

## **BSc (Hons) Professional Police Practice**

### **LEVEL 4 - 40 Credits**

#### **Workbook title: Competency Based Workbook 2 (PCDA)**

**(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 2 (PCDA)***

## Workbook Guidance

Please read these notes carefully; they provide essential information.

### 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 BSc programme. Essentially, you are being asked to outline your experiential learning based upon your theoretical understanding in a range of operational situations.

This workbook covers the two components from your module descriptor 4001D, Policing in the Workplace 1.

There are two identified learning outcomes:

1. First learning outcome relates to component 1; is 3600 words, contributing 60% to the overall mark – ‘developing your policing practice and reflecting on your learning experience’.

**It is a portfolio focusing on the first 5 elements listed below, covered by Task 1, Task 2 and Task 3.**

**The nature of your police work will no doubt have exposed you to elements 6 to 10 so don't be afraid to touch on these in component 1.**

2. Second learning outcome relates to component 2; is 2400 words, contributing 40% of the overall mark – ‘demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a particular subject related to your professional practice and assess the actual and/or potential impact of applying what you have learned’.

**This assignment covers Task 4; whilst this focusses predominantly on elements 6 to 10, again the nature of your police work will undoubtedly see some overlap and there may well be some duplication of the first 5 elements.**

**Areas of Professional Practice covered by both components (also known as elements) :**

1. Wellbeing and Resilience
2. Vulnerability and risk
3. Understanding the police constable role
4. Communication skills
5. Conducting investigations (Interviewing suspects)
6. Decision making and discretion
7. Public protection
8. Problem solving
9. Evidence-based policing
10. Policing communities

You may wish to use the same incidents as you've 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](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](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 will be provided by university staff as part of your initial training day. Your tutor constable and in-force training staff will not be involved in assessing or marking your workbook after it has been submitted.

Dates of workbook submission will be made available during the initial training day and posted on Moodle.

Once submitted your workbook will be assessed and marked independently.

## Confidentiality

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

- adhere to guidance in the Student Handbook about unfair practice and plagiarism;
- 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.

## NOTE

Your workbook will be submitted electronically via Turnitin on Moodle. Guidance on this is in the Student 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 very 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 Student 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.***

**Guidance:**

- Your workbook must contain the items specified in the table below (clearly identified and in the order given);
- You should use this particular document to insert your text / answer within each section of this workbook;

**Contents**

| Workbook               | Area of Professional Practice                                                                                                                      | Word count  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Component 1 60%</b> |                                                                                                                                                    |             |
| <b>Task 1</b>          | <b>Wellbeing and Resilience</b>                                                                                                                    | <b>750</b>  |
| <b>Task 2</b>          | <b>Vulnerability and risk, understanding the police constable role, communication skills, decision making and discretion, public protection.</b>   | <b>1250</b> |
| <b>Task 3</b>          | <b>Conducting investigations (Interviewing suspects), communication skills, decision making and discretion.</b>                                    | <b>1250</b> |
| <b>Component 2 40%</b> |                                                                                                                                                    |             |
| <b>Task 4</b>          | <b>Problem solving, evidence-based policing, understanding the police constable role, policing communities and decision making and discretion.</b> | <b>1750</b> |
| <b>Task 5</b>          | <b>Confirmation of the completion of your Occupational Competency Portfolio (OCP)</b>                                                              | <b>1000</b> |
|                        | <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                       | <b>6000</b> |
|                        | <b>Bibliography</b>                                                                                                                                |             |
|                        | <b>Confirmation of Confidentiality and Plagiarism</b>                                                                                              |             |

## Task 1 (Component 1)

### Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum: Wellbeing and Resilience

*Guidance:*

Focussing on your tutorship, reflect on the coping strategies you have applied to develop resilience and minimise stress when adapting to your role as a constable within the workplace (e.g. nature of the work, organisational culture, shift pattern, pressures of work and joining a new team).

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

### ANSWER:

Reflecting on my tutorship I found a new way of developing resilience and minimising stress and in this answer I will explain how I've done this through exercise.

I will be using Kolb's reflective model to structure my answer and reflect on how exercise has helped minimise stress and develop resilience; whilst I progress through to the next stage of my development as a police constable.

Kolb, D.A. (1984)

It has been a stressful transition going into the tutorship phase due to having to apply everything that you have learnt academically to your day to day role. "Stress is the body's reaction to feeling threatened or under pressure" (NHS 2021) and as a role of constable comes with many responsibilities and pressures at times it has felt overwhelming.

There have been days that I have returned home and felt exhausted due to the new shift pattern and also sat worrying about the responsibilities and pressures that come with the role.

At times, I have found myself returning home from work feeling tense, stressed and unable to switch off mentally from the worries of the job. I felt as though I was unable to distract myself from the worries and began working myself up with self-doubt.

A colleague recommended a local gym to join as they found exercise also helped them manage their thoughts and better their wellbeing; therefore, I thought I would give this a try and see if would help minimise the stress that I was feeling and help build reliance.

"Resilience is what gives people the psychological strength to cope with stress and hardship" David Susman, PhD (2021). Due to the nature of the police constable role

it is important to build resilience due to the sensitive and complex incidents we investigate.

I discovered that running on the treadmill enabled me to set goals around speed, pace and distance and provided me with new challenges where I could focus my negative thoughts and energy. In addition to running, I found that lifting weights also helped me gain strength and again push myself to new accomplishments which then gave me a sense of achievement.

On reflection, I found that I managed stress better after regular exercise and had a clearer positive approach to work and stressful situations. I felt as though I could switch off at home easier than before and it improved my sleep as well as feeling overall happier in myself.

It is said that:

"On days when people exercise, stressful things take less of a toll on their well-being. You're more resilient because of how movement makes you feel about yourself and your capacity to handle challenges. Not only that, regular exercise changes your brain over time and maintains brain health. Studies show that after six weeks of activity, we see functional and structural changes in the brain's reward system that are similar to what you see from the most advanced treatments for depression."

Shape Magazine, (2020)

I found that achieving new goals within exercise and pushing my self mentally and physically "resulted in me feeling more motivated and able to experience joy and happiness in everyday life." Shape Magazine, (2020). It was proven that "after weeks of regular activity, you've built a more resilient brain that will help you keep calm in a crisis" Shape Magazine, (2020).

The role of a police constable comes with many challenges and there is a lot of processes and legislation to retain. Running helps distract me from the pressures of work and allows me time to focus on my self and clear my mind.

The organisational culture of Gwent Police holds high values, mindsets and behaviours and holds the code of ethics at its core. One being fitness for work for both officer safety and professionalism; therefore exercise enables me to maintain this policing value as well as a coping strategy.

Several members of my team share the same love for exercise and we have even taken time outside of the office and our responsibilities as police constables to arrange road runs which has helped us bond and develop friendships which will enable us to work together as a team and support each other in the work place.

To conclude, I have found that exercise has made a huge difference in the way I manage my stress and has helped me develop resilience as a police constable. Going forward, I will maintain this as part of my weekly routine to ensure a healthy body and mind.

By exercising regularly, I will be able to address stressful incidents and situations with a clear mind and have a positive attitude when working through difficult and challenging times.

Word Count:775/750

## Task 2 (Component 1)

### Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

**Vulnerability and risk, understanding the police constable role, communication skills, decision making and discretion, public protection.**

You must choose **a policing incident** in which you played a role with an offender/service user/victim 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.

**Review** the fundamental elements of effective communication used (verbal, non-verbal, active listening skills, open and closed questions, building rapport and negotiation skills).

**Explain** your considerations in relation to vulnerability and your responsibilities for safeguarding individuals involved. Outline the police role in managing these factors to reduce risk. (Consider the personal vulnerabilities of the individuals involved, including situational/environmental factors that can result in risk or harm).

Your **reflection** must illustrate your understanding and application of core principles of ethics, equality, diversity and human rights, as well as any relevant Code of Practice considerations, culturally sensitive practice and language preference.

1250 words (+/- 10%: include your actual word count at the end of each section)

### ANSWER:

In this essay I will be focusing on a role I played with an offender who was a vulnerable male experiencing a mental health episode; who was a risk to not only himself but also other members of the public.

I will be using the "Gibbs' Reflective Cycle" to structure my answer in order to reflect on my experience during this incident. The Gibbs' Reflective Cycle "offers a framework for examining experiences, and given its cyclic nature lends itself particularly well to repeated experiences, allowing you to learn and plan from things that either went well or didn't go well".

### Description

To begin, officers were called to a report of a male exposing himself to young female by passers from his front living room window. Upon arrival the male was clearly

visible from public view wearing nothing but a t shirt. The male was acting erratic, unpredictable and he was unsteady on his feet.

Firstly, I attempted to communicate with the male through the front living room window through tactical verbal communication which “is a type of oral communication wherein the message is transmitted through the spoken words.”

Business Jargons (2021)

This did not appear to work and the male refused to respond; however he was attempting to mouth words and gesture with his hands. This then prompted me to try an alternative method of communication of nonverbal communications “which was any communication made between two or more persons through the use of facial expressions, hand movements, body language, postures, and gestures is called as non-verbal communication.”

Business Jargons (2021)

I attempted to call him by his name and build rapport with the using hand gestures for him to open the door, asking him if he was ok and attempted negotiations with him. The male appeared to move his mouth in order for us to lip read; however this was difficult due to his slurring and sudden movements.

There were no relevant cultural, ethnicity and language issues; however, It was clear at this point that alcohol and drugs may be a factor in his behaviour and also a mental health concern.

The male stumbled to the window whilst continuing to expose himself and make gestures to officers to his genitals. He then grabbed a screw driver and began waving it around raising immediate concern for his safety and wellbeing.

Shortly after this he began vomiting down himself which also raised concerns that he may have taken a potential overdose or that something wasn't quite right.

Under “*Section 17 of PACE 1984*” discretion was used to force entry into the property as there officers had concerns for his safety and that he may harm himself. I had to bare in mind that this also infringed on the males *Human Rights* Article 8 “a right to a private life” however, under “*Section 17 of PACE*” it gives us a power of entry if we feel there is an imminent risk to the person life.

Once entry was gained it was clear from the property the male was vulnerable as the living conditions were very poor. The home was cluttered showing hoarder behaviour and he had covered his walls in handwriting of abusive and absence wording. The male appeared to understand more of what was happening once officers gained entry where he admitted to drinking a great deal of alcohol and cannabis misuse; he was then arrested for indecent exposure “*Section 66 of The Sexual Offences Act 2003*” and conveyed to custody.

## **Feelings**

I felt mixed emotions in relation to this incident as I felt the male was suffering from a mental health disorder, he was a vulnerable adult who clearly required a mental health assessment. The male was vulnerable due to his mental capacity, the condition of his home clearly showed that he wasn't able to look after himself due to the conditions visible at the property and also he was in a position where he could have been taken advantage of by other members of the public.

Not only did the male have his own risks; he was also a risk to the public. It is our responsibility as police constables to not only ensure the welfare of the subjects we are dealing with but also elevate risk for members of the public by ensuring safeguarding measures to maintain public safety.

The males behaviour and mental state imposed a risk to other members of the public; therefore, positive action was taken by the arrest to ensure we provided the right support whilst also protecting other members of the public. His behaviour raised concerns that of a sexual nature and potentially exposing him self could lead to more violent and serious offences in the future; which imposes a risk on members of the public.

## **Evaluation**

Upon review it was important to attempt all forms of communication with the male to keep him as calm as possible in order for us to arrest and convey him to custody.

Although the male couldn't hold a conversation I believe I dealt with this well and tried every attempt to ensure the male understood what we were doing and why.

Even though the male was made inappropriate comments to me personally I felt dealt with this well as I remained professional and insensitive to the comments; whilst understanding the male was suffering from some type of mental health disorder and this may be a factor behind his behaviour.

In my mind I felt that I should have communicated with the force amp whilst on scene for further advice on the mental health element of this incident. The force Appointed Medical Professional; however, I was reminded that as police constables we have to address the criminal offence first and then the subject will receive a mental health assessment in custody by the custody nurse.

This is something I haven taken onboard in future incidents as I feel that professional advice and opinions steer my decision making and ensuring I am considering all elements for the wellbeing of the vulnerable person.

## **Analysis**

Initially upon arrival at the call it was clear that the male was vulnerable and the underlying cause of the males behaviour was his mental health. Once we understood that this was the main factor in this incident it enabled us to work with the male and do everything we could to safe guard him and other members of the public.

## **Conclusion**

To conclude this incident gave me the opportunity to try different forms of communication and attempt to build a rapport with a vulnerable subject who potentially lacked mental capacity. Along with this it enabled me to consider different powers and policies available to me whilst dealing with such a complex incident.

Reflecting on this incident I now fully understand that police constables deal with the criminal element of the incident first and then address the mental health aspect after. This is where I was given the opportunity to complete a vulnerable adult form requesting support from other agencies to safeguard the male.

To summarise I feel that as a police constable it is our duty and responsibility to care for vulnerable members of the public and understand the reasons to why they are committing offences so that we can provide them with the correct care and assistance as I feel it's important to consider any underlying medical or mental health problems that maybe causing them to behave in such a way.

Upon reflection of this incident I feel I maintained a professional calm attitude and didn't allow the inappropriate things the male was saying to offend or affect me as I could appreciate he was suffering from a mental health disorder and my main goal was to get him the help and support he needed and by doing this I was also protecting the public by lowering the risk.

#### **Action Plan**

I feel this incident has provided me with a great experience where I have learnt how important it is to seek advice for the force AMP and complete relevant forms to request support from partner agencies.

This incident has taught me about the mental health process at custody which from the male being charged of the offence he was then sectioned to a mental health facility where he was able to get the correct treatment. This felt rewarding as the actions we have taken as officers have led to the vulnerable adult getting the professional help and support that he needs.

This was such a complex and detailed incident that it has given me experience and confidence in our policies and procedures and that as police constables we can make a great difference in people's lives for the better.

Word Count: 1449/1250



### Task 3 (Component 1)

#### Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

**Conducting investigations (Interviewing suspects), communication skills, decision making and discretion,**

You must choose **a suspect interview** that you have **been involved** and reflect on what happened.

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

Outline your considerations when planning and preparing an interview (e.g. gathering evidence, suspect vulnerability and legislation). Explain and reflect on your responsibilities when conducting the interview in accordance with the PEACE interview process. Evaluate your performance in the interview and its effectiveness in the investigative process.

**Illustrate** how policing values were engaged, as well as any other considerations including culturally sensitive practice and language preference.

1250 words (+/- 10%: *include your actual word count at the end of each section*)

#### ANSWER:

In this essay I am going to discuss a suspect interview where I will be using the Kolb reflective cycle (1984) to reflect on this experience.

Kolb, D.A. (1984)

To begin, I was passed a handover from the night shift who had been called to a domestic; where they have then arrested an intoxicated 23-year-old subject on suspicion of assaulting his 17-year-old brother in their family home.

The suspect was conveyed to custody where he was detained, and his details were processed. The suspect was placed into a cell to sober up until the following morning; where the morning shift would prepare and interview for the accused offence.

Having completed my investigation of what had happened the previous night using NICHE, officer and arresting officer statements and the OEL (Occurrence Enquiry Logs) it became apparent that the suspect was arrested for assaulting his younger brother by kicking him to the groin area and punching him to the side of the head. Officers noted that there were no injuries sustained; therefore this would be a form of common assault under *Section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act (1988)*.

There were no complaints forthcoming as neither the younger brother or family members present at the incident wanted to make a statement.

I also noted that the suspect suffered from “Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder” and was currently taking medication for this.

Healthline Media (2021) have described Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) as a “mental health disorder that can cause above-normal levels of hyperactive and impulsive behaviors. People with ADHD may also have trouble focusing their attention on a single task or sitting still for long periods of time.”

I must note that there were no cultural, ethnicity or language issues involved in this incident; however, it was important to note any social or medical factors such as ADHD as this may have come up as a defence in the interview, or made him vulnerable during the interview process.

The officers stated that the suspect was heavily intoxicated upon their arrival; which was an important factor to consider as this may be another defence used during the interview.

However, we are aware that “Intoxication is not a defence to a crime as such” and where the subject is voluntary intoxicated

“to the extent that they are not capable of forming the mental element of the crime the law is less forgiving. The law draws a distinction between crimes of basic intent and crimes of specific intent. This distinction was drawn in **DPP v Beard** and affirmed in **DPP v Majewski**.”

Law Commission Report (2009)

The case law surrounding **DPP v Majewski (1977)** made it clear that “the crime was one of basic intent and therefore his intoxication could not be relied on as a defence” Law Commission Report (2009). I feel this case strongly relates to the one that I am investigating as both involve a form of assault under the influence of alcohol.

In order to complete the interview process, I used the PEACE model to ensure everything was structured and fair. The PEACE model of

“investigative interviewing was developed in the early 90s as a collaborative effort between law enforcement and psychologists in England and Wales. This model takes a conversational, non-confrontational approach to getting information from an investigation interview subject. It was designed to reduce the number of false confessions that were being recorded due to overly aggressive interviewing tactics.”

ISight (2021)

The first step of this model is to ensure a thorough and structured “planning and preparation” process. I completed all the relevant investigation checks using our systems which then enabled me to develop an aid memoir that would guide me

through the interview. I also prepared detailed questions around the offence; taking into consideration the points to prove and defenses that may arise.

The points to prove for this offence would be “an assault is any act (and not mere omission to act) by which a person intentionally or recklessly causes another to suffer or apprehend immediate unlawful violence.”

Legal Guidance(2020)

As all suspects detained at a police station have the right to legal advice under *Code C of The Police and Criminal Evidence Act (1984)*, Annex 6 ensured that the suspect was fully aware of this. Annex 6.1 of Code C states:

“all detainees must be informed that they may at any time consult and communicate privately with a solicitor, whether in person, in writing or by telephone, and that free independent legal advice is available.”

In this incident the suspect refused and wanted to continue with the interview process without legal representation. An interpreter was not required as the suspects choice of language was English.

Once the planning and preparation had been fully completed, we then escorted the suspect into the interview room where the interview was commenced.

I engaged with the suspect building a rapport in a polite manner; attempting to make him feel comfortable and at ease making him feel that he was in a safe place to disclose information around the offence. I also ensured that he had a full understanding of the interview process by explaining the structure of the interview and the legality behind it.

The suspect gave a full account of the incident explaining that he was heavily intoxicated. He was having a heated discussion with his sister where his younger brother attempted to defuse the situation by removing him from the room. The suspect then gave a full admission of guilt of punching and kicking his brother and was very ashamed and apologetic in doing so. There were no culturally sensitive issues that arose during the interview. The suspect explained that he came from a middle-class working family that were all very close, and that this was the first altercation that they have experienced. He stated that the alcohol consumption was a factor in his behaviour and potentially the change in his ADHD medication.

Through detailed questioning, I believe I required all the information required to conclude the interview; ensuring I gave a full summary at the end which drew the interview to a close.

The interview resulted in the custody Sergeant consulting the custody Inspector as the victim in this incident was under the age of 18 and considered a child. It was discussed whether a CPS file would be required however; upon showing him the Police National Computer Court print and Prosecutors print the suspect showing the suspect had no previous convictions; it was decided that a “Caution” would be given on this occasion. A caution is “primarily intended for low-level, mainly first time offending”.

## Cautioning and Diversion (23/09/19)

As this was my first suspect interview I wanted to reflect and evaluate on my performance; I did this by watching back the recording of my interview and making detailed notes around what I would change and improve for future interviews. This enabled me to progress and develop my skills and understand when it is appropriate to use open and closed questions to get the most out of the interview.

The effort that I put into the investigation prior to the interview strengthened my confidence as I felt I had a good knowledge of the incident and those involved.

Reflecting on the questions I prepared; I felt they gave the suspect the opportunity to open up and speak freely about the incident using open questions which resulted in the suspect feeling comfortable enough to give a full account and admission of guilt.

I believe the policing values that I engaged during this interview were impartiality and remaining open minded about what the suspect was going to disclose regardless of the offence he had been accused of committing.

Overall this interview gave me a great understanding of the interview process from start to finish. I thoroughly enjoyed using my leadership skills during the interview and the investigative process and I felt confident considering it's such a formally led process. I look forward to the next suspect interview and I hope that I can continue to improve from each experience.

Total word count: **1341/1250**

#### Task 4 (Component 2)

**Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:**

**Problem solving, evidence-based policing, understanding the police constable role, policing communities and decision making and discretion.**

You must choose **an incident** that you have been involved in with an offender/service user/victim and reflect on what happened.

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

**Consider** how the anti-social behaviour impacted the local community and what constitutes effective and appropriate police action.

**Outline** your responsibilities when responding to anti-social behaviour (including enforcement, prevention activity and partnership activity).

**Illustrate** how policing values were engaged particularly through an **analysis** of the potential impact of bias on the decision-making process.

Considering your experience to date, reflect on any aspect of problem solving, evidence based policing, decision making and discretion which may impact upon wider police community relations.

**For example:**

*How has your experience of policing the night time economy influenced your perception of the wider community?*

*Other examples relating to your experiences would be equally valid.*

1750 words (+/- 10%: include your actual word count at the end of each section)

#### **ANSWER:**

In this essay I will be discussing an incident where I have been involved with a victim and how antisocial behaviour has impacted the local community and how it constituted effective and appropriate police action.

In order to structure my answer, I will be using the “Gibbs' Reflective Cycle” to reflect on my experience during this incident.

## Description

This is an ongoing incident that involves an elderly female who is repeatedly reporting ASB problems with a local male in the same neighbourhood some of which have been recorded as Hate Crimes.

2021 True Vision state that “hate crimes are any crimes that are targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice towards that person” and in this incident the female felt that the male was targeting her because of her race or ethnicity.

Firstly, due to the seriousness of the alleged hate crime and Anti-social behaviours I worked alongside the Local Neighbourhood Policing Team who were already aware of the female and also the crime and disorder reduction officer who sent out a briefing explaining that the female has made several calls to police; however she has no evidence to support what she believed was happening.

Secondly, having attended the female address, I listened to her concerns and provided her with the necessary safeguarding advice. When I asked her about the hate crime the female couldn't give any explanation to why she felt the male was targeting her due to her race and it was clear that this was more of an assumption she had made than physical evidence. I have worked alongside Neighbourhood Surveillance Housing who have since fitted CCTV cameras at the elderly females address for a four-month period and upon reflection of the recordings there hasn't been any evidence to support her allegations.

When I spoke the female, she couldn't provide any dates or times for the alleged incidents; however, repeatedly accused this male of offences despite admitting never actually seeing him. The elderly female has called the Force Control Room on several occasions asking to arrest the male; however, officers have had no evidence that he is committing any offences or even attending her address in the first place.

Previously Maria has blamed the male for stealing a garden ornament from her garden and when CCTV had been reviewed housing found that the ornament had been blown over by the wind; therefore this is an ongoing cycle where there is no evidence to support what the female believes to be happening.

The mother of the male accused has explained that the male is very rarely at her address and only visits on rare occasions and she is beginning to feel harassed and stressed due to the numerous times police are being called to her address.

As “Antisocial behaviour is a range of behaviours that can cause nuisance and annoyance or harm and distress to a person in their home” Neighbourhood watch 2020. This incident it is having a severe impact not only on the elderly female but on the accused and his family.

It's believed that the females mental health has been a factor in these allegations and behaviours; which has had a knock-on effect on the local community as they are now starting to feel harassed by the numerous calls and police attendance at their address.

Finally, I liaised with multi-agencies who as stated by the Home Office (2014) "aim to improve the safeguarding response for children and vulnerable adults through better information sharing and high quality and timely safeguarding responses." Multi agencies use "three common principles: information sharing, joint decision making and coordinated intervention" in order to provide the correct support to vulnerable adults and therefore I felt this approach would be able to provide the female the support she needed.

I also passed the incident details over to the Neighbourhood policing team who "strive to make life better and safer for everyone in the communities they serve." They are "a trusted presence within the community, working closely with people and using a range of problem-solving skills to address community issues."

Neighbourhood Policing (2021)

They have now taken on the female's case who will do regular checks on the female and ensure that she is receiving the correct help and support that she needs.

### **Feelings**

From previous training I have learnt how important it is to tackle hate crimes and antisocial behaviour as it can have serious long term affects on victims and the local communities.

In particular, the "Fiona Pilkington 2007" case where a mother killed herself and her disabled daughter due to antisocial behaviour where she reported incidents to police over 33 times; whereby nothing was done, and this resulted in a tragic ending. This case stays in my mind; which is why I approached this incident with an open mind and took the allegations the female made seriously and exhausted all options available to me to support the female and get to the bottom of the allegations.

However, it also reminded me how important it is for us as Police Constables to remain impartial and rely on the evidence available to ensure that both parties are treated fairly, and the correct resolutions are put in place.

### **Evaluation**

I feel this incident has provided me with a great experience of working with other agencies and understanding the importance of working along side our neighbourhood policing teams to come up with the best policing resolutions and actions in order to tackle anti-social behaviour that is affecting our communities.

## **Analysis**

In order to make sense of this situation I feel I took an evidence policing approach which as the College of Policing (2021) state “it does not provide definitive answers that officers and staff should apply uncritically. Officers and staff will reflect on their practice, consider how the 'best available' evidence applies to their day to day work, and learn from their successes and failures. The approach should mean officers and staff can ask questions, challenge accepted practices and innovate in the public interest.”

As a police constable I feel that I investigated the female’s allegations to the best of our abilities; however, I also challenged the behaviours due to the lack of evidence provided. I also considered the impact that the allegations were having on the local community and working with other areas within the Police community in order to come up with different resolutions to prevent this escalating or repeating in the future.

## **Conclusion and Action Plan**

Through the CASM process the female accepted a support worker to help her with her mental health issues; I feel that this support was necessary and more effective on this occasion than police action. I believe this was an example of Problem solving as the female accepted the help provided and was happy to receive the support that was offered and was put in place.

Using discretion, and a reasonable approach I ensured that going forward officers would only attend the male’s address if there was supporting evidence of the allegation made in order to prevent the male and mother of the male feeling harassed by police and also accused of potential offences he hasn’t committed.

## **Night-time economy**

Policing a city has provided several opportunities to police the night-time economy which I feel is a unique opportunity within the policing role.

“The term night-time economy is used to describe a wide range of activities from a trip to the theatre or a family meal to a night out at a club. Night-time economies are an important part of our towns and cities and are estimated to bring in over £60 billion to the UK economy every year.”

Local Government Association (2021)

I have taken part in several city safe operations which mainly consist of Friday and Saturday nights; where members of the public travel in from outer areas to enjoy the night-time economy. This has provided me with the opportunity to show a strong police presence, interact and engage with members of the public face to face and

build confidence and trust between myself as a Police Constable and members of the public.

“The vast majority of people enjoy a night out safely and sensibly. However, the night-time economy can be associated with issues, predominantly around alcohol fuelled violence and crime and anti-social behaviour.”

Local Government Association (2021)

These experiences have exposed me to many incidents such as drunk and disorderly behaviour, public order offences, drug misuse, possession with the intent to supply Class A and B drugs, violence where alcohol has played a factor in members of the public assaulting each other and door staff members.

I feel that I have had to address these issues with a pragmatic approach where I have had to deal “with things sensibly and realistically in a way that is based on practical rather than theoretical considerations.”

Definitions from Oxford Languages (2021)

Reflecting on my experiences I feel that it has been important to work alongside the council and licensing authorities, as they “play an important role in regulating the night-time economy” Local Government Association (2021). It important that we can work along side them to maintain a safe environment for members of the public and ensure that there are policies are being adhered to in order to enable this.

Reflecting on my experience policing the night time economy I have built confidence in speaking with members of the public and also holding sensitive conversations with them surrounding sensitive topics around police incidents that have been highly published in the media such as ‘Black Lives Matter’ and cases such as the “**Sarah Everard murder 2021**” and attempting to rebuild their trust in our policing purpose and reassure them that we are there to make them feel safe.

I found this challenging as we have to remain impartial and not express our own opinion whilst still trying to retain the publics confidence.

I strongly believe in the Pelian Principle set by Sir Robert Peel that the “Police, at all times, should maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence”

I feel this is particularly important when policing the night-time economy as we want members of the public to feel safe as we would if we were enjoying the opportunities available to us. I feel this has had an influence on my perception of the wider community as I feel its very important that we also “secure the willing co-operation of the public in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the respect of the public.”

The crime prevention website 2021

To conclude I feel that over all this experience has built my conflict in dealing with conflict and offences where alcohol has played a significant factor and also public order offences where I have made arrests for the purpose of keeping law and order and the public safe. I will continue to develop these skills the more opportunity's I get with the night-economy and get further understanding of the surrounding wider communities.

Total Word Count: 1750/1880

## 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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Signed: Jade Butterworth (Learner)

Date: 01/10/2021

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Signed: Jade Butterworth (Learner)

Date: 01/10/2021

## TASK 5

### Confirmation of the progress on the Occupational Competency Portfolio (OCP).

I confirm that I am progressing with the Occupational Competency Portfolio (OCP) in accordance to the regulations.

Signed: PC2294 Jade Butterworth (Learner)

Date: 15/09/2021

Signed: PC797 Ed Way (Tutor Constable)

Date: 15/09/2021

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## TASK 5

### Confirmation of the progress on the Occupational Competency Portfolio (OCP).

I confirm that I am progressing with the Occupational Competency Portfolio (OCP) in accordance to the regulations.

Signed: J. Butterworth (Learner)

Date: 15/09/21

Signed: E. Way (Tutor Constable) PC 797 WAY

Date: 15-09-21

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