

Graduate Diploma in Professional Police Practice

LEVEL 6 - 40 Credits

To be completed by DHEP Detective students only

**Workbook title: Competency Based Workbook 1
(DHEP) 6,500 words**

(SOUTH WALES POLICE, GWENT POLICE AND UWTSD)

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Task 1

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Understanding the role of a constable.

Guidance:

Focussing on your initial 6 months of learning and since being attested as a Police Constable, **discuss and compare** the coping strategies you have applied to develop resilience and minimise stress.

1000 words (+/- 10%: include your actual word count at the end of each section)

ANSWER:

Within this section I will be discussing the stress that comes with the workplace and ways in which I personally overcome the stress. The points that I will be covering will be exercising, the use of mediation and mindfulness, spending time with friends and colleges and looking after physical signs of stress. All the options that I have listed below were not all options that I have used in the long term for stress relief. There are many definitions of stress as there are many triggers and responses, a good definition that pertains to the topic at hand comes from Dr Gillian Butler PhD. She states that stress is "when the (external) stimulus becomes too great, (internal) collapse becomes inevitable" (Dr Gillian Butler PhD). This represents well the external stresses of a job such as a police constable can become internal bouts of stress. The second section of this essay is looking for resilience to stress there is now an overwhelming definition of resilience. However, a definition from Aburn. G comes in five parts, these include rising above to overcome adversity, good mental health, and the ability to bounce back (Aburn. G). The key elements discussed in his article are co-operated below, looking at elements that benefit mental health and coping strategies to bounce back. Below I will discuss how I use these methods, and why I have selectively not to use other methods.

Coming into this job I was unsure of what the course itself would entail, and what it would want from me personally. I knew coming into this role would be a big change in career and that the first two years of this new career would be some of the toughest and stressful. We were told that during the first six months we were told that we would undertake two exams practical tasks and a week of physical assessments. The practical side of the learning was interesting to me however, exams have never been my strong suit, so I knew that they were going to cause me a lot of stress as I wanted to excel in this area.

In the past I would see stress as a fuel to drive me to study and work for hours and hours on end however, this would lead to trouble sleeping and burn out making it hard to focus when I did sit down to study. I had not researched the benefits of walking/ running as I had heard through word of mouth that it had amazing benefits for reducing stress. This is showcased in findings from Sammi R Chekroud that took 1,439,696 participants and had 1,237,194 number of them exercise every day and report the number of bad days they had, in terms of their mental health. The participants exercised 3 times a week for 12 months, and they were found to have 43.2% fewer bad mental health days than those that do not. Those that went running and walking showed as one of the top means of exercise to reduced stress along with cycling and winter and water sports. Chekroud, S et al stated that their findings prove that exercise can lower "fatigue and amotivated behaviour" (Chekroud, S) which is what I have found since starting using this method to cope with stress. I have

noticed this having a positive effect on not only my work life but also my personal life and being able to disconnect from any stress or burn out.

Other methods I tried during this time were different types of meditation and mindfulness. I started to look up different types of meditation and mindfulness and downloading apps and started to listen to different tapes. Many of these were speaking tapes or breathing exercise but overall, they focused on being still in the moment. There are supposedly many benefits to mindfulness mediation such as significant improvement in “cognitive tasks” (Zeidan, F. et) and it is slowing becoming a “primary treatment” (Edenfield, T.M. and Saeed, S.A.) for anxiety and depression for newer generations. I however, did not find this an effective option for myself as this type of stress reducing activity requires a high amount of “attentional control” (Wielgosz, J., et). I find that doing physical activities and proactive stress relief has always been a more effective way of treating my stress.

A proactive way that I most commonly use to reduce my stress is to be in a social setting and talk to friends and colleagues I have found that this is extremally effective as not only does it allow me to share what is a stressor in my life, but it also allows me to get new perspectives and advice from people who have dealt with similar issues. By using this as a line of support it helps in reducing the feeling of “loneliness and the potential risk of burnout.” (Rodgers. E, et). Burn out is something that I have experienced in the past when I have tried to solve all my issues on my own and I have found this to me a great way to avoid this happening.

My body will often show signs of physical stress for example dry skin, tight muscles and my hair will fall out if I am experiencing a stressful period. This has always been the case through university and other parts of life. This can happen if my body and mind do not have the “chance to recover” (Bhowmik, D., et). Meaning I will need a small period in which I can treat these physical sighs to mentally overcome my burn out as well. These are simple but effective things as seeing the physical signs of my stress gone helps me mentally reduce my stress. Although there has not been a lot of scientific research done on massage therapy it is known to have a psychological effect as it helps with the “perceptions” (Hemmings, B.J.) on recovery. This is what I find, if I physically feel better then mentally, I feel as though my stress is reduced.

To conclude, it is clear to me that the best way for me to reduce my stress is to be actively doing something to reduce it. With the mindfulness and meditation, I cannot allow both my body and mind to switch off at the same time. I need to be doing an activity that I can feel reducing my stress such as physical exercise and talking with friend, family, and colleagues. All of these have helped me when faced with high stress scenarios such as exams or tasks in my work and personal life. I now have fewer periods of burn out and my physical signs of stress are not only less frequent to flare up but also easier to treat.

Words: 1101

Task 2

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum: Communication Skills, Managing Conflict, Valuing Difference, and Inclusion

You must choose a policing incident involving conflict in which you played a significant role with an offender/service user/victim and reflect on what happened.

Critically assess the incident including social and legislative contexts and any relevant cultural, ethnicity and language issues.

Consider the use of effective communication skills that you used within the incident.

Reflecting upon your incident, critically evaluate any theories or models underpinning the causes of conflict within policing interventions. (Examples would include, Betaris Box, The Drama Triangle).

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

ANSWER:

In this section of the workbook, I will be looking into my time on response that looks at an incident in social context in terms of ethnicity and language issues. This incident involved a couple that had come from Iran off the back of a lorry, they needed help as they were seeking asylum however, the female needed medical attention. This section explores the difficulties that we have occurred in terms of not being able to speak to them directly as they did not speak any English and having effective communication with the staff at the hospital. The incident did not involve any physical conflicts but more structural and language conflicts that we have to overcome.

Whilst working on first response, a call came in via 999 to inform officers that a man and a woman had been dropped off at a petrol station. Individuals from the petrol station stated that the couple could not speak any English therefore they called the police. The original officers that attended the call used language line to communicate to the individuals. This is a tool that is available to officers that connects them with an individual that can translate in their selected language. They found out that they had been traveling for around a week in the back of the lorry and only had access to crackers and little water. The officers also found that the woman was 5 months pregnant which presented a new risk, so they were both taken to the University Hospital Wales. Due to the communication barrier and the language that they spoke being quite uncommon it presents a few challenges. The couple were told when they were leaving Iran that they needed to go straight to the police when they entered Wales as they would be able to help them. Due to this the officers took them to the hospital they would be trying to leave without medical care as they believed that this would be the end of their police contact.

One they tried to leave a few times the medical staff on the maternity ward would call the police to let them know that they were attempting to leave. It was at this time that I and two other officers attended the hospital. We spoke to the nurses in the maternity ward, and

they said that the woman that was pregnant was fine they did want to do a few more tests on her.

At this point we were faced with the problem of getting in touch with immigration and inquiring if they would be able to find them a refuge or potentially locking them up for unlawful entry into the UK. We wanted to look at every other option that we could before taking them into custody. Therefore, one of my colleagues point to point our Sargeant and asked him what our best options were, due to it being around 01:03HRS, getting through to immigration could be difficult. Our Sargeant stated that we could try and get hold of immigration, but we had till around 03:00HRS before they would have to come into custody.

At this point we delegated roles, one of the officers that I attended with got on the phone in the office of the ward and attempted to get hold of immigration. At the same time along with the nursing staff we were trying to get hold of a translator though their translation service. This took a considerable amount of time due to several factors, the time of night and the language we were trying to get a translator for. After around 45 minutes to an hour, we managed to get in touch with a translator, so we were able to properly communicate with the couple. As the one officer was still on the phone, I was just building a rapport with the couple and trying to put them at ease as they hadn't been able to speak to officers properly since they got to the UK. I told them they did not need to be with us but that they needed to stay at the hospital to receive the correct care as a priority. After a while of talking with the couple my colleague informed me that immigration would be coming to the hospital to help and take them to a refuge.

During my time on response, I have been using the LEAPS method of communication (Manning, M.) with the members of the public that I have encountered. This is a simple tool that involves taking the time to listen to what has happened during the incident, keeping an open mind. Asking appropriate questions to reveal more information, repeating back their words to show understanding, and this proved to be effective as they we know though the translator and their demeanour that they began to become more comfortable in their situation. I have found this to be extremally effective, with victims providing a statement as it allows them to feel as though I am taking in everything that they are saying. It also allows me to gain a lot of detail and information from the person by asking those specific questions and it also again shows the individual that I am taking in those details.

Due to this incident having a language barrier I knew that I couldn't use this method of communicating to its full effect. I had never used a translator to speak to victims before and there were so many factors in this case that made it crucial that these individuals understood what we were saying and that they understood it. This was understandably a very scary time for this couple, and we wanted them to know that ourselves and the hospital staff were going to help them, and that immigration was going to go to the hospital to contact them in the morning. To do this I used aspects of the LEAPS approach (Manning, M.) where I asked them several questions to gauge if they understood the situation with immigration and summarising the situation to them. The hospital staff and I spoke with them for around 45 minutes and gave them every opportunity to ask any questions as the dialect that they spoke was uncommon and getting a translator was difficult, and we knew that they wouldn't get another opportunity to speak to anyone till immigration arrived.

Not only did we need to make sure that we communicated effectively with the couple to get them in touch with immigration, but we also needed to communicate with the staff in the Doctors as we were in their space. As they needed to tend to patients throughout the ward and we also needed to fulfil our duties. As time was a huge factor in this case, we had to remain assertive as we needed to get this couple in touch with immigration. We worked collaboratively with them by listening to what the nursing staff still needed to do while we

were there but also remain “assertive” (Grover, S.M.) with the fact that we were there to fulfil our lawful duties. I found this to be extremely effective when working with the staff at the hospital as we were able to respect each other’s roles and still both complete everything that we could.

This was also effective alongside the use of Betaris Box model in policing. This is a model that states that your attitude and behaviour will affect a person’s attitude and (Jurczyk, M) behaviour and vice versa. This was an extremely effective method of communicating with not only the staff but the couple as well. It was effective because, although the couple cannot understand us, by having an unconfident attitude with them it allowed them to feel more settled and calmer about the process that they were about to go through. This is supported by a study from Mustafa Bulus et al who’s study looks at the effective communication skills in students. They have taken 445 students and incorporated communication development skills such as self-recognition and reflection, active-participative listening, and ego supportive language. Implementing these has shown a 50.05% difference in the students’ skills while at university (Buluş, M). This alongside the Betaris Box method shows that by changing your attitude whilst and reflecting on your communication skills can only show benefits to the incident that you are dealing with.

Thomas Kilmann also has, a five-step theory for conflict management, these are competing, collaborating, compromising, avoiding, and accommodating (Kilmann. T). Competing involves stating up for what you think the correct course of action is in the situation and being assertive with your role. This incident is well linked to Kilmann’s theory as it demonstrates all components of the theory. As the job role conflicts that we were experiencing it was important to remain assertive in our actions but also accommodating for the need of the two individuals and the staff at the hospital. Reflecting using this model it has helped me see the principles of conflict management and aided on setting guidelines to follow and identifying underlying issues and being decisive.

Thomas Kilmann is mentioned in an article by Kenneth Thomas that also looks at conflict management theories and models that can be used to manage different types of models. In his paper he discusses the 'structural model' (Thomas. KW) this looks at conflicts that happen in parties and organisations. this looks at looking at long term systematic goals for the people involved in the situation. It looks to facilitate collaborations and it does so though look at three variables, providing collaborative incentives, normatively endorsing collaboration, and generating emotional conditions. This model enables collaboration to be successful in a low threat high support environment, this is perfectly linked to the incident that we were assigned in the hospital.

Another article by Zabel, K.L. et al looks at the MODE model, this looks at the effective intervention in discriminatory behaviour in the police. Although there was no discriminatory action preformed in this incident it did involve individuals from different ethnic and racial backgrounds. Therefore, if conflict were to arise, I feel as though it beneficial to explore this. MODE stands for **M**otivation, **O**pportunity, and **D**eterminants. Zabel, K.L, et al states that officers must have the motivation to control prejudice reactions and seek any opportunity to seize any time that they have and use cognitive resources to distinguish prejudice when dealing with individuals. They suggest that the use of the MODE model should increase officers’ motivation to control prejudice and could see a reduction in ‘automatic racial attitudes’ (Zabel, K.L. et al). Although South Wales Police is anti prejudice against the public models like this can help to identify any conflicts that officers would help and help to improve interaction they have with members of the public.

I feel as though that it would be beneficial to talk about what I would have done if there were no conflicts during this incident. The procedure would have been easier to follow, although we have things set in place like policies on immigration and language line to make

commination easier it still creates a barrier between us and them. The explanation of the policies and procedures around immigration are complex and being able to sit down and have a lengthy conversation and explain the plan fully. I would have also reassured the pregnant female about the hospital they were in as she did not want to undergo certain test by the hospital staff. Feel as though this would have benefited her and help put the doctors that were treating her at ease.

In conclusion I believe that all the theories that have been previously stated were used in a positive and effective manner. As there was a lot of conflicts with this call with us not being in a usual work environment, having vulnerable people who did not speak English and intruding on other workspaces. This call, came with my conflicts, as we were unable to effectively communicate, we were not effectively able to give them the full care and consideration that we could. Although we were able to work effectively alongside the hospital staff and get the couple the care that they needed, they were still left with gaps in their knowledge with the procedures that we were following. We were able to provide them with some comfort however, the conflicts surround getting them in touch with immigration and communicating with them to our standards is where I feel we fell short.

Words: 2,080

Task 3

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum: Criminal Justice, Valuing difference and inclusion

You must choose **a policing incident** in which you played a significant role with an offender/ service user/victim and reflect on what happened

Critically explore a policing incident that you have **investigated** and examine how you dealt with competing issues such as legalisation, social issues, culture and language.

Consider the victims code of practice and how it was used to support your victim/witness through the criminal justice system during the **investigative process**.

Your reflection must illustrate your understanding and application of core principles of ethics, equality, diversity and human rights.

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

ANSWER:

This incident involved looking at situation in two ways, from an investigative standpoint and from a place of compassion for the social issues that were happening in front of us. In this section I will talk about how we were able to effectively resolve a situation with the victim's codes of practice at the heart and support everyone involved in the incident.

The initial call we had was from a neighbour reporting a disturbance coming from next door. We also got information from the control room stating the address did have individuals linked to it that had bail condition not to be with each other. We were confused leading up to the call as the information we were given was not adding up. When we arrived, we spoke to the reporting person to ask what had happened and she had informed us that she heard shouting and bannng coming her neighbour's address bit then stated that a woman had left the address and gone into another address on the other side of the reporting person. However, the reporting person stated to us that this woman has bail conditions not to be at that address and to see the male inside. After gathering the information, we split off into two groups and went to the address of the female's partner and the address that the female had supposably gone to.

My colleges told us that the male said that he had been shouting at her during an argument that was fuelled by alcohol and that he threw things around the address. The female had left the address, and she was scared. He was unaware that she had gone to the neighbours address a few doors down. When we got into the address, we saw the female in the company of a male and after doing a person search, we did uncover that she had bail conditions not to see the male at that address. The male stated that he did not mind having the female at the address and that he was happy to give her a place to be as she was scared. We spoke to the female and stated that she would have to leave the address, but she did not want to go back to her address due to the argument with her partner.

This is where we were out in a difficult situation as she would be considered a victim from her partner, but she had also violated bail conditions that were put in place for her. We decided to focus on the fact that she was a vulnerable person as she was visibly shaken up and she was pregnant. The decision was made in the end to take her out of the address and take her to a hotel that was nearby. As she stated to officers that she didn't want anything to happen to her partner and the male at the address said that he invited her into her home when she explained her situation. We believed that by not having in either address would be the best option and a hotel would help her reduce her anxiety around.

The victim code of practice was at the centre of this call once we had all the information and we saw the anxious state that the female was in. We spent a good amount of time talking to her about her situation and trying to calm her down. We also kept her informed in all decision and steps we were taking during our time with her. When talking to the female we remained completely open and honest with her stating that she could be in trouble if she was to stay at the address and although she thought of it as a safe place she would have to leave. This was a bit of back and forth at the time but once I sat her down and explained what was going to happen and our plans, she was happy to come with officers. We were reassuring her the whole time that we would put in a referral form and get someone in touch with her that could help her with her situation with her partner. We also provided her with a number for a domestic violence card that gave her information for a charity that was independent from the police. As my tutor was absent, to ensure that I was acting in accordance with protocols and the victim codes of practice I contacted my Sargent and made sure I was hitting all the marks.

Once she was out of the address and in the hotel, I spoke to her and although she did not want to provide us with a statement or attend court, I gave her an incident number. I informed her that if anything further was to happen that she wanted to document that she could call 101 and report it there, but if she felt as though she was in danger, she should call 999. As this female had been involved in a domestic incident, she was also referred to charities and organisation that she would be able to contact if she did not want police intervention. She was directed to Woman's Aid; they help woman and children seek refuge during incidents of domestic violence (Woman's Aid). She was also referred to Threshold another charity designed to aid people who are experiencing Domestic violence (Threshold).

As well as having the victim codes of practices at the centre of this situation we also had to consider the police Code of Ethics. These are standards and expectation that every police officer must consider whilst they are on and off duty as an officer, these are split into 10 sections (Collage of Policing). The first being honesty and integrity, throughout our whole time that we spent with the female we acted with honesty and integrity. When speaking to her we remained open and honest with her about the consequences of her being at the address and being in the company of the male. We were also telling her every step that we were taking and even things that we were ruling out so that the female felt involved and that she had control over her situation.

We acted with authority, respect and courtesy when negotiating with the female about leaving at the address that she was in. At first due to her intoxicated state the female was argumentative with officers however, we did have to get her to a safe place because she was a victim and she needed to be safe guarded. After sitting and talking with the female, calming her down and telling her threw our next steps she was more than happy to comply with officers. I do believe that if we had not taken the time to speak to her and tried to remove her from the address straight away then this would have led us to a very different outcome.

The female in question is someone thought is well known to the police as an offender therefore we had to act with fairness and impartiality when dealing with her as a victim. This was my first encounter with this female, so I only associated her with a victim. However, my

other colleges had dealt with her numerous times as an offender and it could have been very easy for them to treat her as such. This call taught me a lot about impartiality and fairness by watching my colleagues use their past experiences with this female to build rapport and allow her to be with familiar officers which seemed to comfort her. This female had expressed a dependency on alcohol and later also disclosed that she was pregnant to officers. This was a situation that I had never been confronted with before and truth be told my initial thoughts were of judgement on the female. However, upon speaking to the female she disclosed that she had had a long battle with addiction to alcohol and I realised that there were referrals that I could put in to try and get her the support that she needed. From speaking to her I had changed my mind set and wanted to do everything that I could at time to support her. Therefore, not only did I write on the referral form that she needed support for domestic violence I disclosed her addiction and her being pregnant so that someone could reach out and get her the support that she needed.

I feel as though every action that was carried out during this incident was in line with police regulation. I believe this to be true, as not only did we liaise with our Sergeant, but I was also under the guidance of extremely experienced officers that supported every decision that I made during this process. During this incident I did everything that set a good professional standard, I gave reasonable instructions to everyone that was involved, and followed all reasonable instructions asked of me by my Sergeant and other colleges. My self and my colleges also were very diligent when asking and carrying out these instructions not only to the female mentioned but also to both males that were involved.

Both males were spoken to with firmness but also respect to ensure that they understood what officers were instructing them to do. As the female did not want to provide officers with a statement about that argument with her partner officers still needed to speak with him and speak to the other male regarding the bail conditions. The partner of the female was spoken to by officers and was told what would be happening he was not however told where the female was being taken, he was only told that she would not be returning to either address. The other males who address she attended after the argument was also told by officers that he could not allow her to be in the address or be in any type of contact with her although he didn't oppose to having her at his address. All information that was reasonable to disclose during this time was, all parties that were spoken to were fully informed of all police actions that were taking place. This was discounting the location that the female was being taken to for confidentiality and safeguarding concerns.

During the later stages of this incident, we again looked to the Victim Codes of Practice I had given the victim a point of contact with myself. I did this as it would give her a direct line to the investigation, and as I had said to her earlier in the incident that I would be putting referrals through for her to help her with her alcohol dependency. Once I had submitted the form it would have been too late to call her put in the next set of shifts that I had I go into contact with her. When I got into contact with her, she stated that she was grateful for the call and for the referrals that were made but she did not wish for anymore contact from the police.

In conclusion, I feel as though that during this call not only were all parties dealt with in line with the police victim codes of practices. But that's all officers involved acted in accordance with the police Code of Ethics. Although this incident was not fully reported everything that could have been done to safeguard the female was carried out to the best of officer's abilities.

Words: 1,924

Task 4

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Decision making and discretion, Conducting Investigations and Criminal Justice (Managing offenders)

You must choose **a policing incident** which you played a significant role with an offender/service user/victim and reflect on what happened.

Critically assess your role during a **police investigation** where you played a significant part with an offender/victim and reflect upon what happened.

Reflect upon your use of the National Decision-Making Model and the Code of Ethics and review how this impacted upon your decision making and use of discretion within the **investigation**.

Critically review your responsibilities regarding the provision of CPIA when conducting this **investigation**.

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

ANSWER:

In this section I will be exploring my involvement during a police investigation where we had an extremely vulnerable victim at the centre. I will be reflecting upon my use of the National decision-making model and the Code of Ethics and also look at the guidelines that are set out by the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996.

My tutor and I received a call in the evening while on duty to say that a man in his late twenties, had been reported missing by his family. The only information that we had at the time of the call was his name age and that the family that was reporting the missing person did not speak English, but they had a family friend that was at the address that would translate for them. Once we got to the address, we started to gather information and intelligence on the missing person, at first, we got information of places that he frequents and the details of his vehicle that was not at the address. As we were gathering this information, we were liaising with officers that were actively out looking for him. By giving them the name, date of birth and address of the missing person they would be able to utilise section 165 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, meaning the person driving the vehicle would have to identify themselves and they would be able to identify him. During the time of gathering the information from the family officers still had not located him based on the information provided. At this time, we gathered information from the family that he was on medication for paranoid schizophrenia and was due to take his medication soon as he takes it in the night before bed. This further increased the risk of harm to the missing male as he was suffering with his mental health and did not take his medication when he had left. This meant that this man could possibly suffer a mental health episode in public officers out on patrol and it was agreed by our Sergeant that if he was seen having a mental health episode outside of an address that we could detain him under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 (Hamilton, J.R). Now that we had gathered this information he was now marked as a high-

risk missing person by our Inspector. Once we had all the information from the family, we conducted a search of the house starting with his bedroom. In his bedroom we found multiple letters that were indicating that he was in financial debt, when we asked the family about this, they had no knowledge of it. This furthered the risk to the missing persons and his family became increasingly distressed so while officers were there, we assured the family that we had multiple officers out looking for their son. We then left the address to look for him in and around the local area. After conducting an area search for around 20 minutes we were informed that officers that were conducting hospital and custody checks that he had taken himself to the hospital to be assessed for his mental health. Officers then liaised back with the family to inform them that he had been cited and that he had taken himself to the hospital to be assessed on his mental health.

As you can see from above the national decision-making model was used throughout the time searching for the missing male. As we were faced with a call that would have to use every element to assess the risks, look at what powers and policies we had at our disposal and when looking at our options and contingencies, develop a working strategy. With many new factors needed to be considered such as his medication not being on him and the letters indicating financial debt. However, at the centre of the national decision-making model is the police Code of Ethics which this investigation was centred around.

Though the time that we were with the family I conducted myself with full honesty and integrity. We were honest with them about our concerns for his mental state and we showed them the letters that he was receiving about his debt. Although this did make them upset, we felt they deserved to know every step that we were taking to find their son and the reasons behind our concerns. We did treat them with respect and courtesy as it was a scary time for them as they had to speak to officers through their family friend and they were finding out new information about their son in front of officers. The fact that I could not speak to them directly did not impact on the fairness and impartiality of the search of their son. It made it more important to me to bring them that sense of comfort as there was that added factor on top of an already worrying situation.

All the orders that were given by Sergeants and Inspectors during this time were carried out lawfully and in accordance with police standards. When the missing person was upgraded from a medium to a high-risk missing person by the Inspector myself and the other officers acted accordingly, with the number of officers looking for the male increasing, also myself and my partner gathering any minor detail from the family that could help locate him. Also, the instruction that I gave to other officers such as instructing them to use Section 165 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 to identify him if the car was to be spotted.

Looking at the record, retain and disposal element of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 we were able to look at patterns of known behaviour, look at the information we had for the male and looking at what information could be disposed of would aid us in our search (Stelfox, P). By using these tactics were able to know what information that the family had retained from previous incidents when he had gone missing such as, know places of interest and friend's address. We were also able to look at what information we had on record for the male and look at any risk that he posed to himself or the officers that were looking for him. We of course would dispose of any unnecessary information about individuals. However, during this incident we did not dispose of any as the family were concerned for his safety and we both agreed that the more information that we had the easier it would be to find him if this happened again.

Not only were the police Code of Ethics at the centre of the investigation but also the responsibilities and standards of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996. This act entails all the elements that officers need to cover when investigating and dealing with the public. The main principle for this is that officers must exercise their legal powers but

never be oppressive when carrying them out. This was proven during this call as we were prepared to carry out all our legal powers, but in doing this we informed the parents that they would be necessary in finding their son and once they were explained they were not only willing but comfortable with the officers carrying them out. Insuring confidentiality is within the requirement of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996. As stated above this was fully carried out through the investigation as the parent were in control when it came to the media release and what information would be available to the public. This was met with full transparency from officers, they were kept informed of all the officers' steps and any developments that were happening with their son. This act does also again enforce the police Code of Ethics that has previously been covered and was fully carried out by me and all officers involved. The Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996, entails a section on the treatment of victims and vulnerable people during an investigation. The missing male would be considered a vulnerable person due to his mental health and all the other contributing factors that officers uncover while in his home. His family could also be considered vulnerable as they were going through a difficult situation and the only way that they could communicate with officer would be through the family friend. This could make them feel disconnected from officers and the investigation therefore reassurance was a huge part of this investigation. The family were consulted on what they wanted officers to do, and they were fully engaged with police action, and I could see that this was helping them feel reassured during a very hard time.

As part of this Act is ensuring that officers use their lawful powers when investigating, they state the key powers and law that officers *must* take into consideration. All the laws and powers that were relevant to this case were fully enforced. I had to consider the regulations of police investigation powers this provides officers with a structure for their investigation. By following this structure, it ensures that officers are hitting key points, for this investigation the main two were protecting public health and to act in the best for the safety of the public. As we had a member of the public who was vulnerable without their medication, this became the lead driver in this investigation as we needed to ensure that he would be safe guarded by officers and given the help and support that he needed. As with every step in a police investigation the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) this provides the balance between the powers that the police hold and the rights of the public. When gathering information from the parents and searching not only his room but also the areas of the home, P.A.C.E was always and at no point did officer overstep to gather information. Also, when officers were in the home, although we would need to search his room when a person is reported missing the officers were welcomed to search his room for anything that they could find that would help.

A person's human rights are also at the forefront of all police action. For this investigation articles 1, 2, 5, and 8 of the Human Rights Act (Feldman. D) were ones that would be specifically related to their situation. These included the protection of property, right to life, right to liberty and security, respect for a private life and prohibition of discrimination. The protection of property is in reference to the officers being in possession of his medication and confidential documents while in the address and while in possession of these articles we maintained their condition as they were given to us. A right to life was one of our biggest concerns as the family was concerned for his mental well-being and with officers uncovering his financial issues the family grew more concerned. Once we found him (to protect his right to life), we would have gotten him the support that he needed for his mental health. Articles five and eight coincide with each other as he does have the right to liberty, and he was in his late twenties he had a right to be away from the address. However, due to his families concerns for his mental health we needed to sight him safe and well.

There were other parts of the human rights act that would always be relevant to an investigation I have selected a few that were relevant to the investigation.

To conclude I believe that all police action that was taken during the investigation was in line with the police code of ethics and with the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996. Although this presented with many difficulties with not having many lines of enquiry and the language barrier, I believe that each step of the NDM being used, shows the different methods of thinking during the incident. Also, the Codes of Ethics are always crucial but using them effectively with vulnerable people and families it creates a positive outcome and relationship with the public.

Words: 1972

Task 5

Independent Patrol Status confirmation – equivalent to 1,500

This compilation of this task shall be confirmed by the employer once independent patrol status is achieved.

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