



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

BSc (Hons) Professional Police Practice

LEVEL 4 - 40 Credits

**Workbook title: Competency Based Workbook 1
(PCDA)**

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

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Learner's University Registration Number:

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FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMME

Module title: Professional Police Practice 1 (PCDA)

Workbook Guidance

Please read these notes carefully; they provide essential information.

What is the workbook for?

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

Area of Professional Practice covered, (called elements in your module descriptor):

- Wellbeing and Resilience
- Communication Skills
- Managing Conflict
- Valuing Difference and Inclusion
- Criminal Justice
- Decision making, discretion
- Conducting Investigations
- Criminal Justice (Managing offenders)

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

How should the workbook be presented?

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

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

https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/media/uwtsd-website/content-assets/documents/academic-office/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 will be provided by university staff as part of your initial training day. Your tutor constable and in-force

training staff will not be involved in assessing or marking your workbook after it has been submitted.

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

Once submitted your workbook will be assessed and marked independently.

Confidentiality

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

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

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.

The content of this workbook should be your own work. Do not allow anyone else to see your work or use your work for their own submissions.

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 Student Handbook.

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

Dyslexia and other special circumstances

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

Guidance:

- *Your workbook must contain the items specified in the table below (clearly identified and in the order given);*
- *You should use this particular document to insert your text / answer within each section of this workbook;*
- *You should upload your completed document as a saved pdf of this workbook; if this is not possible then a Worddoc 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:

Workbook	Area of Professional Practice	Word count
Task 1	Wellbeing and Resilience	1000
Task 2	Communication Skills, Managing Conflict, Valuing Difference and Inclusion	1500
Task 3	Criminal Justice, Valuing difference and inclusion	1500
Task 4	Decision making and discretion, Conducting Investigations and Criminal Justice (Managing offenders)	1500
	Bibliography	
Task 5	Development Plan	500
	Total	6000
	Confirmation of Confidentiality and Plagiarism <i>This is confirmed by submitting through Turnitin</i>	

Task 1

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum: Wellbeing and Resilience

Guidance:

Focussing on your initial 6 months of learning and since being attested as a Police Constable, outline 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:

In my initial 6 months of training as a police constable there has been both highs and lows, stressful moments but also proud moments where I have pushed through and achieved my goals. Before I started this new role as a Police constable I worked in Tesco. Towards my start date I became increasingly nervous and started with the wrong mindset with a sort of self-destructive attitude. However, I developed certain techniques in order to overcome certain aspects of my training and by the end I had a completely new attitude and developed my resilience according to Professor JANET LEDEMSA "Resilience is the ability to bounce back from adversity, frustration and misfortune which is essential for an effective leader. This demonstrates that there is a relationship between the stress of the leader's job and their ability to maintain resilience when faced with adversity" Ledesma, J. (2014). This was a true reflection on the outcome that I achieved from when I first started training to when I completed my 6 months.

Throughout the 6 months there have been several challenging aspects of the course, both academically and physically throughout the course. Throughout the police services there are varied physical challenges, in our training we have practical and personal safety training which includes a bleep test and other aspects of physical training. Prior to these physical sessions I joined a local gym and started with a running club. According to the UK officials "1 in 3 (34%) of men are not active enough for good health" Public Health England (2022). This figure will factor those who are in the police force. Physical health can have many benefits including the "reduction of depression by 30%, cardiovascular disease by 35% and some cancers by 20-30%" Public Health England (2022). After a few weeks of training, I could see the benefits not just physically but also mentally and I passed all my officer safety training and physical tests through my initial training.

Another coping mechanism I found apart from the gym was joining a running club and taking part in park runs and running in my own time. I was told by many friends and colleagues to start running as they found it beneficial to their mental and physical health. I noticed a lot of my friends who run, and they always seem to be positive and active. A national government survey found "between November 2019 - November 2020, approximately 7 million people in England went running at least twice within 28 days, and in Wales 14% of the population run at least once a month"

Statista. (2022). This indicates that a lot of people take up the physical sport of running. Another reason I started running was because I was unhappy with my weight and appearance, and this was starting to cause mental health problems. However, when I started taking part in running either with a few friends or alone I found it boosted my self-esteem and made a difference physically. Before I started running and taking part in exercise, I found I did not want to socialize much within training or take on new challenges. According to the NHS “ Low self-esteem may cause you to hide yourself away from social situations, stop trying new things and avoid thing you find challenging” NHS (2021) I found this this to be a true reflection of how I was feeling, weeks passed by and I felt myself building my resilience and looking for the challenges within training whether it be taking the lead in a group activity or revising for exams.

Throughout the initial training I met many new people between staff trainers and other student officers like myself. After spending time speaking to colleagues, it became clear that we all shared the same stress when it came to certain milestones throughout the training. As a group we decided as a coping strategy we would socialize outside of work, it was beneficial to not only take part in physical activities together but to socialise which is also another coping strategy to reduce stress and improve wellbeing. COVID 19 restrictions previously made it extremely difficult to socializing therefore increased loneliness and subsequently impacted in mental health and stress within society. Statistics which evidence this was released by health officials stating, “In the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, global prevalence of anxiety and depression increased by a massive 25%,” World health organization (2022). That increase in anxiety and depression would have had a huge effect if restrictions were still in place as one of the reasons for these huge increases in cases was due to isolation and lack of socializing. So, this overall confirms that socializing is good for mental health and reduces stress.

One of the most stressful parts of training was the academic tests / Exams on top of learning legislation, Police systems and overall duties. It was difficult to try and balance all these phases together in order to pass the course of training. I find it difficult to retain certain information and added on stress makes it nearly impossible to store information so I would start to revise early on as possible in order to achieve my best possible results one technique that I used to revise was condensing my pages of notes and information into coloured flash cards and repeatedly viewing these until I started to retain the information. Studies have shown “that the brain forgets some things faster than others, and more specifically it forgets what is rare and memorizes what is common. Regularly reviewing information strengthens the connections between neurons and makes the memory come back more easily.” Oxford Revision Store UK (2020). I used the flash card methods for both of my exams as well as learning multiple legislations and it worked for me as I passed both of my exams. Once the exams were completed this reduced my stress massively as there were no more tests to be completed before being posted out onto division. This made it extremely worthwhile and before I started on shift my stress levels were reduced and I have taken these strategies with me on shift to maintain a healthy balance and help me be resilient with challenges I'm going to face.

Word count: 1040 words

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(Accessed: 04 Nov 2022)

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.

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

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

Describe the process for determining whether the use of force was necessary in a conflict situation (including any theories or models underpinning the causes of conflict within policing interventions – e.g. Betari's Box, The Drama triangle, Emotional versus rational brain) and provide a reflection on the outcome of the incident.

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

1500 words (+/- 10%: *include your actual word count at the end of each section*)

ANSWER:

Whilst being out on division I have undertaken many policing duties and several calls, from mental health to traffic offences, Conflict is expected when dealing with certain members of the public. One incident that I attended was reports of a suicidal female who is reported to be self-harming and in an irate state. Mental health calls have massively increased over the years according to recent statistics released "In the United Kingdom, mental health issues represent the single largest cause of disability. One in four adults suffers from at least one mental health illness in any given year. Several social, economic, biological, and psychological factors can lead to poor mental health". Statista (2022). Mental health can cause many issues for individuals and causes people to self-harm and feel suicidal and in extreme cases people take their own lives, Figures from UK government state, "In 2020, there were 5,224 suicides registered in England and Wales, equivalent to an age-standardised mortality rate of 10.0 deaths per 100,000 people" Office for National Statistics (2021). Due to cuts in the NHS which subsequently reduces the response time for ambulance services to respond to these, Police services has stepped in and responds to mental health calls, when possible.

Before leaving the station, I looked at the persons involved to build a picture and form a dynamic risk assessment and action I'm planning on taking to provide support to the individuals and safeguard. The call came from a partner of the female, and other family members were at the house and a disturbance could be heard in the background, with the risk identified and with further risk posed, the public service centre provides front line police officers with call gradings based off their THRIVE assessment, Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation, Vulnerability and Engagement. In this instance it was graded as 1, which means an immediate response, on route to the call after further investigation through our local police systems I could see this female had warning markers for Mental health, suicidal, violence and a high-risk victim of domestic violence. The domestic violence will have an impact on the females mental health and a women's mental health experts have found that "On average, more than half of the women seen in mental health settings are being or have been abused by an intimate partner. There are specific diagnoses that are commonly experienced by these women: post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and anxiety. In addition, traumatic events" Women's Advocates. Whilst attending this call I've built an idea on how I am going to approach this call; main priority is safeguarding so ensuring safety of the females and members of the family present and officer safety, I asked our control room to make our forces mental health team (MHT) aware of this call due to the nature as I will probably seek advice from them during attendance.

When I arrived on scene, I was met with two family members who were extremely upset and were shouting towards me and my colleague they seemed very distressed I used my conflict management and adopted my calm verbal communication to defuse the anger and upset and informed the family members we were there to help the female and we will do our best to provide support. They both lowered their level of anger and engaged in conversation with me, providing details of the female, and what they know about the incident, this is all part of my dynamic risk assessment to build a picture. I asked the family member, who was a mother and sister of the female to stay outside whilst we go in and deal with the situation, using knowledge of the national decision-making model – a model that police utilise to make their decisions and actions in order to affectively deal with issues. With the Code of Ethics being at the centre of every decision. Secondly based off the information and intelligence of the call, the suicidal female potentially has a weapon which was used to self-harm, but I needed to prevent further harm to anyone there, I walked into the house and made my self-known as a police officer, I activated my body worn video for transparency and accountability as any footage could become evidential. The female was crying and shouting and did not want to engage with me. I introduced myself to the female to start to build a rapport in order to defuse the situation, I asked her questions about how she was feeling, and is there anything I can do to help, She stated she has been struggling for a while after the recent death of a family member, I then asked her if it was okay if I came into the room and we can have a conversation, she agreed to this and I entered the room.

I could see the female on the sofa in the living room and her partner was standing up in the corner I could see blood and cuts on her arm which are consistent with self-harming, I continued to ask her questions asking what led up to today and she explained that she was in a bad place and doesn't want to be here anymore, I tried to get an initial account off her so I could relay the information on to our MHT first of all she was hesitant with engaging with our partner agencies and she believed they

wouldn't support her. She became irate at this point and grabbed something and started to self-harm, I immediately lunged towards the female managed to grab the sharp object out of her hands and threw it to the other side of the living room to ensure that the threat, risk and harm was reduced. I called my colleague for assistance as the female started to struggle and I found it necessary to apply my handcuffs on the female in order to prevent further injury I'm lawfully allowed to use these measures of reasonable force under section 117 of the police and criminal evidence act 1984, This is a police power which we utilise and is outlined by the college of policing which states "confers a power on a constable, and does not provide that the power may only be exercised with the consent of some person, other than a police officer, the officer may use reasonable force, if necessary, in the exercise of the power." College of Policing. (2021). Therefore, the actions I took was reasonable and justifying to reduce threat, risk and harm to the female, officers and members of the public. Initially there was a struggle and I had to use suitable restraint techniques in order to safeguard the female. After a few minutes of applying the handcuffs, she calmed down and I was happy to release her out of the handcuffs. I asked my colleague if he was happy to obtain information and details from family members who were there, I was also wary of the fact the boyfriend was also present as there was a high risk DV warning marker, I looked through the systems on my mobile device and managed to identify the current partner was not involved in any domestic violence with the Female, I was happy for him to stay in the room as he seemed to provide support and made the female more calm.

I spoke to the female and informed her that our mental health team wishes to speak to her in order to make an assessment, she agreed to this and engaged with our MHT, I was considering detaining the female under 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983, due to the fact she poses a risk to herself and is unable to properly care for herself, however she was in her house and not in a public place therefore it would be applicable to use this power. Another option was for the female to attend the mental health ward in the hospital on a voluntary basis. However due to the increase of MH cases, Mental health services are very busy and waiting times can be very long, According to Welsh government "In 2019-20, there were 7,466 admissions to mental health facilities in Wales" incorporated into the voluntary admission is formal admission which is used under the Mental Health Act. "In 2019-20, 1,965 (26%) of the total admissions were formal admissions under the Mental Health Act 1983 and other legislation, an increase of 54 (3%) from 2018-19" GOV.WALES (2021). After some persuasion I managed to convince the female to attend the hospital for a voluntary attendance and to touch base with the mental health services and get an assessment, On the way to hospital the female confided in me and explained how she's been suffering for a while and she feel relieved that we've listened to her and grateful for the support we've provided so far, I also informed her I will submit a public protection report, which gets submitted to partner agencies, for support that police are unable to always offer, she was happy to support these referrals.

Reflecting on my actions and outcomes I am satisfied that I acted accordingly, and the female subsequently had her assessment and referrals were put in place, I believe my early on investigation skills, identification of risks posed and use of my dynamic risk assessment the best outcome was achieved, and the main principles was achieved which is to protect and safeguard those who are most vulnerable. Initially there were challenges I believe I overcome, firstly engaging with the distressed family members

defused the situation and prevented further disruption which could have impacted negatively, which subsequently made it easier to speak to the suicidal female. After initially using tactical communication and on occasions, reasonable force I managed to defuse the situation and provide the support. I used conflict management to control the situation which resulted in no further injuries of any persons there. I built a rapport with the female, taking the time to listen to her problems and this also benefited me when writing my reports as it gave me more of an understanding. Knowing that we could utilise section 136 of the Mental Health Act, it was vitally important the female was cooperative and was willing to attend the hospital to get support.

Word count: 1713 words.

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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.

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

Explain and reflect on your responsibilities and procedures in line with the relevant Codes of Practice to support victims and witnesses through the criminal justice system.

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

1500 words (+/- 10%: include your actual word count at the end of each section)

ANSWER:

Whilst in tutorship I have dealt with a variety of calls, mainly domestics, assaults and antisocial behaviour this is due to the geographical location, the depravity in the area and the lack of facilities to keep children out of trouble therefore they are left to their own devices which plays a big part with antisocial behaviour. I was surprised when I was allocated a hate crime that happened in my area I did not think racism was an issue in my area, I was aware that in more densely populated areas such as cities where there is more of a cultural and ethnic diversity there is has been a rise in hate crimes over the years, in fact according to government figures “ in march 2022, there were 155,841 hate crimes recorded by police in England and Wales which is 29 per cent increase from the previous year”. Home Office (2022). Data from UK parliament shows that “The highest rate of hate crimes for all offences recorded by the police per 100,000 population in 2021/22 was in the Greater Manchester Police force area (457).” Allen, G. and Zayed, Y. (2019). This shows the corelation between the population and those who are part of a diverse culture. “Manchester’s population stood at 508,067 at the time of the 2011 Census and is becoming increasingly diverse with the ethnic minority population expected to rise from circa 33% at the

time of the 2011 Census to over 40% at the time of the 2021 Census" Manchester city council (2021). These figures indicate the huge percentage of how many ethnic minority groups are living in Manchester compared areas such as South Wales. According to Welsh government "5.2% of the population described themselves as Asian, Black, 'Mixed/Multiple ethnic group' or 'Other ethnic group'. Those describing their ethnic group as Asian were the second largest ethnic group in Wales (2.4% of the population). GOV.WALES. (2020). These figures clearly indicate the massive difference and highlights the fact that south Wales is not very ethnic diverse as other places.

The UK have taken hate crimes very seriously over the years with enhanced focus, increased sentences for suspects and more support for victims. UK police and CPS has agreed that "Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's disability or perceived disability; race or perceived race; or religion or perceived religion; or sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation or transgender identity or perceived transgender identity." Crown Prosecution Service (2017). These highlight the protected characteristics and any hate or prejudice to any of these groups will amount to a hate crime and other key aspect to laws is that it does not have to be victim perceived, so if a person is witness to this crime/incident and they believe it is a hate crime/incident it will get treated like one even if the victim doesn't perceive it as a hate crime. Police have had many challenges issues involving a 'Racist culture' a recent event in May 2020 where an African American man, named George Floyd was murdered by a police officer in America, even though these events happened in America it caused a ripple effect and brought disrepute to police services including the UK's. Protests sparked out and a huge cultural divide began " Approximately 15,000 people marched in Manchester on 6 June, one of 160 protests that weekend. This included a gathering of 6,000 demonstrators in Cambridge and 10,000 in Bristol, where they toppled a statue of the 17th-century slave trader Edward Colston." Mohdin, A. and Swann, G. (2020). These cultural and social issues really caused problems for the police, and it was important to restore public confidence and faith that police services would do all it can to tackle racism.

This specific hate crime that I was assigned to amounted to a crime of malicious communications whereby racial derogatory phrases was used against the victim. When a hate crime is identified they are provided with an enhanced service and safeguarding those victims of hate crimes are a priority due to the potential vulnerabilities, In south Wales we have an individual unit called the hate crime team where a designated hate crime officer will make contact with the victim to provide a specialist service as they focus solely on hate crimes and incidents so they will be more suited to deal with it, In this case a hate crime officer was already allocated to this call therefor I just liaised with them to come up with an action plan. Another part of our service to hate crime victims is that I tasked my local neighbourhood policing team, as one of their roles is being involved with high visibility community engagement and reassurance, I made the neighbourhood sergeant aware by sending him a task to provide reassurance visits to the victim's house and regular patrols to make the victim feel safe and potential deter further offences. Another key element is taking positive action, whether that may be arrest, caution , voluntary attendance etc , due to there being no immediate risk to the victim I asked her what

actions she would like and what she would support, she told me she wants something done as this has had a serious affective on her, Therefore I took a statement off her, as well as providing details with a victim personal statement, however she declined to proceed with the victim personal statement at that time, A victim personal statement is an enhanced statement which allows the courts to see more of the emotional impact the victim has suffered in regards to the crime committed against them. Once the statement was taken, I informed my victim that I would be seeking to interview the suspect by means of a voluntary interview, the victim was satisfied with this. I then explained how the process would work to the victim. We also provide special measures to vulnerable witnesses and victims to support them through the criminal justice process.

As I arrived back at the station, I completed a risk assessment and hate crime action plan which is mandatory under the victims' codes of practice this ensures that safeguarding measures are put in place in order to keep victims safe and reassured and brings perpetrators to justice. With any victims of a crime, we have victims' codes in which we must follow as part of the victims' codes "The Victims' Code applies to all criminal justice agencies, including the police, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Courts Service and the Probation Service. The Code was established by the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 and came into effect in 2006." Victim Support (2021). Also, as part of focusing on victims of crime the Victim communication and liaison scheme was introduced which provides "enhanced entitlements for victims who are vulnerable victims or witnesses or victims of the most serious of crimes such as murder, domestic violence, hate crime "cps.gov.uk. (2020).

The victims' codes I used VU01 which is victim needs assessments which form a score based on the answers you provide which will determine whether the victim requires an enhanced service, in this case the victim qualified for an enhanced service VU02 is victim contact, where contact details are put on them for the victim in order to keep them updated on the progress and outcomes of their case. Also attached to the VU02 is a referral we can make to victim focus Wales which is an independent body which provides supports to victims of serious crime across Wales, you must get consent of the victim before referral, I spoke to my victim and after previous refusing to consent to it, I managed to convince her it would be beneficial for her and she gave consent, I sent off the referral along with my rationale on why we need to safeguard the victim. VU03 is Victim update, so when I decided to go down the voluntary attendance route, I would contact my victim to keep her updated. VU04 is the finalisation code "Under the revised Victims' Code, most victims are entitled to receive information about prosecution decisions within 5 working days of the decision not to prosecute, to discontinue or to substantially alter a charge being made. However, for victims entitled to an enhanced service (victims of the most serious crime, persistently targeted victims and vulnerable or intimidated victims) notification should take place within 1 working day of the decision "cps.gov.uk. (2020). If it is not the outcome, they hoped-for they have the right to review the matter if they wish.

As an additional part of my responsibility to my victim I also submitted a public protection notification report which is a detailed document detailing risk factors and vulnerability factors to our public protection department, where it will be assessed and the department work with other partner agencies such as adult and social

services, so they make additional referrals just to ensure our victims get the best support they need. My victim was really satisfied with the service I've provided so far, she stated to me that she didn't really feel confident in the police as she's used to be in trouble with them when she was younger, I informed her that we support victims no matter of their past and should be openminded and should be providing a high standard public service and promoting one of our key values of being inclusive regardless of backgrounds. I was proud of how I dealt with my first hate crime and believe I maintained a level of professionalism which was clear as I had appraisal from my supervisors and peers. The victim was satisfied with that actions and support provided so far which really had a positive impact on me as the officer in charge of the case, the organisation and the communities.

Word count: 1649 words.

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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** in which you played a significant role with an offender/service user/victim and reflect on what happened.

Give a brief description of the situation including social and legislative contexts and any relevant cultural, ethnicity and language issues. **Reflect** on how you applied the National Decision Model (NDM) to assist in resolving this incident. **Consider** the role of discretion in the decision-making process.

Explain your responsibilities with regards to the provision of the CPIA when conducting this investigation including when managing the offender and suspects and recording and retaining significant information.

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

1500 words (+/- 10%: include your actual word count at the end of each section)

ANSWER:

I attended a call to reports of ongoing criminal and damage and domestic violence threats, where a female has rung in from a different location stating her ex-partner was at the home address, destroying things and threatening her over text and there was mention over the male having a knife. Whilst on route to the call I looked on our system to see if the male had warning markers in order to build a dynamic risk assessment. He had violence, resists arrest, violence towards police upon arrest and possession of knife. Whilst dealing with calls such as this using the national decision-making model is a vital aspect for police officers as the model is guidance for police officers to make decisions "The model has at its centre the **Code of Ethics** as the touchstone for all decision making. Using the model encourages officers and staff to act in accordance with the Code and use their discretion where appropriate. It also reduces risk aversion and weighs the balance of resourcing against demand, threat and risk." College of Policing (2022). Before attending the call, I looked at the information and intelligence that was visible to me, to assess the possible risk which enabled me to develop a working strategy to safeguard persons and utilise police powers for the offences that were committed.

When we arrived at the house, I identified the house and knocked the front door, I took a step back based off the information provided where he has previously been in possession of a knife to reduce the possible risk of injury, I could see slight movement from the back of the house as I was looking through the glass pane of the window, however he did not identify himself or attempt to answer the door, I now have assessed threat and risk again, to be higher as the male now knows police are here, he could arm himself with a weapon in a bid to escape, so I asked if two of my colleagues should go around the back of the property to assess the situation if they can identify any options of gaining entry or whether they have a better sight of the male. I was going to utilise a police power which enables me to forcefully gain entry to a property "Section 17 provides a wide-ranging power to enter and search premises without a warrant in order to arrest persons or to save life, limb or property. So far as the entry and search for persons is concerned, reasonable grounds for believing that the person is on the premises must exist." Anon, (2007). Police Professional. However, the male came to the door he appeared to be under the influence of drugs and drinks and was irate for the police being at the property, I tried to explain to him the allegations which have been made but he wasn't listening to me and was becoming more irate, he then ran back into the living room shouting, I tried to calm him down but due to the alcohol and possible drug consumption this was a massive issue. I told my colleagues to block each entrance and exit as I believed he would attempt to escape. Part of the NDM is taking action, based off the offences Infront of me I needed to arrest this male. On certain occasions police officers can utilise discretion, so in some cases instead of arresting a person there are other disposal methods for us to utilise such as restorative justice, voluntary interview, fixed penalty notice, and it is encouraged when discretion can be utilised it should be used. However, in this instance I did not think it would be appropriate to utilise other alternative methods other than arrest due to the severity of the crime and further risk posed if this male were not arrested. I placed the male in handcuffs positioned to rear which is force regulation and utilises a police power under s.117 of the Police and Criminal Evidence act 1984, where a constable can use reasonable force in the exercise of their duty.

Once the arrest was executed and the male was in custody it was then time for the investigation to be carried out. Police officers have specific codes of practice in which way investigations should be carried out, we are governed by acts to ensure criminal cases are held to a certain standard. As part of the investigation, it is vital to obtain and retain information as stated in the codes of practice. "This code of practice is issued under Part II of the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 ('the Act'). It sets out the manner in which police officers are to record, retain and reveal to the prosecutor material obtained in a criminal investigation and which may be relevant to the investigation, and related matters." GOV.UK. (2020). I was the officer in charge of this case; therefore, it is my responsibility that directing this investigation, also ensuring in retaining and recording all material and records which will have an impact on the investigation, I ensured that I seized the mobile phone in order to investigate the message and submit them for evidence as this will be key in the investigations.

In this case there is a history of domestic violence from both parties, so I ensured I was not bias in the decision making, I acted impartial, and, on this occasion, I focused on the evidence and not to let prior incidents influence my decision making.

“The tendency of us as humans to act in ways that are prompted by a range of assumptions and biases that we are not aware of. This can include decisions or actions that we are not consciously aware of, as well as hidden influences on decisions and actions that we believe are rational and based on objective evidence and experience” University of Edinburgh. (2020) As a police officer it was important for me to remain professional. And not allow previous instances determine what actions I take and how this incident will be investigated.

Gathering other evidence in order to display to the CPS is also important under CPIA such as PRE-CONS I asked my supervisor to obtain pre cons, victim pre cons are put on an mg6 which will be a streamline disclosure document, Defendant will also have pre cons will be available to both the prosecution and defence. I will also obtain History of domestic violence if applicable as this could decide whether the suspect is realised on bail or remanded in custody awaiting a charge from the Crown Prosecution Service, other important documents and material I obtained was medical records, I asked the victim if she was happy to provide medical records regarding this incident and she accepted it. This is beneficial as it proves the level and mechanism of injury which will reflect the level of offence and the outcome of charging decision. These materials will be disclosed to the CPS “Disclosure lies at the heart of securing fair trials for all. Disclosure is the process whereby relevant unused material, gathered during the course of an investigation, is provided to the defence. It is a key step in the process of an investigation, and it is a priority for this Government to encourage improvements in disclosure practice, to ensure an effective and robust criminal justice system” Attorney General (2020). Therefore, it is vital for me as the officer in charge of the case to ensure relevant documents are disclosed for a fair and just trial and outcome.

The final part of the National decision-making model is acted and review what happened in this case the male was arrested, and bail conditions were imposed on him not to contact the ex-partner under any circumstance this also safeguards victims. All actions taken were necessary in order to prevent offences, conduct the investigation and safeguard victims. I have since spoken to my supervisor to review the actions taken and we have discussed the potential options which could have been utilised, however out of court disposal methods would not have been applicable, I did consider these however with the information and intelligence at hand, an arrest was necessary and bail conditions was also necessary to protect victim from potential threats, risk and harm. On review I believe I used policing values which is always the centre of the NDM. I acted professional in terms of dealing both suspect and victim and this was idented when the victim relayed her thanks to me for how the case was dealt with, this made me feel proud and positive that I could help this particular victim and hold perpetrators accountable for their actions.

Work count: 1448 words.

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Task 5

Personal Development Plan (PDP) / Learning Plan.

As part of your reflective process, please use this table to aid you in identifying the next steps for development. This is equivalent to 500 words. Please note that this not the actual number of words you need to use, the wordcount reflects the thought and research you put into it.

Identified area for development	How it will be achieved	Who can provide support?	Timeline
Case file building and completion.	I will take every opportunity to complete case files and when I'm not completing my own case files, I will look at colleague's case files in order to gain more experience. There are many different case files therefore the more I'm exposed the better for me. I will also look over revision material and notes in order to familiarize myself. I also feel like I will develop these skills when I undertake my attachments with CID and the HUB as a lot of their work is case files and investigations.	My direct line manager/sergeant will provide support if needed, as well as my colleagues on my team, as well as colleagues in different departments. Such as CID, HUB	6-12 months' time.
Taser Training/ become a Taser trained officer.	I will undertake a Taser training course in order to pass and become a Taser trained officer, I will also complete any NCLATS / learning material and book	My direct line manager will provide support and recommend me on these courses, my colleagues from my team will also support this and	8-12 months' time

	ono relevant upskills program in order to maintain being a taser carrier.	other departments such as learning, and development will help me throughout these courses.	
Traffic offences	I have always struggled to get my head around traffic offences, I will continue to look through traffic offences and familiarise myself with procedures and legislation, I will also try to focus on traffic offences in my spare time, as I learn more from doing things practically.	I will ask my segreant and my colleagues in my team to assist me with traffic offences. I will also try and contact traffic officers and ask them for any learning material they can provide and any advice they can give me.	0 – 6 months' time

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

Signed:

Date:

