

Graduate Diploma Professional Police Practice

LEVEL 6 - 40 Credits

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

To be completed by DHEP Detective students only

**(SOUTH WALES POLICE, GWENT POLICE AND
UWTSD)**

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FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMME

Module title: Policing in the Workplace 3 (DHEP) - BMPP6009D

Workbook Guidance

Please read these notes carefully. They provide essential information. The documents you will use in developing your workbook are on the following pages.

What is the workbook for?

The purpose of this workbook is to enable learners to demonstrate and provide evidence of how they meet the learning outcomes set by the College of Policing, for the Graduate Diploma in Professional Policing Practice. You are being asked to outline your experiential learning based upon your theoretical understanding in a range of operational situations.

- Wellbeing and Resilience
- Criminal Justice
- Conducting Investigations
- Decision making and discretion
- Maintaining Professional Standards
- Leadership and Team working
- Policing the roads
- Information and Intelligence

You may wish to use the same incidents as you have outlined in the Occupational Competence Portfolio.

How should the workbook be presented?

Blank electronic copies can be found on Moodle of this workbook. You must submit this document electronically therefore it is important that you save your work regularly and upload the final typed version through Turnitin on Moodle.

Word count policy can be found in chapter 7 of the Academic Quality under section 7.7 (this applies to presenting work above and under the specified word count).

(https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/media/uwtsd-website/content-assets/documents/academic-office/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:

Throughout this essay I will be evaluating and exploring a significant role I played with a victim of crime throughout a serious and complex investigation.

The essay will start with a brief description of the investigation and the social and legislative contexts surrounding it.

It will then move to a critical evaluation of the appropriateness of different approaches in supporting vulnerable people or people at risk of harm.

The final part will explore what works in relation to tackling repeat victimisation and repeat offending.

Conflict is at the forefront of policing; this could include verbal conflict just as much as physical conflict. Conflict arises in many aspects from dealing with offenders to more emotional conflict with victims and the community. Many aspects can impact conflict and how the police deal with it, such as legislative, social and any other contexts that may arise.

I will be discussing these in relation to an incident which I have dealt with in my career.

Incident

A call was received from a member of the public stating a male known to them was screaming and running around the street. Multiple calls were further received stating several different crimes had been committed by this same male. A description was passed of him and his actions. These included damaging vehicles, throwing bricks through house windows, assaulting his partner and carrying a large knife threatening many residents along the street.

Due to the residents and victims knowing the male and him being well known to the local police officers it was easy to ascertain where he may have fled to and easily identify him. The male was arrested and taken to custody by response officers.

Following this the male was interviewed and bailed. The male had bail conditions not to be in the street or area where the incident had occurred and a DVPn was put in place. This was in order to protect the victims and to prevent any victim intimidation.

The legislative context for his actions were very clear.

Criminal damage- without lawful excuse destroys or damages any property belonging to another intending to destroy or damage any such property or being reckless as to whether any such property would be destroyed or damaged shall be guilty of an offence, Section 1 Criminal Damage Act 1971.

Assault- this includes intentional unlawful force against another person and this was the offence where the male has punched his pregnant girlfriend to the stomach, leading her having to attend hospital (ABH) Section 20 Offences against the person act 1861.

Articles with blades or points and offensive weapons- any person who has an article with him in a public place shall be guilty of an offence.

Applies to any article which has a blade or is sharply pointed except a folding pocket knife, Criminal Justice Act 1988.

Impact factors must be considered by officers and help them monitor risk factors and the behaviour that was to be expected from the male, such as resisting arrest or attempting to escape. In this instance drugs and alcohol are one such impact factor

that was taken into consideration. During the initial calls members of the public stated that the male seemed completely 'out of it' and it seemed he was 'on something' and that this was not unusual for this male.

There were no cultural, language or ethnic issues when dealing with this particular male or the victims of the crimes he had committed. They were all English-speaking white Welsh men and women.

However, if any issues did arise such as a language barrier the police have the facilities to adapt, such as Language Line who provide a service whereby police can call up and ask for the specific language and this enables them to speak to the victim or suspect in their own language. This enables all involved whether suspect, victim or member of the public to communicate with police and reduces the impact of being misunderstood and reduces the communication barrier.

If any other issues such as cultural or ethnic issues arise, the police can try and facilitate these as much as possible. This could be if when speaking with a female victim, it could be unsuitable for them to speak to a male officer due to their culture. This could mean that where possible officers could offer for victims to speak with an officer that they feel more comfortable with or an officer that has the same or similar culture or ethnicity to them.

Multi-agency

When supporting victims and those at risk of harm during the investigation different approaches can be utilised by the police throughout the process.

One approach that can be used is utilising multi-agency approaches. For this particular incident I submitted a Public Protection Notice (PPN) for the female that was subject to the assault and placed critical markers on addresses of those who made formal complaints against the male, a DVPN was also put in place to protect the pregnant female.

Multi-agency can include social services, Crown prosecution service (CPS), Multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARAC), Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA), Children

and family Court Advisory and Support Services (CAFCASS) and many more (College of Policing 2015).

PPN

A PPN is submitted by police and sent to social services, this can be child social services or adult social services. It is a document for the purpose of information sharing that documents and records safeguarding concerns for both children and adults (HMICFRS 2023).

They then review the PPN and evaluate what actions and support can be put in place to help support that particular person or their family. The support provided can in turn make the process for them less daunting and more manageable, especially in cases such as this one. Victim support will also be in contact with victims to provide them with updates and to see if anything can be done to support them further.

DVPN

A domestic violence protection notice may be issued to a person by a superintendent or above under the Crime and Security Act 2010, Section 24. They can do so if they have reasonable grounds to believe a person has threatened violence or used violence against the connected person (in this case cohabitants). The DVPN is necessary in order to protect said person from the threat of violence or use of violence (College of Poling 2021).

Court process

Attending court can be a very stressful and scary time for many victims and witnesses. When they attend court certain measures can be put in place to help alleviate the fear and in turn prevent the quality of evidence and communication being impacted. These are called special measures and were implemented by the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 (CPS 2023) and these are for victims and witnesses who may be intimidated or vulnerable. Even though a victim or witness may be eligible for certain special measure it does not guarantee that the court will grant them, they must be fully satisfied that the special measures will enhance the quality of the evidence to the fullest.

Special measures that can be put in place include a screen so the victim does not have to see the offender in court, removal of wigs and gowns by the judges, video link so they do not have to be in the courtroom but can still provide their evidence from another room. This can massively help the victims and provide them with the ability to still provide their evidence and many more measures are also available. For this incident, I asked all the victims if they felt they required any special measures and the options available to them. Not all the victims felt they needed these, however, there were a few that felt these would be required as they knew the male and were afraid of the consequences of going to court. One of the females felt she could not be in the room with the suspect in court but still wanted to give evidence. Whereas the other victims who required special measures stated having a screen would massively benefit them.

Bail Conditions

Using bail conditions can allow the police to put measures in place to protect victims whilst they are still evidence gathering. This could be when there is not quite enough evidence to charge the suspect but there is not enough time to obtain this evidence whilst the suspect is detained (CPS 2023).

The victim's views are also taken into consideration when deciding what conditions should be placed on the suspect.

In this incident the suspect had bail conditions to not enter the town the crime was committed, let alone the street. The suspect was also not allowed to contact any of the victims whether in person, online or via a third party. This was to ensure the safety of all the victims and witnesses and to prevent them coming to any further harm. They all also agreed that they felt these bail conditions were the best options for all involved.

Downsides

Bail conditions can provide safety and a certain element of peace of mind to the victims, however, there are difficulties surrounding monitoring whether the suspect is keeping to these conditions. We do not track every movement the suspect makes so we rely on the public and victims to inform us if the suspects are not adhering to their conditions. This can be difficult if the victims are intimidated or frightened.

Victims Codes of Practice

All pertinent service providers are required to follow the 'Code of Practice for Victims of Crime in England and Wales,' which outlines their obligations while assisting victims of crime (Ministry of Justice, 2024). It includes 12 rights which victims are entitled to, for example referral to victim services and to be provided with information about the investigation and prosecution. The right to enhanced victims' services due to vulnerabilities etc such as IDVA for domestic violence. The right to receive support through the courts and this would include the special measures as mentioned previously.

Repeat Victimisation

Repeat victimisation is where a victim has been subject to a crime more than once within a 12-month period (Office for National Statistics 2019).

In relation to this investigation there are two types of repeat victimisation. The first repeat victimisation surrounding domestic abuse, the second surrounding the other victims. College of Policing (2021) states that once a person has become a victim once, this increases their chances of becoming a victim again.

In 2020/2021, 34% of domestic abuse victims were repeat victims, therefore, it is important to do what we can to prevent the risks posed to these people (Office for National Statistics 2021).

During the investigation the female victim completed a form called a DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Hour based violence) and this is a risk assessment model which is completed by the victims and then graded by police to assign a risk level to that individual (Robinson et al 2016) based off her answers this case was graded high risk. Target hardening could significantly impact chances of being targeted.

Repeat Offending

As stated by the College of Policing (2021), most people who commit crimes do it once or twice. However, there are a small percentage who commit the majority of crime. This could be due to not having good relationships with friends and family, being surrounded by others that offend and are bad influences.

As mentioned previously, bail conditions can be put in place for offenders such as in my investigation. These can help prevent repeat offending as they are no longer allowed in the area they committed the crimes. This could help take opportunities away and away from bad influences.

Evidence led Investigation

As stated by College of Policing (2013), in many investigations victims do not feel they are strong enough to pursue the allegation. This could mean they do not want to provide a statement or support the investigation in any way. There are many reasons victims may feel this way and it might not be just one factor. This is why in some cases, evidence led investigations can be considered. The victims should still be treated the same and provided the same support another victim would receive.

Actions that can assist progress an evidence-led investigation include; Initial accounts, forensics, witness statements, attending officers Body Worn Video, digital examinations, just to name a few.

The victim should still be kept updated as the investigation progresses even if they have not provided any evidence themselves.

Drawbacks include going against the victims wishes. This could impact whether the victim feels they can report crimes in the future if they are not being listened to and could impact their trust in the police.

It is also important to examine whether pursuing evidence led investigations will be putting the victim in more danger and fear.

Word count 2141

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:

Introduction

Throughout this essay I will be looking at an ongoing investigation that I currently have and I will be discussing the fast-track actions I have utilised. I will also be evaluating the support I have provided to the victim, suspect and their families. I will end on the management of my personal values and attitudes towards the investigation.

Incident

Police received a call from a female stating her daughter had been sent a message on Facebook messenger from an older male who is the step dad of one of the daughter's friends. The daughter was 11 years old and the male in his 30's, the message was disturbing to both the daughter and the mother. Using the SARA model (College of Policing 2022) I was able to identify the crime that was causing harm, analyse the data received and look into the intelligence we had on the

suspect, respond to the information received and then assess how my actions have worked and the impacts of certain actions.

On review of the message and relevant background and intelligence checks on the suspect, Using the National Decision Model (NDM) I believed it was best to conduct arrest enquiries for the male in question as soon as we could to prevent any further crimes being committed (Edwards 2021)

THRIVE, the initial risk assessment to provide immediate safeguarding, arrest to prevent threat, harm and risk to the victim and to enable the investigation to progress and enable the suspect to engage and assist with the investigation (College of Policing 2013) .

The male was not at his home address and it was clear when attending the address that many of the neighbours knew why myself and a colleague were attending the address. There were obvious signs of anger from neighbours and the information about what he had done was quickly spreading to many of the neighbours within the community. After conducting several enquiries to locate the male, to ensure a quick arrest but also to protect him from the community tension that was building, the male was arrested by a colleague for causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity Section 8 Sexual Offences Act 2003 (CPS 2022) and his mobile device was seized.

Upon interview the male admitted to sending the message however, stated he was drunk and it was intended for his partner who was upstairs, whilst he was in the living room downstairs.

Due to not meeting the threshold test to remand and the male giving an explanation as to why the message was sent he was bailed with conditions not to contact the victims or enter the street she lived on or have any contact with persons under the age of 18.

Throughout the investigation I will be building the case file and this will be sent to CPS for a charging decision. The timeframe this will be sent off will depend on when I receive all the relevant material needed to complete the file. Completing the case file will show that all possible lines of enquiry were exhausted and keeps an accurate record of actions completed (College of Policing 2013).

Fast track actions

Fast track actions that had to be completed included sending off the suspects phone for examinations, this was done by completing a Digital Processing Notice (DPNc) to investigate whether any other contact had been made with the victim and potentially any other children that could be victims. With an offence like this it is important to find out the extent of the messaging and minimise the risks to the victims and the public.

The phone is currently being assessed and this could take up to four months due to the nature of the investigation. Once the results of the phone examination are back it is down to me to review this and assess whether any further crimes have been committed and whether there is any supporting evidence for the incident I am investigating.

Social services were notified about the incident and therefore had to get involved as children were involved. The suspect was living at his partner's address and she had two young children also living at the address. Due to this a meeting was held and given the circumstances of the offence, the children could no longer be at the address or the suspect had to move out as they have not ended their relationship. The suspect does not have any family living in Wales nor any friends. He could not afford to stay in a hotel or any other form of accommodation. Due to this the children living at the address have had to move out and stay at their father's address until it is considered no longer necessary.

When the victim was spoken to about the incident, she stated that before the message was sent to her by the suspect, her friends had told her that they had noticed the suspect looking at her a lot when at his home address and they were freaked out by his behaviour. Due to this the children need to be spoken to when they are available to ascertain as much information as possible to support this investigation. Due to it being the school holidays, many of the witnesses are on holiday or not available, making this aspect of the investigation slightly delayed.

Following the suspect being bailed, officers that were progressing this tried to get the suspect bailed to an alternative address or stated as no fixed abode (NFA) as this

meant he did not have to stay and sleep at his partner's address. This was attempted due to the increasing concerns around the community tensions and the risk that the suspect would now be in, due to the offence that is under investigation. As mentioned previously, the suspect could not provide an alternative location for him to be bailed to and the custody sergeant did not consider it a safe option for him to be NFA'd and risk not being able to locate him again when needed. The male was also without a phone as we had seized it so he would not have been contactable if away from his partner.

Due to the community tensions, the suspect's partner called me and stated that they are struggling to leave the house and are scared they may be attacked. I asked her again if they were able to live elsewhere for both of their safeties, again she said no. I enquired about getting CCTV put in for them and a ring doorbell, I requested this was to be done as a matter of urgency for their safety. The suspect's partner was happy about this as she said that would make her feel safer and would deter anyone causing them grief.

However, before this could be installed, the community took it upon themselves to berate the suspect and his partner. They started banging at his door and threatening him, they felt so unsafe that they had to call the police. When police arrived around 80 people had gathered in the street and were shouting threats towards the suspect. Some of the people gathered started throwing bricks at the police van, so the officers attending had to get the couple out of the address before it escalated further. With nowhere to go the officers took them away from the scene and the suspect finally told officers that he could travel to England to see if he could live with his mother. Officers dropped the couple at the police station and provided them with his mother's address which was then later passed onto myself.

When I got in contact with the victim's partner, she stated that they could not live at his mother's address so they are living in a tent in a forest. I strongly advised that they find suitable accommodation, and if at all possible, speak to the council to obtain emergency accommodation. As the suspect had to sign bail every Monday at a designated police station, this had become impossible for him to do. This was also

causing them great anxiety as he did not want to get in trouble if he did not sign for bail. I informed the couple not to worry and that I would speak to the bail team and get this sorted as I did not want them to risk their safety by coming back to the area. I asked them the area they were now residing in and if they were able to get to a police station, from this I was able to change the station the male could sign his bail and inform the local police in the area of my investigation should they need to risk assess.

Support provided

Throughout any investigation keeping the victim updated is important, it is essential that victims feel they are being heard and taken seriously (College of Policing 2013). They have been through something very traumatic to them and as the police we have a duty, not only to investigate but to provide the necessary support to victims and anyone else involved.

For this investigation the victim was updated to the bail conditions and understood that the investigation was still ongoing. I let the victim know that we would provide updates regularly and that they could contact me with any questions that they had. I asked if the victim required any contact details for any charities or support groups that may be helpful with dealing with the incident and aftermath.

For this investigation I thought the victim would benefit from a Pathways referral and that way, the specific needs the victim may have will be met by speaking with a designated worker via the appropriate referral (National Safeguarding Team, 2016).

The victim was also given safeguarding advice to help protect her from this happening again, due to her age and vulnerabilities this was extremely important.

Throughout investigations Victims Codes of Practice should be considered, there are many that should be considered such as the crime being recorded as soon as possible, referred to appropriate agencies or support, compensation if applicable, victim personal statements and information surrounding the offender after conviction, to name a few (College of Policing 2013). It is important that victims are assured that support does not end when the trial is over, the impacts can affect them long-term so they should not feel they will have to fend for themselves.

Safeguarding was put in place with the help of social services to protect the victim's girlfriend's children as they were living with the suspect and needed to remove the risk and possible harm to them

Support has been provided and continued to be provided to the suspect and his girlfriend as mentioned previously.

Management of Own Personal Values and Attitudes

When it comes to investigations such as this it becomes increasingly difficult to set aside one's personal values to ensure the safety of someone you strongly believe has committed an awful offence. However, it does not matter what we think has happened or believe should happen to a suspect. For the most part the evidence speaks for itself and it is hard to not make assumptions on what you think has happened because that may not be the truth. That is why conducting the investigation and following all possible lines of enquiry is so important, for both the victim and the suspect.

Backlash has already been seen from the community based on this investigation. They see the police protecting what they are calling a 'paedophile', however, we cannot just let him be put at risk when in fact he has not yet been charged. Even if he is, we cannot treat him as if he does not matter and does not deserve protection no matter what personal views and attitudes are towards the situation.

Word count 1971

Authentication signature:

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

Signed: Hannah Nolan

Date: 12.08.2024

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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