

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) - 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.*
- *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 this essay I will describe a policing incident in which I played a significant role. I will discuss the social, cultural, ethnicity and language issues that applied and critically evaluate the approaches applied by the police and partner agencies to support those at risk. I will also consider what works in relation to tackling repeat victimisation and repeat offending.

The incident was reported by the Injured Party (IP) stating that she had been living in the UK for two months, moving from India following her marriage. She stated that her husband is abusive towards her, both physically and mentally and she no longer wanted to be with him. She explained that she was fearful of him and phoned the police whilst he was not at the address.

Upon officer attendance the IP was very reluctant to engage with officers or provide a full account. She verbally disclosed that he uses abusive language towards her in Hindi which is her native language. Her husband regularly picks arguments with her, which have escalated, he has thrown shoes and slippers at her which struck her to the face. Her husband is in control of their finances, she is financially reliant on him,

and he refuses to provide her with money. She has to ask him multiple times for basic essential items such as fresh foods and milk. She disclosed that she wishes to return to India to see her family, but her husband will not allow it and stops her leaving the house. This type of abuse is explained by the Duluth Wheel of Power and Control (DAIP, 2015) illustrating the behaviours used by Domestic Violence (DV) perpetrators to maintain power and control over their victims. By understanding the different tactics used, it allowed me to consider the appropriate actions to take. I was also able to identify the impact this type of abuse would have on the IP and how she could be best supported.

Despite the concerning report, the IP was unwilling to provide any form of statement or disclose any further details of the alleged offences. However, due to the nature of what the IP had verbally disclosed, to safeguard her a necessity to arrest arose, the suspect was located and arrested for Common Assault (s39 Criminal Justice Act 1988) and Coercive Control (s76 Serious Crime Act 2015). Following the arrest, the IP was revisited. She was adamant that she did not want police involvement, or any further action taken against her husband. Here it is important to consider the wider relevant issues to understand why the IP was unsupportive of police action in the case.

The first point is the communication barrier as English was not her first language. Whilst she could speak English, her understanding appeared more limited. A study by Hunter et al. (2022) has evidenced that due to police workloads and resource pressures, accessing language support is limited for victims and this in turn creates barriers for accessing the Criminal Justice System. Police often rely on relatives to translate which can result in the victim feeling pressured not to seek help (Britain & Choudry, 1996). This means that the victims are unable to fully express themselves, often downplaying the abuse they are experiencing. They are prevented from engaging with police to understand what can be done to help them.

Another barrier was the IP's immigration status. She was admitted to the UK on a 2-year spousal visa. As such, if the relationship breaks down within this period, she would not have rights to remain in the UK and face deportation (Immigration Rules, 2002). This would leave her in an extremely vulnerable position, and she was reliant

upon her marriage to remain in the UK. Her husband was taking advantage of her insecure immigration status to prevent her from leaving and using it as a threat. To address this the UK Government introduced the Domestic Violence Rule (Immigration Rules, 2002). This allows victims to remain in the UK providing the relationship ended as a consequence of domestic violence. However, to qualify for this the IP would need to provide evidence of the abuse, which she was not willing to do. She was also not aware of her rights and entitlements due residing in the UK for such a short period. Another condition of a spousal visa is that she would not be entitled to public recourse. The IP had no support network in the UK, no alternative accommodation, and no access to finances. This resulted in her being totally reliant on her husband and his family. A study conducted by Anitha (2008) highlights that immigration laws leave victims with no viable alternative but to remain in the abusive relationship, exacerbating the imbalance of power between the perpetrator and the victim.

Cultural beliefs also present a barrier which influenced the IP's decision to withdraw from the investigation. In Asian culture, there is a stigma surrounding involving police in domestic matters and many victims feel they are bringing shame on their family and community (Belur, 2008). Many victims are fearful of repercussions not only from the abuser, but also the wider community as they have brought dishonour on them. Fears of continued abuse and social ostracism prevent them from reporting (Siddique, 2005). This is often coupled with pressure from the victim's own family and friends to retract complaints made to police. The family's public image is considered more important than individual safety (Izzidien, 2008). Therefore, victims are encouraged to remain in the abusive relationship (Gill, 2004) and conform to the cultural norms expected of them or face the daunting prospect of being rejected. The IP expressed that she could not turn to her own family for help and was concerned about how her husband's family would react if they found out about police involvement. She stated the property was owned by the suspects mother and she could be homeless. She also disclosed that she was not accepted by his family due to her being a divorcee and having a child from a previous marriage. Abuse is often exacerbated and encouraged by family members, a study by Gill (2004) highlighted that in-laws facilitated abuse in 9 out of the 18 cases. Asian women express that police lack understanding of the additional pressures they face when reporting

domestic incidents and are treated unsympathetically when they feel they have no other option but to withdraw their statement (Belur, 2008).

In cases of DV such as this, the police have a duty to take positive action, often making an arrest (College of Policing, 2018). This allowed the victim to be immediately safeguarded as the perpetrator was removed from the situation, providing her with relief from the control and coercion she was experiencing from her husband. The origins of positive action stem from The Minneapolis DV experiment conducted by Sherman and Black (1984). The study highlighted that arrest significantly reduced repeat offending, compared to separation or mediation. Their work heavily influenced the development of the police response to DV. However, recent research has in fact contradicted Sherman and Black's findings, reporting that arrest is largely ineffective in preventing or reducing repeat offending and may in fact increase the likelihood of repeat offending in DV cases (Hoppe et al., 2020).

Whilst arrest offers the victim immediate protection whilst the suspect is in police custody, following their release, bail conditions can be applied to offer further protection. The bail period allows a period of breathing space and time for the victim to engage with support services without interference from the perpetrator. Applying bail conditions provides victims with reassurance, they feel supported by police and the report is being taken seriously. However, even when conditions are applied victims express this alone is not enough to ensure their safety (Britian Thinks, 2020). Whilst reviews suggest that pre-charge bail conditions are taken more seriously by suspects when compared to being released under investigation, there is limited evidence to show that bail conditions definitively work to reduce re-offending or revictimization. However, studies solely evaluating pre-charge bail have not been identified (Furlong et al., 2021). When breaches of bail occur, police express the penalties for breaching are inadequate (Hillier and Kodz, 2012). Therefore, there is little deterrent effect for the perpetrator increasing the likelihood of reoffending.

Another positive action police can utilise in domestic incidents to afford protection in the longer term is Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPN) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPO) (Crime and Security Act 2010). Research by HMICFRS (2017) found across the 34 police forces in England and Wales there was

a 92% success rate in the implementation of DVPO's. However, there are notable concerns with the accuracy of the data provided by police forces (Kelly et al.,2013). They are applicable in cases when arrest powers are not necessary or proportionate. In comparison, with arrest Kelly et al. (2013) reports that DVPO's have a greater deterrent effect on repeat offenders. DVPN's/DVPO's can also be applied when the victim is unsupportive. However, in such cases the effectiveness is limited as the victim is unlikely to report any breaches if they wish to remain in a relationship with the perpetrator (Burton, 2015). Whilst on paper DVPN/DVPO's provide the victim an opportunity to plan and leave an abusive relationship, they are often impaired by the victims' reliance on the perpetrator (Blackburn and Graca, 2021) as is the case in the incident discussed in this essay.

Whilst police provide the initial response to domestic incidents, a multi-agency approach is required to ensure victims are sufficiently supported and safeguard. The Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) is a standardised risk assessment aiming to identify domestic abuse victims at risk of serious harm (CAADA, 2012). Incidents that are classified as high-risk result in Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC). Information is shared between professionals from different sectors ensuring a comprehensive plan is enabled to safeguard the victim and manage the perpetrators behaviour (Turner et al.,2019). The aim of identifying and classifying risk factors, patterns and/or escalations in behaviour is to prevent further offending and repeat victimisation. However, studies conclude it is not applied consistently (HMIC, 2014) and officers base their assessment on the immediate domestic incident which is an unreliable predictor of revictimisation and recidivism (Medina Ariza et al.,2016). DASH has been considered an evidence-based format but as Turner et al. (2019) highlights there is no evidence confirming its crime preventative impact. Whilst it does promote multi-agency working, if the risk posed is miscategorised, victims could be at risk of future harm.

Police referrals to partner agencies ensure that victims of DV are appropriately supported. DV organisations offer specialist support services tailored to the individual needs of the victim. Their services are available to victims even if they are unsupportive of police action. In this case I referred the female to BAWSO, who provide practical and emotional prevention, protection, and support services to Black

Minority Ethnic (BME) and migrant victims (BAWSO, 2022). They understand the unique challenges faced by migrant women and use their specialist knowledge to help and support them leaving abusive relationships. However, studies highlight that BME victims experience difficulties accessing support, having to make 17 contacts with the agency before receiving the help they need (Brittain et al., 2005). As many of the agencies are charitable organisations and constrained by funding issues, the fact that migrant victims are the subject to “Recourse to Public Funds Provision” limits them accessing support. Many Women’s Refuges simply cannot afford to accommodate them. Local Authorities do have a duty to support women, but unless she is “destitute plus”, suffering with a physical disability or mental disorder, they will not assist. (Amnesty International, 2008).

Evidence-based policing (EBP) uses the best available evidence to inform decisions about practices and policies (Davies et al., 2021). As the Duluth Wheel (DAIP, 2015) highlights, DV is facilitated in different ways, encapsulates many forms and effects a wide range of victims. Therefore, applying EBP is difficult in terms of DV. It is not just committed against one victim profile or concentrated in one location, making hot-spot policing ineffective. It is also not limited to one definitive trigger to tackle using the principles of problem-orientated policing.

When considering the future police response to DV, research emphasises that community-based interventions are expected to be prioritised (Verona and Fox, 2023). An experimental study conducted by Hampshire Constabulary evidenced a substantial reduction in repeat offending when the perpetrators were required to attend a Cautioning and Relationship Abuse (CARA) course. It has been praised for its cost effectiveness and the results of the study predict, it can reduce repeat victimisation if used more widely (Strang et al., 2017). Research has evidenced that a perpetrator focused approach encompassing support and tactics to disrupt and change offender behaviour reduces reoffending and revictimisation more successfully than victim-focused provisions alone (Hester et al., 2019).

In conclusion, as I have identified throughout this essay, policing domestic violence is a challenging and complex issue. It is a difficult balancing act between safeguarding victims whilst holding perpetrators accountable. Whilst some of the

approaches assist in reducing reoffending and repeat victimisation they are often impacted by the individual and unique circumstances of each incident and a one size fits all response is not applicable.

WORD COUNT: 2199

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:

In this essay I will critically evaluate a complex investigation in which I have played a significant role. This will include the processes involved and fast-track actions utilised. I will evaluate the support provided to the parties involved and the management of my personal values and attitudes.

The incident was reported to the police in the early hours of the morning by a neighbour of the suspect, who wished to remain anonymous reporting a disturbance from the address. Upon attendance, officers located a naked male in the communal hallway. He was in a confused state, shouting and trying to enter the suspect's address. As we tried to engage with the male to ascertain what had happened, he was incoherent, kept repeating his name and was sweating profusely. Due to this we suspected he was under the influence of a substance.

The suspect was located inside the flat and it was established that the parties had met at a party, got on well and decided to come back to the address. The suspect

stated they kissed and engaged in oral sex, however, when they started having sexual intercourse the Injured Party (IP) started acting strangely. He became agitated and started screaming and shouting. He claimed the IP tried to attack him, so the suspect asked him to leave. He stated the IP wouldn't leave which resulted in a commotion which alerted the neighbour to call the police. When asked if they had consumed any alcohol or drugs the suspect denied this and said that they had only had a glass of orange juice.

When asked, the IP had no recollection of any sexual activity and due to his presentation, there were concerns that he would not have been able to consent to sexual activity. As the suspect said the parties did have sexual intercourse, grounds for arrest arose and this would constitute an offence of Rape under Section 1 Sexual Offences Act (2003).

Immediate investigative considerations were to obtain forensic samples. However, the health of the IP had to take precedence over the gathering of evidence, and he was conveyed to hospital. Whilst at hospital his condition improved, and he was able to engage with officers. Once he was reviewed by doctors and deemed fit, an Early Evidence Kit (EEK) was utilised to secure forensic samples as they can identify spermatozoa and DNA profiles. However, a notable limitation is they cannot determine whether penetration occurred (Smith et al.,2014) which is crucial in this incident as the IP had no recollection of an anal penetration occurring. An EEK is important not only for evidence purposes but also for the welfare of the IP. As the initial forensic samples were obtained, this would allow him to freshen up, eat and drink without the risk of evidence being compromised or lost. I was mindful of how the IP would be feeling and adopted a compassionate response, treating him fairly, with respect and listening to the victim's voice (Jackson et al.,2012). This personal approach is crucial for the investigation as many victims report the response by the police and the way they have been treated by the justice system as bad, or worse than the sexual violation itself (Brooks, 2020).

The next fast track action completed was a PPD3, this is a first account taken from the IP. Its purpose is to establish an overview of the incident and identify immediate lines of enquiry. This booklet is especially useful in live cases such as this where

enquires are time critical. The IP disclosed that he had consumed alcohol and been offered and taken a bong which he believed to contain cannabis and offered "G". "G" is also known as GHB (Gamma hydroxybutyrate) and is a clear substance that can produce a euphoric effect and increase libido. However, in large doses it causes a sedative effect (Drugwise, 2023). This was concerning as the IP has no memory of the incident and it is evidenced that alcohol and recreational drugs can result in amnesia and memory discrepancies (Conway, 2005). Therefore, the IP's urine samples obtained in the EEK would be crucial in terms of toxicology as evidence shows that in urine GHB has a detection window of less than 12 hours (Steuer et al., 2019). A study conducted of 120 reports of drug facilitated sexual assault, found GHB was detected in 2 cases (ACMD,2007). However, participants in this study had reported sexual assault in a period of up to 72 hours following an assault. A notable limitation is that participants could have reported outside the detection window for GHB which could explain the low prevalence of GHB results found in the study.

From the account provided, scenes were identified, namely both the IP and suspect, the suspects address, the bed in the bedroom and physical exhibits. These included bedding, drinks containers, glasses and a small vial found in the bedroom. This meant they could be preserved to allow Crime Scene Investigators to attend and seize items to be submitted for forensic examination to establish the presence of DNA or substances that could be used to stupefy. This is a vital action as without this, key evidence could be lost.

When obtaining the IP's account, I was conscious of how the questions I asked could be perceived and appear accusatory. Ullman (1996) reports that many victims experience victim blaming when disclosing to police. Whilst I did have to ask difficult questions to establish the circumstances of the case, I ensured that I approached them sensitively. I did this by using non-judgemental language and open questioning which created an environment where the IP felt supported and comfortable to share his account. The IP disclosed to me that he was a homosexual male, and I recognised the additional impact that this could have on him. Research by Davies and Rogers (2006) highlighted homosexuals are perceived by police to be more at fault and to blame than heterosexual victims. This has led to high levels of underreporting and the actual prevalence of male rape is underestimated (Javaid,

2017). Studies showed that within police culture there are embedded beliefs that males cannot be victims of sexual crimes (Turchik and Edwards, 2012) and feel they are treated detrimentally and not seen as real victims of rape (Weiss, 2010). In order to address this, I reassured the IP that the case would be fully investigated. Javaid, (2017) reports the introduction of dedicated officers with specialist training has improved the experience of male victims throughout the criminal justice system. However, despite the improvements, the barriers to males reporting sexual crimes are still prevalent and will remain until these misconceptions are fully addressed.

The IP consented to attend the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and be medically examined by the Force Medical Examiner (FME). Whilst attending the SARC is a routine action for sexual offence cases, I was mindful that the examination can act as a trigger for re-traumatising victims. A study conducted by Maier (2008) showed that 64% of rape victims felt that the police and medical examiners were a source of revictimisation. Whilst the examination is intrusive and can be a stressor for victims, by fully explaining the process to the IP this ensured understanding as to why the procedure was necessary. I accompanied the IP to the SARC and built a rapport with him. I did this by actively listening to his concerns and addressing them empathically, being open and transparent and explaining why procedures needed to be followed and actioned in specific ways. A personable but professional approach allowed me to reassure him and support him through the process. However, due to the nature of live cases with time critical actions, it is not always possible for the same officer to support the victim throughout the whole process. This means that the victim interacts with multiple officers resulting in them having to repeat themselves and feel their voice is lost. As Hohl and Stanko (2022) highlight, the actions of police following a disclosure by a victim is a powerful tool in validating their experience. If a victim is treated insensitively, feels disbelieved or not taken seriously this can cause them to become disengaged and effect their willingness to proceed with the investigation (Javaid, 2015). As noted previously this is especially pertinent in cases involving male victims such as this.

Ensuring the IP was supported throughout the investigation was another key consideration. Rogers (1998) highlighted that help and support for male victims of rape is twenty years behind that of female victims. Therefore, whilst at the SARC

with the IP I explained the tailored support services on offer to him, in the hope that this would comfort him and keep him engaged in the investigation. The SARC operates a multi-agency partnership service between the police, health services, statutory and voluntary agencies. Studies have shown that operating in this way has increased victims access to support services (Lovett et al., 2004; Robinson et al., 2008). Importantly, these support services are still available to the IP if he decided to withdraw his support of the investigation. Whilst reviews of the SARC model by Robinson and Hudson (2011) show increases in the amount of support provided to victims, with 94% of the respondents being female, it has highlighted that certain demographics are still neglected by current arrangements.

In relation to the suspect in the case, to ensure forensic opportunities were maximised, authorisation was sought to obtain intimate samples from the suspect (S62(1), PACE, 1984). He was held in a dry cell until these were taken by a custody nurse. Police system checks revealed that he was known to the police in connection with similar offences and there was intelligence to suggest that he was involved in the chem sex scene. Hohl and Stanko (2022) state the investigation must begin by examining the suspects offending behaviour early in the investigation. Focusing the investigation this way allowed me to identify key actions and behaviours that would be explained by Tidmarsh (2021) as grooming. He reports grooming is present in every offence no matter how quickly it occurs. The suspect manipulates a relationship of power over the victim to then exploit them sexually. By considering how the suspect removed the IP from the party, taking him to his home address, offering him illegal substances and giving him "orange juice" highlights what the suspect did to facilitate the offence. Studies evidence a primary focus of investigations is testing the credibility of the victim (Campbell et al., 2015) which in turn has created conditions of virtual impunity for predatory men (Kelly, 2010, p.1345). Therefore, an increased awareness of suspects behaviour will help shape a new way of conducting investigations and improve justice outcomes for victims.

However, whilst the prior knowledge of the suspect and an understanding of his offending behaviour was useful to assess the threat, risk and harm surrounding the IP and the public, I ensured that I remained professional in my role as an impartial investigator and did not form any assumptions about the suspect. In interview I

ensured that I treated him fairly allowing him the opportunity to provide his account and assured him that any defence he provided would be fully explored. When questioning the suspect, I had to manage my own emotions to ensure that my questioning style was not overly oppressive. Whilst I did challenge the account provided, I acknowledged that the suspect may shut down if I failed to remain respectful. I found this challenging at times since I had built a rapport with the IP and had witnessed the impact that incident had on him.

South Wales Police has been a pilot force in the application of Operation Soteria which is an academic and police collaborative programme to transform the police response to rape and sexual offences resulting in improved charge and conviction rates and victims experience of the criminal justice process. (UK Government, 2021). This development and focus on RASSO offences has been extremely beneficial to me starting my career as a police officer in the Rape Investigation Team. I have been provided with specialist training that will help me improve the way the rape investigations are conducted. I have gained knowledge of offending behaviour and an understanding of how this can impact victims differently allowing me to ensure they are supported appropriately. I strive to present a positive image of police to both victims and suspects by ensuring they are treated fairly and with respect. I recognise that this is especially important in cases such as this one, which works towards addressing the barriers to reporting experienced by the homosexual community.

In conclusion, the investigative processes and fast track actions applied in the early stages of the investigation enabled forensic opportunities to be maximised. This will greatly assist the investigation as it progresses. My approach with both the suspect and IP allowed me to conduct a thorough investigation and identify lines of enquiry whilst also addressing their individual needs for support. The management of my own emotions ensured I remained impartial, and evidence led when investigating the case. With the introduction of Operation Soteria, the current downfalls in the police response to rape offences are being addressed to improve justice outcomes for victims.

WORD COUNT: 2200

Authentication signature:

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

Signed: Sophia Jackson-Johns

Date: 28/04/2024

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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