

Essay one:

How might the Code of Ethics help to reduce incidences of professional misconduct and increase public confidence in the police?

Support your answer with relevant evidence drawn from academic sources.

The College of police aim for the code of ethics is “The aim of this Code of Ethics is to support each member of the policing profession to deliver the highest professional standards in their service to the public.” (College of Policing, 2014)

The meaning behind the code of ethics is to put values to the front of every police work or constable minds as they perform their duties, it applies to all warranted officer, staff volunteer or a contractor within the police force. It reminds all persons that incorrect behaviour should be not tolerated and everyone should be an upstander not a bystander to corruption or unethical work practices.

How might the code of ethics help reduce professional misconduct, by given the public a vision the police have in regards to conduct, all forces regarded under section 1 of Police Act 1996 adopted the code. The code of ethics is based on the Seven Principles of Public Life set out by the government, which sets the public at the heart of any government body. (Committee on Standards in Public Life, 1995)

They were enacted by the committee of standards in public life, which was introduced by Prime Minister John Major with the following terms for reference:

“To examine current concerns about standards of conduct of all holders of public office, including arrangements relating to financial and commercial activities, and make recommendations as to any changes in present arrangements which might be required to ensure the highest standards of propriety in public life.” (Parliament.uk)

In recent years there has been questions brought forward about the intentions and views of many police officers and staff around abuse of ethnic minorities, people of gender and sexuality, which has brought British policing into a negative spotlight. The code of ethics states every police officer is reasonable for their own conduct and behaviour so no excuse for failings should be falling on others, however this does not excuse others from reporting behaviour which is not accepted as it is also their responsible to deal with the behaviour either through conversation or reporting to chief officers.

The code of ethics should be understood from a public perspective as a reinsurance that police workers and officers are acting in their best intentions at all times, and to stamp out anyone who does not believe that way. The biggest code is honest and integrity as it covers everyday aspect of police work meaning everything, we do should be sincere and truthful, and not become impartial due to outside factors.

Another big part of the code is Use of Force, which governs how much force operational roles within the police use, such as not do go out and start assaulting members of the public, not use maximum force but minimal force required to safely carry out duties. The third part of the code of ethics that could influence opinions from the public is conduct inside work and out, this affects officers and staff personal lives and not engage in activities that will compromise their position in the police, this includes reporting anything that could influence an officer's appearance such as a member of family being involved in illegal matters.

Police use a model called the NDM which embeds ethical thinking into all decisions made by police. When an officer or staff fall short of the expectations required of them there is a set of guidance that give direction to deal with matters which are publicly shown to show transparency with complaints or outcomes of gross misconduct cases. This allows other colleague to see that issues being reported are being acted upon and not hidden away as if nothing happened, and to encourage people to not be afraid to report actions of their colleagues when they fall short of expectations.

With a simple set of rules to follow misconduct should be easily reduced as there is no confusion on expectations set out to all police workers, no misinterpretations, a clear set of instructions that all workers follow all the way up to senior constables including chief constable.

All decisions made by officers have to be written out onto internal documents, ranging from log updates to court documents which details rationales for all actions taken and why they were taken over a different action, even though they are not publicly accessible at times they can be easily monitored by individuals within the complaint's departments or senior managers looking for short comings within the organisation.

Does the code of ethics reduce incidences of professional misconduct I believe it does, however the public confidence of the police has not improved but declined due to the fact that people in the police still do not uphold the law for themselves and abuse the position of trust given to them by the public office, even with the code of ethics in place, and by only officers reporting those who dishonour the organisation and with time the public confidence within the police will improve.

This is backed by recent data from the London Mayor's Office for Police and Crime's 'Public attitude survey' revealed that of the Londoners surveyed:

- 73% had trust in the police in March 2022, compared to 80% in March 2021
- 49% had "confidence (good job local) in the police" in March 2022, compared to 55% in March 2021
- 62% agreed that the police treated everyone fairly regardless of who they are, compared to 70% in March 2021 (Police standards and culture: Restoring public trust)

The data is based on Metropolitan Police Service however I feel they reflect onto other UK police services as they are the largest police service and constantly in the public eye for corruption. This is shown by events happening the USA whereby George Floyd was murdered by a servicing Police

officer Derek Chauvin and other officers failing to act upon his actions, which has caused anti-racist demonstrations to spread to the UK under the Black Live Movement. (Mohdin, Swann and Bannock, 2020)

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College of Policing (2014). Code of Ethics. [online] Available at: https://assets.college.police.uk/s3fs-public/2021-02/code_of_ethics.pdf. (Accessed: November 6, 2023).

Committee on Standards in Public Life (1995). *The 7 Principles of Public Life*. [online] Gov.uk. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-7-principles-of-public-life/the-7-principles-of-public-life--2>. (Accessed: November 6, 2023).

Parliament.uk. Available at: <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cdp-2022-0156/> (Accessed: November 6, 2023).

Police standards and culture: Restoring public trust [online] Available at <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/police-standards-and-culture-restoring-public-trust/> (Accessed: November 6, 2023)

Mohdin, A., Swann, G. and Bannock, C. (2020). How George Floyd's Death Sparked a Wave of UK anti-racism Protests. The Guardian. [online] 29 Jul. Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jul/29/george-floyd-death-fuelled-anti-racism-protests-britain>. (Accessed: November 6, 2023)

Essay two:

How effective is a multi-agency approach as a means of managing violent and sexual offenders?

Your answer must be based on academic research, but you may make reference to relevant case studies.

The effectiveness of multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) has been researched by ARU Cambridge who have done a 26-month study. The research has covered the 42 MAPPA areas in England and Wales, largest of these being London, the research has also covered 6 themes and 8 subthemes.

The 6 themes covered by the National MAPPA research

Theme 1: Perceptions of risk and the classification of individuals.

Risk was understood by practitioners to be an unavoidable part of MAPPA management, and whilst it was agreed that risk was defined differently by different agencies, practitioners felt that the assessment and management of risk was reasonably well achieved within MAPPA.

Theme 2: Collaborative working

A jigsaw analogy was commonly used by practitioners to explain how MAPPA functions as a collective resource. Individual agencies hold information, like puzzle pieces, but the picture is incomplete until these pieces are shared and put together.

Theme 3: Information sharing

Practitioners recognised that good information sharing is key to the multi-agency approach. However, information discussed at panel meetings is highly sensitive and must be protected from unauthorised access, to safeguard the privacy and security of an individual or an agency. Practitioners discussed how, all too often, information sharing was hampered by the obscurity around what can legally be shared, with whom and for what purpose. In part, the perceived lack of clarity was attributed to the unhelpfulness of the 2021 MAPPA guidance. Where this was unclear, practitioners tended to err on the side of caution.

Theme 4: Agency representation at panel meetings

The consensus amongst practitioners was that MAPPA is the right approach to fulfilling the aims of managing risk and protecting the public.

Theme 5: An increase in MAPPA managed individuals

Over the last decade, there has been a steady increase in the number of individuals managed under MAPPA (Ministry of Justice, 2021). This increase is primarily a result of a greater number of Category 1 individuals, due to increases in people being sentenced for historic sexual offences and the notification requirement for those convicted of sex offences for increasingly longer terms. This increase was very often referred to by practitioners, who felt that a number of other factors had added to this (i.e., MAPPA resourcing and a shortage of accommodation)

Theme 6: Points of increased risk

Practitioners discussed points in the MAPPA process, which were important to understand in terms of the potential effect they have on increasing an individual's risk. The first of these was the MAPPA management of individuals transitioning from YOS to Probation Service supervision once they turn 18. (Mann, N. and Lundrigan, S. (2023))

From reading the report there is high confidence with the MAPPA process however Theme 1 has stated that risk was not defined so agencies would risk assess differently but overall effective.

Theme 3 highlights an issue based on information sharing between partners where many would restrict access to information due to privacy and security due to confusion around the MAPPA 2021 guidance and practitioners would air on the side of caution.

Mann, N. and Lundrigan, S. (2023). The National MAPPA Research: Process Effectiveness Report. [online] Available at: <https://www.aru.ac.uk/-/media/Files/pier/The-National-MAPPA-Research-Process-effectiveness-report.pdf> [Accessed 23 Oct. 2023].

In September 2018 the HM Inspectorate review of Probation in the case of Leroy Campbell, who was a history of serious sexual offending, Leroy was released in 2016 under probation supervision where he has gone onto reoffend within a few weeks of being released.

The HM review into Leroy has looked at his case from the point of being in a closed prison environment moved into an open prison and then his release. Leroy was managed under MAPPA and was managed at Level 1 which is the lowest level of MAPPA management, due to his reoffending Leroy's case went under a mandatory serious case review (MSCR), due to the seriousness of the reoffending, the review was to examine if MAPPA arrangements around protecting the public from Leroy was effective or applied correctly, and if the agencies worked together to reasonably managed the risk of reoffending.

The 22 key findings of the MSCR, were partly from his time in custody and the focus of single agencies, the findings showed there was a lack of evidence that a decision on Leroy's MAPPA level has occurred after a review of his previous offending and behaviour whilst in prison, and lack of discussion by senior probation officers to place Leroy on Level 2 which is a for cases where there needs to be active interagency management of Leroy in order to manage the risk of any serious harm.

A MAPPA screening which takes place 6-12 months prior to release was not performed accurately which contributes to the plan to determine MAPPA risk managements, there was no Active risk management system (ARMS) which is an assessment performed within the first 6 weeks of Leroy's release.

This allowed Leroy upon release be managed under self-report, however Leroy had a tendency to be over confident in his ability to manage his own risk, this was partly due to lack of communication

with the police and decision taken solely by probation as such they lacked any police intelligence to support any decisions.

Due to the lack of communication between both agencies Leroy has continue to be on a Level 1 management, where Police or Probation officer could have called an emergency meeting to discuss moving Leroy to level 2.

The serious case review believes reoffending would have happed level 1 or level 2, but due to the failings with communication and interagency partnerships there were missed opportunities to escalate Leroy to the broader group within MAPPA to improve the effectiveness of risk assessment and planning. The case review also believed there was a lack of professional curiosity and too much time spent on resettlement at the expensive of public protection.

The general reflections of the review state "All NPS staff should focus as a priority on the public protection requirements of each individual case. They should use the process and protocols in place to manage those that are potentially high risk of harm to others and should pursue an investigative approach at all times. It would appear that this was not always the case with LC." (HMI Probation, 2018).

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Mann, N. and Lundrigan, S. (2023). The National MAPPA Research: Process Effectiveness Report. [online] Available at: <https://www.aru.ac.uk/-/media/Files/pier/The-National-MAPPA-Research-Process-effectiveness-report.pdf> [Accessed 06 Nov. 2023].

Mann, N. and Lundrigan, S. (2023). Research Briefing: The National MAPPA Research [online] Available at: <https://www.aru.ac.uk/-/media/Files/pier/National-MAPPA-Research-Briefing.pdf> [Accessed 06 Nov. 2023].

HMI Probation (2018). Independent review of the case of Leroy Campbell: final report. [online] Available at: <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprobation/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2018/09/HMI-Probation-Independent-Review-LC-Final-.pdf>.

[Accessed 06 Nov. 2023].

Essay three:

To what extent is 'lifestyle' theory an accurate reflection of what makes certain people vulnerable to becoming a victim of Serious and Organised Crime?

Your answer must be based on academic research into the psychological and socio-economic

characteristics of vulnerable people.

Grand Canyon University suggests that Lifestyle theory is when certain people may become the victims of crimes because of their lifestyles and choices. For example, someone with a gambling or substance addiction could be as an “easy victim” by a con artist.

Walking alone at night in a dangerous area, conspicuously wearing expensive jewellery, leaving doors unlocked and associating with known criminals are other lifestyle characteristics that may lead to victimization.

(Grand Canyon University, 2019)

In 1989, Glenn Walters, an American forensic psychologist and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Kutztown University in Pennsylvania, developed a concept known as Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles. It's a concept that describes the behaviour to leads someone to commit criminal acts.

Glenn Walters theory suggests that a combination of biological and environmental influences plays a large part in causing someone's life to turn to criminality, with a large focus on the physiological element, the old notion of peer pressure, being surrounded by criminals will influence yourself being criminal. The idea that living in a dangerous neighbourhood would not be safe for law-abiding citizens as such one would act in a similar fashion to ensure their own safety.

The theory includes that of a victim can be placed into the same category as a criminal because it is assumed by lifestyle theorists that criminals and victims have similar tendencies. The theory unfortunately covers the idea of victim blaming whereby the criminal is not the blame for their actions due to way the victim presents themselves in their lifestyle, such as the notion is female dressing provokable invites unwanted attention or actions from a male which leads to the female being sexually assaulted, this brings the idea whose fault is it the males or females.

(www.tutorialspoint.com, n.d.)

The psychological perspective of the lifestyle theory supports a more victim-based opinion which at modern time is not supported by society as one's freedom of expression should not be hindered by a person whose action effects harms the victim as they made the choice to act upon their thoughts and feelings.

The socio-economic side of the theory can be more supported, it is described by alliedacademies.org as the role of economic inequality and lack of access to resources as drivers of crime. The frustration and relative deprivation experienced by individuals in disadvantaged communities can lead to increased criminal behaviour as a response to perceived social and economic injustices.

This leads into influence on family structures as it can create an unstable or dysfunctional family environment, characterized by neglect, abuse or parental criminality which can cause children to more likely engage in criminal behaviour, this is not a set-in stone ideology can be a large factor. The Socioeconomic factors can play in the situation where one's lifestyle has a sudden change, such as unemployment, inequality. (Vargas, 2023)

The opportunity that presents a parent, a child or a friend to take an offer of "support" from a criminal or organised crime group to help better their lifestyle when they are deprived or restricted from a perceived idea what is better, would be highly influenceable by those factors, to either hide financial loss to family or gain more to improve one's standing as more influential amongst peers who present themselves at a higher status in life.

One's background will set you into potentially criminal lifestyle as there are more open doors that will lead you there due to having the knowledge and access to them, and being disadvantaged in areas of life can make it harder to access a more positive direction in life as society will look at person and their origin story with a biased negative view such as a person on "CRIMINAL LANE" with many broken windows, burnt out cars and theft versus a person living on "MONEY LANE" with many bankers, politicians able to buy anything they want when they want it, would heavenly influence a person.

The socio-economics' can help those in a deprived lifestyle or abusive backgrounds, move away from criminality, by improving education and better employment opportunities, helping negative views of people by addressing community resources, helping people with their mental health. By improving the community, it could help lower the requirement to steal to survive or to support family, helping people's mental health can help those of an abused background get help instead of acting out their own abuse on others. Some people feel they lose their choice in life due to addictions that they can no longer control due to systematic failings in their upbringing and lack of support at the earliest opportunity.

These leads onto the notion of psychological issues stemming from socio-economics issues and vice versa, they can blame others for their choice, due to the lack of money leads people into stealing/burglary, mental health issues leading people into consuming drugs to help them get through their struggles and then leading to lack of money which can lead to debts being paid to organised crime groups, which can make people make unconscionable choices to repay their debts.

However, taking into account both sides of lifestyle theory socio-economic and psychological, I believe it is still limited to the fact how one acts is still purely depends on that person's choices, your financial statue does not force you to steal a pair high value trainer, being poor with an abused background doesn't make someone automatically become involved with organised crime. I believe theories are just that ideas based on profound work as many persons of socially and psychologically deprived backgrounds have gone onto many great works that benefits many and not just the few.

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Grand Canyon University (2019). *3 Modern Theories of Victimology*. [online] GCU. Available at: <https://www.gcu.edu/blog/criminal-justice-government-and-public-administration/3-modern-theories-victimology>. [accessed 06 Nov. 2023].

www.tutorialspoint.com. (n.d.). *Glenn D Walter's Theory*. [online] Available at: <https://www.tutorialspoint.com/glenn-d-walter-s-theory> [accessed 06 Nov. 2023].

Vargas, J. (2023). The impact of socioeconomic factors on crime rates. *Addiction & Criminology*, [online] 6(4). doi:<https://doi.org/10.35841/aara-6.4.161>. [accessed 06 Nov. 2023].

Essay four:

Why is a partnership approach the most effective way of preventing re-offending?

Support your answer with relevant evidence drawn from academic sources.

A Partnership approach is important and most effective way of preventing any re-offending because as an agency the Police cannot manage on their own due offending is not black and white it's a very grey area whereby locking someone up in a prison cell does not solve life's problems.

One of the biggest partnerships the police work with is YOT's (Youth Offending Team) which involves Health, Probation non-statutory partners such as housing, community safety, education and social services, as their aim is not to criminalise children in a way that would hamper any opportunity a child has as they age.

YOT's started life as a court disposal and post-release supervision and change to preventative and diversionary work, including out of court disposal. The research by the Home Office indicated multi-agency work was an effective way to tackle crime and disorder problems. (Multi-agency work in Youth Offending Services)

Partnerships are important as it strengthens relationships between already established services, projects and communities and it allows interwork objectives easier and more efficient. Partnerships allows ideas, experience and insights be easily implemented as a framework is already implemented, it can help increase compacity as you can post children easily to another services that is required

without the need of research, phone calls and emails with a wait time due to a lack of communication between services with no relationship.

Since 2011 the government statistics shows reoffending by children have dropped from 140,000 to approximately 28,000 reoffences. The government statistics for youth justice shows, In the year ending March 2021 aggregated cohort:

- The proven reoffending rate fell to 31.2%, a 3.0 percentage point decrease on the previous year. This was the lowest reoffending rate on record and the second largest year on year fall in the time series, though is likely to be affected by the impacts of limits on court activity in the periods of restrictions during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent backlogs that meant some reoffences weren't counted.
- The long-term falls in the number of children in the cohort, children who reoffended and reoffences have continued. The number of children in the annually aggregated cohort has fallen by 23% compared to the previous year, the number of children who reoffended has fallen by 30% and the number of reoffences committed decreased by 32%. (GOV.UK. (n.d.)).

These statistics show that the collaborative work between agencies and partners within the Youth offending are effective.

Without the partnership a single child may be under the microscope of multiply different services getting no help from any of them due services not being aware of other concerns, as a child could be committing crimes due to economic reasons and feel they have no choice in doing so. Now police can tell social services that a child is committing crime and social services can look at what the root cause of that issue and referrer them for help or support for the family, this further reinforces partnerships as social services may not know about charities that exist such as Little Lives UK, who assist with children involved in county lines, which uses education as a means of swaying children away from that lifestyle. Little lives UK can then work with the education system to spread the information and support into schools to help the issue before it becomes an issue.

Partnerships also allow children who feel they can not approach teachers, police officers or their parents, a safe place to be and a shoulder they can cry on or a friendly face to divulge information too, with the partnership in place that intelligence can be processed in a professional and secure way to help support and protect the child from harm. This can also be reflected onto the parents of children who may be lost in how to support their children through tough times or how to get help for a matter they feel don't understand or how to move forward with.

Partnerships can also help services on a financial level or operational level, statistics show only 11,400 occasions children were sentenced at court which is a drop of 7% on the previous year, this frees up space within the criminal justice system speeding up conviction rates for other serious matters. Services financially can spend less money trying to support a child they can't help as they

don't have the means costing services money and manned hours and instead have a path way to services who can take lead.

The YOT route also keeps more children out of youth prisons where a minor crime could lead that youth interacting with children who have a more sinister and serious criminal history having influence on a youth who will have a shorter sentence leaving and getting into a serious gang, which will cause the youth to reoffend in a more serious manner, which can snowball into a youth running county lines.

I believe the effectiveness is due to the partnerships, as police only handle crimes as they are being committed or already been committed, by introducing partnerships they can identify key issues through the school system, social services with the use of public protection notifications as they alert other agencies of concerns through an efficient and professional channel with a guidance on what needs to be shared. I believe a child without a direction in life are more vulnerable as they do not know what is out there for them with inter-partnerships and collaboration that information is more readily available.

WORD COUNT: 915

Multi-agency works in Youth Offending Services. Available at:
<https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmiprobation/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2021/07/Youth-multi-agency-work-RAB-v1.0-1-1.pdf> (Accessed: 06 November 2023).

GOV.UK. (n.d.). Youth Justice Statistics: 2021 to 2022 (accessible version). [online] Available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-statistics-2021-to-2022/youth-justice-statistics-2021-to-2022-accessible-version#:~:text=In%20the%20year%20ending%20March%202022%2C%20around%205%2C300%20youth%20cautions.> (Accessed: 06 Nov 2023)