seamless transfer of responsibility to ensure nothing is missed. The positive transfer of information from Police Scotland and the close liaison between myself, as the OIC, and them as a force certainly assisted in allowing us to focus our enquiries. This subsequently led to the swift arrest of the suspect, and the initiation of the relevant fast-track actions in our force, which included the seizure of the suspects devices and putting in place appropriate safeguarding measures as the suspect had access to children. The college of Policing (2014) in discussing investigations regarding child abuse cases highlight the need to consider a suspect's current access to children or other vulnerable persons, and their continued risk to victims and witnesses.

Following on from the initial investigation phase, where initial accounts have been taken, the needs of the victim have been addressed, and any fast-track actions have been taken, comes the further investigation stage. The College of Policing (2013) provides that it is at this stage investigators develop a plan of how the investigation will progress. With regards to this case the identification of the suspect came from the analysis of the material obtained as part of the initial investigation, which resulted in the arrest and interview of the suspect. It was at this point further investigative opportunities arose. This included the seizure and analysis of the suspects devices and liaising with third partner agencies in order to obtain information that may be pertinent to the ongoing investigation. This is something that I have found made up a significant part of the investigation, mainly due to the delays in getting these enquiries actioned and for the results to return. The devices seized from the suspect were sent for analysis, with items such as his phones being able to be downloaded and analysed quickly. However, larger items were required to be sent to the more specialist digital forensics team, which, because of force backlogs, took months to action. This was a criticism noted in the report into child abuse and exploitation investigations by HMICFRS (2023), which highlighted there were often delays in taking action in cases such as this, often months long. In addition to this, liaising with other third-party agencies, which is relevant in such cases, also took up a significant amount of the investigation time. I found that such processes were

prolonged and there were often different processes that needed to be followed for the different local authority agencies I was liaising with, despite the information I required from each agency being the same. Again, this was something highlighted by HMICFRS (2023) who stated more needed to be done to strengthen the links between national and local leadership.

Given the nature of such investigations and the prolonged time investigations such as this can take it is important that throughout the investigation process victims and witnesses are supported. The Crown Prosecution Service (2013) highlight the need for victims and witnesses in child sexual abuse cases to be made aware from the outset what would be expected of them throughout the investigation, and identifies that support for victims and witnesses in such cases can be provided in a number of ways. As the victim in this case resided out of force, the procedures, referrals and support South Wales Police could put in place to support victims in such cases could not be utilised. Police Scotland were able to put in place appropriate support for the victim, which included arranging ABE interviews and referrals to partner agencies. However, in line with South Wales Police force policy with regard to victim updates and the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (2020), regular contact was made with the victim, through her guardian given her age, by myself. This ensured they were updated about the progress of the investigation and allowed me to confirm all the support that could be offered to them was in place. The College of Policing (2014) provide that every effort should be made to provide victims with an honest judgement of the consequences making such a report and the potential time scales of the enquiries. A lack of contact is a significant factor in victims of crime being dissatisfied and having a poor opinion of the police (Victim Support, 2010). Therefore, regular contact was important in order to manage the expectations of the victim and their guardian, given the length of time such investigations can take.

With regard to sexual offences such as this suspect management is also important. Suspect enquires for sexual offences of this nature should be balanced against the impact such enquiries could have on their personal life (College of Policing, 2014). Enquiries may impact a suspect's well-being, employment, privacy and could attract media interest. In this case the suspect was bailed, given the

requirement for further enquiries to be undertaken, with the bail conditions in place being proportionate and necessary to safeguard, allow for the enquiries to be undertaken and provide the suspect with some freedom in his personal life.

Research has shown that offenders in such cases are a high risk of suicide when such offences come to light (Key et al, 2021), which as investigators we had to be mindful of. HMICFRS (2023) found that most forces have a policy in place to carry out risk assessments on suspects following their release in relation to investigations of this nature. South Wales Police have such a policy in place, where suspects are provided with a leaflet upon their release that provides information and advice from the Lucy Faithful Foundation (2023) and provides contact details should they require further support. In addition to this, contact and significant updates are provided in person. Dealing with suspects in such cases can be challenging due to the personal values and attitudes that we hold. For example, given that I am a father of two young children, incidents of this nature naturally carry feelings of anger and appal. However, in my role as an investigator I am required to be mindful that I need to be impartial. Throughout this investigation I have ensured that I have been emotionally aware when dealing with such a sensitive subject matter, treating those I have dealt with fairly and with respect, qualities that are emphasised in the code of ethics and competencies and values under which we operate.

As stated earlier, investigations of this nature can be prolonged and this is a complex investigation that has still yet to reach a conclusion or even a charging decision. Research conducted by the Office for National Statistics (2018) found that on average it can take the police 73 days to assign an outcome to sexual offences cases, where they state that the length of time it takes to assign an outcome reflects the complexity and sensitive nature of such investigations. I have learnt through dealing with this investigation that these offences require patience and are prolonged investigations. However, many of the matters that have prolonged the investigation have been out of my control. Positive engagement with all parties involved has helped me to manage everyone's expectations. In addition, I have benefited from positive support and supervision from my peers and supervisors, which has allowed me to manage the investigation to the best of my abilities.

Word Count – 2174 words

Authentication signature:

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

Signed: 

Date: 01/05/2023

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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