

Graduate Diploma Professional Police Practice

LEVEL 6 - 40 Credits

Workbook title: Competency Based Workbook 2 (DHEP)

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

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FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMME

Module title: Policing in the Workplace 3 (DHEP) - BMPP6001D

Workbook Guidance

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

What is the workbook for?

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

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

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

How should the workbook be presented?

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

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

https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/media/uwtsd-website/content-assets/documents/academic-office/agh-chapters/chapters---en/Chapter_07_Assessment-Taught_Programmes_Pages_72-79-UPDATED-05-11-2019.pdf

Reflective practice is a core aspect for your workbooks and although there is a variety of useful resources on Moodle, there is one particular book, that is specifically based on reflective practice in policing, here is a link to one chapter from Selina Copley's Reflective Practice for Policing Students:

https://moodle.uwtsd.ac.uk/pluginfile.php/298870/mod_resource/content/1/Reflective%20Practice%20for%20Policing%20Students%20-%20Selina%20Copley%20Chapter5.pdf

How is the workbook assessed?

Advice and support about the completion of this workbook is available to you. Please contact Kelly Andrews direct using k.andrews@uwtsd.ac.uk with any questions or queries you may have.

Dates of workbook submission can be located within the General information tile within Moodle.

Once submitted your workbook will be assessed and marked independently. You will be provided with individual feedback once the work has been marked.

Confidentiality

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

- adhere to guidance in the Candidate Handbook about confidentiality.
- not identify individuals including witnesses, victims, or offenders by name.
- not write information that enables any individual to be identified indirectly through the description you provide. This includes references to names, colleagues, places (including hospitals, schools, town, villages, streets) specific incidents which were high profile and could be identified due to past publicity, other professionals or any other personal information including medical or other conditions.
- take personal responsibility for adhering to confidentiality rules.
- not include any dates of any incidents or anything that specifically identifies an actual incident.

Please be aware that any content that is deemed to be inappropriate, disrespectful, or abusive will not be tolerated. Following review of any content of this nature the information will be shared with the employer of the student responsible.

Should any health and wellbeing concerns be raised because of disclosures made by the student within this workbook, the employer of the student will be informed.

NOTE

Your workbook will be submitted electronically via Turnitin on Moodle. Guidance on this is in the Candidate Handbook.

Remember that the workbook is YOUR responsibility you must not rely on the assessor or anyone else to pick up any confidentiality breaches as this is your work and you must accept full responsibility for confidentiality. Meeting all the confidentiality requirements is particularly important.

Dyslexia and other special circumstances

If you have any condition that you feel may affect your ability to deal with any part of the programme, please see the Candidate Handbook for further guidance. The University has a Student Services Unit that may be able to help but ***it is the learner's individual responsibility to contact them.***

Competency Based Workbook 2 - Learner Workbook

Guidance:

- Your workbook must contain items 1 - 5 below (in the order given).
- You should use the pro-forma to insert your text within each section.
- Note that this module has 2 components with each weighted at 50% of the overall 100% marks total.
- You should upload your completed document as a saved pdf file of this workbook; if this is not possible then a Word Doc file is acceptable. Do not send a scanned file from a photocopier, an apple.dot file, or a Microsoft publisher file as Turnitin will not be able to assess them, despite you being able to upload them.

Contents

Component 1 50%	Area of Professional Practice	Word count
Task 1	Vulnerability and Risk Evidence-based policing	2000
Task 2	CHOOSE ONLY 1 OF THESE 'ADVANCED LEARNING AREA' OPTIONS. IT SHOULD BE ONE THAT HAS BEEN AGREED WITH THE FORCE TO STUDY IN YEAR 2.	All options are 2000 words
Task 2		2000
Option 1	Response Policing	
Option 2	Policing Communities	
Option 3	Road Policing	
Option 4	Information and Intelligence	
Option 5	Conducting Investigations	
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Task 1

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

You must choose **a policing incident** in which you played a significant role with a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour and reflect on what happened.

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

Critically evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches (by professionals and the police) in supporting or managing vulnerable people or people at risk of harm.

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

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

ANSWER:

In this essay I will be discussing a policing incident I responded to as a Police Constable whereby I played a significant role with a victim of crime. Throughout this essay, I will also be reflecting on the approach I took in order to not only safeguard the victim but how I effectively dealt with the offenders to reduce crime in the neighbourhood and provide reassurance to the public. The incident I will be referring to is that of anti-social behaviour amongst youths and the impact their behaviour can have on people around them. As well as this, I will be referring to the importance of police involvement to deter youths from this behaviour and ways of incorporating multi-agencies to help prevent repeat offending.

Firstly, the incident I will be discussing was a combination of several incidents over a short period of time that resulted in anti-social behaviour and harassment. Anti-social behaviour can be defined as simply as 'behaviour that unreasonably interferes with other people's rights to the use and enjoyment of their home and community' (Chartered Institute of Housing, 1995). If issues of anti-social behaviour are ongoing and persistent this can have negative and prolonging impacts on the victim and subsequently effect their mental health. A tragic example of this is the case of 'Fiona Pilkington who killed herself and her severely disabled daughter Francesca Hardwick in 2007, after 10 years of torment by local youths' (The Guardian, 2011). This case was broadcast nationally to emphasise the failings of the police towards this victim of crime and how recognition of the ongoing issues and correct interventions could have prevented the devastating loss of two lives. With this in mind, police involvement when incidents of anti-social behaviour are

reported is of the upmost importance and relevant multi-agencies approaches are considered to address and prevent the issues.

I responded to a neighbourhood issue whereby a female and her children, who had recently moved to an underprivileged area, were reporting issues with a group of local youths within the neighbourhood. Initially, this female reported a group of youths gathering around near her address, shouting, and swearing at the female and her children which was unprovoked. On this occasion, officers attended and provided reassurance to the victim who did not expect the issues to progress. However, over a short period of time the behaviour from these youths developed, resulting in the female feeling victimised within her own home. There had been several more calls reporting the previous group of youth's behaviour had escalated to throwing items at her home causing damage. On responding to this issue effectively, great consideration of the national decision model was addressed to ensure appropriate safeguarding for the victim was met in addition to a suitable outcome for the youths which will in hope prevent any further neighbourhood issues. Firstly, researchers such as Donoghue (2013: 6) refer to the introduction of 'multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARACs) which are designed to enable the different agencies involved in supporting victims to come together to facilitate better communication and improved co-ordination among the relevant practitioners. These risk-assessments are used particularly for repeat or vulnerable victims, where multi-agencies can take a group approach in dealing effectively with an ongoing issue and has been introduced to cases of ASB more recently.

Meanwhile, referring to this incident I dealt with, incorporating multi-agency work was the most effective approach to take because there was a requirement for more support in place than just police action. The victim in this case had been experiencing ongoing issues with local youths escalating from anti-social behaviour to crimes against her and her children. The initial approach was enforcing safety measures as a short-term priority, such as installing CCTV cameras on the property, as well as making the council aware of all ongoing issues and to also engage in the neighbourhood watch scheme. Laycock and Tilley (1995: 9) reveal that 'the notion that surveillance will reduce crime, which is firmly embedded in the concept of watching, is very persuasive as a technique for crime control'. Increasing civilian surveillance and CCTV in the area was a short-term solution to positively impact the situation, which on the contrary, did not deter the youths and in fact encouraged their behaviour to escalate. Phillips (1999: 124) discussed the idea that "a common goal of most CCTV systems has been the prevention of crime and disorder through deterrence". It could be argued the reason being for this would be that offenders can be identified through this therefore this would deter any crime being committed in an area where CCTV is used. However, in reference to the youths in this incident due to the imposed safety measures having the opposite effect on them, another approach was introduced.

Furthermore, additional short term safety measures that were implemented with immediate affect was informing the neighbours of these ongoing issues. Although, it appeared only the victim was being targeted, this could have escalated to become a wider neighbourhood issue. From informing the neighbours, it encourages them to be more vigilant but also, they can assist in neighbourhood watch to help identify which youths are responsible for the ongoing issues. The approach that was

recommended to neighbours, was to create a messaging group on Whatsapp to communicate and make each other aware if they had seen any incidents take place or who may be involved. Bervoets (2014) claims that “mobile messaging crime prevention groups can be more efficient than patrol-focused neighbourhood teams, because they have a lower participation threshold and require less intensive commitment efforts of citizens”. Subsequently, as little involvement was required from other neighbours, they were proactive with making use of the group messaging which had a positive impact. Notably, with more neighbours acting as a form of surveillance they were able to provide names of those involved which was beneficial as the victim did not initially know any of them personally. Despite this being a success in this situation, it could be argued that it is not a legitimate form of surveillance as it moves away from police involvement becoming more of an informal social control. Silver & Miller (2004: 553) “conceptualise informal social control as the willingness of neighbourhood residents to actively engage in behaviours aimed at preventing criminal and deviant behaviour in the local area, with a particular emphasis on the deviant behaviour of youth.” This is not generally a recommended approach due to the fear that the public may take sanctioning those involved into their own hands and not inform police of incidents. On the contrary, the success of the neighbourhood and police working together assisted with this investigation as well as provided safeguarding advice to those involved.

Meanwhile, with the investigation progressing, the level of anti-social behaviour had developed to an array of offences including harassment and criminal damage. The housing association and council had been made aware of the progression of this and the vulnerable situation that the victim is in. The victim and her children no longer felt safe in their home and with assistance from the housing they had prioritised them to move to a different area. However, as this was not an immediate solution, safety measures were put in place by the police to assist with safeguarding for the victim and her family. The College of Policing (2020: 9) define vulnerability as ‘a person is vulnerable if, as a result of their situation or circumstances, they are unable to take care of or protect themselves or others from harm or exploitation’. Due to the victim and her children falling into the category of being vulnerable, mainly due to the age of the children but also due to the victim suffering with her mental health as a result of the incidents, it was important to ensure appropriate safeguarding measures were enforced. First and foremost, a referral to social services was made in relation to the children for them to be aware of the issues and for them to liaise with housing to influence a move of address sooner. ‘UK police have a statutory responsibility to protect all individuals in need, at risk of abuse, or who have been abused, by making appropriate safeguarding referrals to the local authority’ (Ford et al, 2020: 89). Furthermore, having conferred with the neighbourhood policing team so they were aware of the ongoing issues, therefore they were able to assist with community support officers patrolling the area. By doing this, this influenced a police presence in the community, so the youths were aware of the police involvement and providing a reassurance to the neighbours that criminal activity would not be tolerated.

Having adopted a multi-agency approach involving both housing department, police and social services, adequate safeguarding was put in place as well as a solution to move the family to a different area as they had requested. Having identified the two main juveniles responsible for these incidents, they were interviewed on a

voluntary basis at the police station. Due to focusing on an evidence-based approach due to CCTV capturing the offences and support from the victim, positive action from police was taken to interview the youths and encourage an appropriate method of disposal. During the early stages of the investigation considerations were made for the youth offending team (YOT). "YOTs are the cornerstone of a youth justice system that has delivered outstanding successes in recent years in terms of the reductions in the number of young children and young people at all stages of the system" (Youth Justice Board, 2015: 4). The most suitable option for these youths considering the offences being predominantly low level was to be referred to the youth offending teams. "The youth justice system in England and Wales works to prevent offending and reoffending by children" and has been found in 2020 "the reoffending rate decreased by 3.6 percentage points in the last year" (Youth Justice Statistics 2022). The aim of early intervention from youth justice teams is to make the youths aware of the impact their actions have had on the victim and ways to prevent their entry into the criminal justice system and rates of reoffending.

To conclude, from reflecting on this incident there were several approaches taken from police involvement to ensure both safeguarding of the victim was enforced as well as appropriately dealing with the youths involved. A multi-agency approach was required and without that there would not have been such a positive outcome. It was important to approach this at the soonest opportunity. Consequently, the youths were dealt with by police and referred to the correct agency to ensure they engage with community intervention work. Albeit this may not be the most rewarding outcome for a victim of crime, however in this case the victim did not wish for the youths to be criminalised and worked proactively to provide early intervention to the youths and encouraged restorative justice.

Word count - 1812

Task 2

This is a reminder that this TASK 2 section is an opportunity for you to answer one question which should be relevant to the “advanced learning” area that you have chosen. The advanced learning lecture that you choose to attend will assist you in answering this task.

Choose 1 of these 5 options to answer

(Note for officers who have an interest in becoming a detective and wish to specialise in this role, you MUST choose option 5)

- 1. Response Policing.**
- 2. Policing Communities.**
- 3. Road Policing.**
- 4. Information and Intelligence.**
- 5. Conducting Investigations.**

Task 2 Option 1:

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Response Policing

A core part of the policing mission is to prevent crime and disorder. Domestic abuse causes both serious harm and constitutes a considerable proportion of overall crime

You should choose **a domestic abuse incident** that was of a complex nature, in which you played a significant role in providing a response.

Critically assess the challenges associated with a domestic abuse incident that you have attended, and the strategies developed for effective policing in such challenging situations.

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

ANSWER:

In this essay I will be discussing a domestic abuse incident I attended as a Police Constable, I will be discussing the incident itself and the challenges I faced associated with this. When referring to domestic abuse, Womens Aid (2022) define “domestic abuse as an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence, in the majority of cases by a partner or ex-partner, but also by a family member or carer”. Gwent Police operate a positive action policy for domestic abuse incidents with the intention of supporting victims of domestic abuse and bringing offenders to justice. When attending this incident, the main areas of focus as a police officer is whether there is any threat, risk or harm involved in the incident and this will determine the strategies that are considered and implemented. I intend to discuss the challenges faced and how I was able to overcome them with the use of different strategies.

Firstly, I responded to an emergency graded call whereby a female was reporting being attacked by her current partner. The information passed from the force control room was that she had been put in a headlock and assaulted in the presence of her children, at this stage the level of injuries were unknown. Having heard this information, I started to use the National Decision Model by gathering information and intelligence about the parties involved. By doing this I was able to risk assess what sort of situation I would be attending by being aware of any warning markers and any previous incidents at the address. I requested for another officer to attend the call with me due to there being two parties that will need to be separated to gain an account from them as well as ensuring the children are safe. Without having two officers attend the scene it would be difficult to effectively deal with this incident, although there is often the challenge of being low numbers of staff on shift it

is important for two officers to attend a call of domestic nature. The first challenge faced was the male offender had left the scene in a vehicle whilst under the influence of alcohol and had taken his young child with him. Acting on this information, it was quickly identified that more officers were required to locate this male expeditiously and take the child to a place of safety due to the imminent risk the child was exposed to. Not only is the child placed at risk by being in a car whilst the driver is under the influence of intoxicants but also the immediate and prolonged risk and effects associated with witnessing domestic abuse. Horner (2005: 207) emphasises that “children living with domestic violence are at risk not only physically but also psychologically and emotionally”. Due to the children witnessing what has happened it is unsure the impact this can have on them and the effects it may prevail in the future. Early detection of the child’s emotions will assist in gaining a more accurate account from them and put the correct support in place and make them feel comfortable trusting police.

Having attended the address and gathered as much information on the extent of what happened, the priority was ensuring the female was safe and whether she required any medical treatment. The victim sustained visible injuries from the assault however was refusing any medical attention which proved to be a challenge, without knowing the full extent of her injuries we cannot ensure she is medically fit as well as losing any medical evidence. Alternatively, when police attend incidents involving threat, risk or harm their body worn cameras (BWCs) are activated to record the demeanour of those involved and to collect early evidence which can be presented in court. This encourages a focus around evidence-based policing as a strategy to support victims of domestic abuse. “BWCs may enhance the manner in which police collect evidence for the prosecution and conviction of intimate partner violence cases by video recording the emotionally charged victim statement and physical turmoil surrounding the incident” (Morrow et al 2016: 3). Albeit a challenge is faced when there is lack of evidence however this shows the impact that body-worn cameras can have on incidents as they show the emotions of the incident and the impact it has had on both victim and witnesses present. However, the victim was willing to complete a statement and provide an account which implies that they are supporting police action. Early on when completing the statement, the use of special measures was explained to the victim to ensure she was understanding the process and made aware of the assistance that is available to her throughout the later stages of the investigation and presence while at court. It is clearly identified that “victims of domestic abuse can already be eligible for special measures in criminal proceedings if the court is satisfied the quality of their evidence is likely to be diminished due to their fear or distress about testifying” (GOV, 2022). Vulnerability is applicable to many different people, domestic abuse victims being one of them therefore the use of special measures would be considered and hopefully applied if the case is taken to court. This can be reassuring to victims knowing that there is support available not only from police attendance but also throughout the criminal justice system.

Shortly after police were allocated to this incident, the male offender was arrested for an array of offences including driving and domestic abuse offences against his partner. The main priority was locating the child with him and ensuring safeguarded practices were put in place by being taken to another family members for the night. Edleson (2004) puts forward that “over the past 25 years, children’s exposure to domestic violence has increasingly been considered as a form of child maltreatment”. Particularly in this situation, the child had not only witnessed domestic abuse but also been subject to further risk by being taken in a vehicle whilst the driver was under the influence. An account was taken from the child in the presence of an appropriate adult. Following this, social services were made aware of the incident to allow them to provide the appropriate support for the child. NSPCC (2022) share their statistics that the “police made almost 245,000 referrals to social services for domestic abuse in 2020/21”. This is an extremely high number of referrals made to ensure children are protected by social services. Police have a duty of care to members of the public in need but an utmost importance of ensuring children are safe and cared for

particularly if they have attended calls where a child is in danger. It is the responsibility of the police and social services to ensure this happens. The role of police officers is to ensure the public protection referral made has a detailed account of what has happened and how the child has been affected, whether that be emotionally or physically and capture their wants and needs. This referral is initially made by a police constable and reviewed by a police sergeant to make them aware and sent off to social services. In some cases, social services will hold a meeting with other agencies if there is concern for a child, however this is not a decision solely made by the police.

A further challenge of responding to any domestic incident particularly in this case, is that there had been no previous police involvement in terms of domestic abuse incidents. Therefore, police were unable to know the extent and severity of abuse, whether the victim is a repeat victim and what support is already in place. This could suggest there has not been a previous physical argument between the couple or that it just goes unreported. There are many reasons as to why police may not have been involved before that different scholars have proposed different arguments for and against. Felson et al (2002) implies that "victims may not call the police because of their perception that the abuse may increase in severity in severity and frequency if the abuser is arrested or if the legal intervention leads to separation. This can cause victims to not report incidents to police therefore the abuse goes unnoticed. There can be several factors that cloud their decision to contact police particularly if there are children involved or financial dependency. On the other hand, if victims have not yet reported any incidents to police, it is for the police to ensure they provide support and a good service to victims to ensure they call police if they are ever in a similar situation again. Due to the victim contacting police on this occasion rather than a third party, it is important to ensure regular updates are made with her so she can rely on the police for safety. Felson et al (2005: 578) "hypothesized that offenders might retaliate when victims reported the incident rather than third parties, when victims signed complaints, and when these actions led to arrest". It could be argued that when a victim first contacts police regarding a domestic abuse concern that they could be exposed to more harm from their partner due to retaliation which police need to try to intervene and prevent.

Finally, a further challenge police can face is throughout the course of the investigation, ensuring the victim is appropriately safety planned and that the offender will not reoffend which would place the victim at even more risk. Due to investigations being thorough and time-consuming, it could be several months before a case is taken to court. In that time, the victim can decide not to support police and retract their initial statement which leads to lack of supporting evidence in court. When the offender was released from custody there was a focus on ensuring he was released on bail with appropriate conditions to ensure he would not be able to contact or see the victim. "Bail can serve an important function in preventing the accused from intimidating or harming witnesses and from committing further offences before trial" (Ng and Douglas, 2018 :37). Although police put the appropriate safeguarding in place, there are still instances where the victim and offender do not always abide by the conditions of bail and police may not always be aware of these breaches. Particularly in Gwent Police, a domestic abuse stalking and harassment risk assessment (DASH) referral is put in place after any domestic related incident and there is readily available support provided to the victim.

As discussed, there are several challenges that are faced when dealing with incidents of a domestic abuse nature and due to domestic abuse being an ever-increasing concern in society, it is important to ensure that police are dealing with incidents thoroughly and expeditiously and ensuring safeguarding to the victim is a priority. By putting measures in place and gaining trust from the victim it could encourage victims to report incidents to police and feel safe in doing so. As well as this, ensuring the victim and any witnesses are equipped with appropriate safeguarding measures particularly while an investigation is

ongoing. Above all, strategies are put in place to effectively manage offenders and identify vulnerabilities faced by victims and witnesses particularly when children have been affected.

Word count - 1887

Task 2 Option 2:

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Policing Communities

Criminal justice faces ever more challenges from society. While official figures show a drop in police recorded crime in the UK the distribution of crime shows a more complex pattern with violent crime showing a rise.

In regard to community policing chose an incident that you have attended that presented a complex issue for the community, and that you played a significant role in providing a response.

Critically evaluate a range of interventions that you have employed to promote community engagement that assisted in resolving the issue.

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

Answer:

Task 2 Option 3

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Road Policing

The police are the lead agency for collision investigation and have the primary duty to investigate and establish the circumstances that have led to road deaths and life changing injuries.

Describe a serious collision that you attended and in which you took a significant role (e.g., initial reporting officer, scene manager, lead investigator).

Critically evaluate the evidence base that you dealt with and strategies that could be implemented to reduce the likelihood of it reoccurring.

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

Answer:

Task 2 Option 4

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Information and Intelligence

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

Critically analyse an investigation, that you have led, commenting on the effectiveness of the National Intelligence Model and the importance of the role played by cross border cooperation in relation to your information and intelligence.

Reference how effective information and intelligence was used within your operation, and how you used specialist intelligence tools to support your complex investigation.

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

Answer:

Task 2 Option 5

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Conducting Investigations

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

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

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

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

Answer:

Authentication signature:

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

Signed:

Date:

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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- GOV (2022) '*Special measures in the criminal courts factsheet*' [Accessed: 10/01/2023] Available at: [Special measures in the criminal courts factsheet - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
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