

Graduate Diploma Professional Police Practice

LEVEL 6 - 40 Credits

Workbook title: Competency Based Workbook 2 (DHEP)

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

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FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMME

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

Workbook Guidance

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

What is the workbook for?

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

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

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

How should the workbook be presented?

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

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

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

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

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

How is the workbook assessed?

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

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

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

Confidentiality

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

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

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

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

NOTE

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

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

Dyslexia and other special circumstances

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

Competency Based Workbook 2 - Learner Workbook

Guidance:

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

Contents

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

Task 1

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

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

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

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

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

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

ANSWER:

This essay is based upon a hate crime (HC) public order incident which I played a significant role with the victim as the officer in the case. Being the initial attending officer, I supported the victim throughout the entire investigation, up until the charges were authorised by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). Hate incidents can either be a one-off, or a series of incidents, which can 'reinforce established patterns of prejudice and discrimination', which can have negative repercussions on the individual and the community (CPS, 2022). The incident that I will discuss involves a repeat victim and a repeat offender. This essay will provide the circumstances of the incident and set these within social and legislative contexts. I will critically evaluate the appropriateness of approaches utilised by police and external partner agencies to support people at risk of harm. I will explore 'what works' in relation to tackling repeat victimisation and repeat offending, understanding this in the context of evidence-based policing. To fulfil the reflective element of this essay, I will use Gibbs Reflective Cycle (1988).

Public order and offences involving violence against the person constitute 92 per cent of all HC committed in England and Wales in the year ending March 2023 (Home Office, 2023). Upon attending, it was brought to officers' attention that this was not the first incident of aggravated public order that the suspect had committed, and therefore it was necessary to investigate each incident. For context, the suspect lived in a block

of flats, where both the victims and witnesses resided. The male subject had used racist and homophobic language towards two residents in the building, meaning that there were two victims. After discussing the matter with the female victim (who had been subject to homophobic verbal abuse) at length about the process of the investigation, she was willing to provide a statement, due to this having happened on two separate occasions. The male who had been subject to racist language did not wish to take any formal action against the male. Despite this victim not wishing to support a prosecution, due to there being an independent witness who had subsequently been caused harassment, alarm and distress, the CPS authorised four separate charges of racially or religiously aggravated public order.

To place the incident in a legislative context, the suspect was arrested for two counts of racially or religiously aggravated public order. Whilst public order offences are defined under the *Public Order Act (1986)*, the *Crime and Disorder Act (1998)* provides the legislation which makes a public order offence racially or religiously aggravated (section 31). Section 28 of the *Crime and Disorder Act (1998)* defines racially or religiously aggravated as, if:

‘the offender demonstrates towards the victim hostility based on the victim’s membership or presumed membership of a racial or religious group; or the offence is motivated by hostility towards members of a racial or religious group based on their membership of that group’.

An offence therefore becomes aggravated if the offender demonstrates any of the above, at the time of committing the offence, or immediately before or after. Whilst the above definition implies that public order offences can only be prosecuted as a HC if hostility is motivated by race or religion, this is not the case: it can also be motivated by disability, sexual orientation, and transgender identity (CPS, 2022).

To understand this within a socio-cultural context, we can consider sociological explanations for why certain people commit HC. There are a multitude of reasons that can motivate these behaviours, including socialisation, cognitive behaviours, and personality traits (Walters *et al*, 2016). Perry (2001) describes those who commit hate-related offences as an extreme form of discrimination against individuals who are perceived as ‘different’ in some way. Perry also notes that society adopts social hierarchies which are constructed based on dominant identities, relating to gender, race, sexual orientation, and class. Walters *et al* (2016) highlight that within British society those who perceive themselves to have the most political and social power, (i.e., in this case could be the white British, heterosexual male who committed the offence), act to ‘police the boundaries’ of what they perceive to be the ideal identity through verbal and physical abuse against those they perceive to be breaching dominant norms. For this case, this could be considered due to the demographics of the offender, and the demographics of both victims.

Victims of HC are targeted due to possessing a protected characteristic, therefore may be considered at risk of harm. Different approaches are applied to provide them with support. This includes various departments within South Wales Police, who are specialised in managing these victims. Designated HC officers are beneficial because they ensure that victims are treated sensitively, and that their needs are addressed appropriately (College of Policing, no date(a)). In this incident, the HC officer sent a letter to both victim's home addresses, enclosing details of support services, crime prevention advice, as well as safety advice. To critically evaluate the appropriateness of this approach, I would consider it to be more beneficial to the victim if the HC officer were to make phone contact directly or arrange an in-person visit to discuss the matter. Although a letter signposting them in relevant directions for future reference may be of value to some, it could be considered impersonal to others, subsequently leading them to feel that they may have not received the appropriate support.

Another approach used to provide support to the victims is to involve the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). The role of NPT is primarily based upon ensuring 'community engagement, problem-solving local crime and disorder problems, and providing a visible policing presence' (Innes *et al*, 2020, p.52). Due to this incident taking place within a neighbourhood where all involved parties reside, I liaised with NPT to make them aware of the ongoing investigation and the police bail conditions that were put in place. NPT agreed to provide regular visits to this residential block to conduct welfare checks on the residents, which helped to provide reassurance to the victims who were potentially at risk of further harm. As highlighted by Wadley *et al* (2023), NPT provide a responsive approach to communities improving public confidence.

Although specialised departments within the police to support victims through experiences of crime, they are not the only agency to provide support for those at risk of harm (Williams, 2019). In this case, I used an external agency to provide support to those at risk of further harm, through the submission of victim focus referrals. South Wales Victim Focus (SWVF) is a national and independent charity, which provides further support to anyone who has been a victim of crime (SWVF, no date). A benefit of this is that it is completely independent from the police, courts, or any other criminal justice agency, meaning that victims can have seek support from an external agency should they not wish to speak with police regarding the matter (SWVF, no date). This was a particularly appropriate approach to utilise in this case, because one of the victims did not wish to support a police investigation, however I was still able to provide him with support.

The CPS also contribute to managing victims and providing support when the case goes to court. To ensure that every trial is fair, special measures can be put in place to support vulnerable and intimidated witnesses (Cooper and Grace, 2016). Special measures are defined by the *Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act* (YJCEA, 1999). The victim in this case could qualify as an 'intimidated witness' as defined by section

17 of the YJCEA (1999), due to the quality of evidence likely to be diminished by reason of fear or distress in connection with testifying. As noted by Burton *et al* (2007), police are the initial decision makers in identifying vulnerable and intimidated witnesses. Identifying these victims at the earliest stage of the investigation is important to ensure that the appropriate measures are applied to ensure a fair trial (Burton *et al*, 2007) and so that the victim is fully supported in what can be a daunting process. However, a frequent issue with special measures has been highlighted. It is often the case that police do not identify and communicate the needs of the victims and witnesses early enough, meaning that this can have negative repercussions on the trial, causing complications and delays (Burton *et al*, 2007). As the officer in the case, I spoke with the victim at length about the various special measures that may be applicable to her and highlighted that the best options may be a screen, evidence by live link, or evidence given in private. These options would prevent the victim from being face to face with the defendant whilst providing her evidence, which was one of her hesitations in wanting to initially provide a statement of complaint.

In this case, due to the victim of homophobic-related public order being a victim on two separate occasions, she is considered a repeat victim. We can consider 'evidence-based policing' to evaluate 'what works' with regards to tackling repeat victimisation. The principal aim of evidence-based policing is integrating policy and practice (Bullock *et al*, 2022), whilst also ensuring a 'professional and consistent approach to dealing with incidents' (Williams, 2019). Evidence-based policing emphasises the need to identify vulnerabilities of victims, and applies this holistically to the specific incident, and whether in the circumstances, further risk of harm is created (Williams, 2019). By risk assessing each incident, it allows frontline officers to make informed decisions regarding the appropriate action to take, and whether support from partner agencies or specialised departments is required. The College of Policing provide a vast range of research and infrastructure which aims to improve the knowledge of what works in policing, and how to apply this knowledge to ensure best practice in everyday policing (Fielding *et al*, 2019).

In this this case, both a repeat victim and a repeat offender have been identified. Sammons and Putwain (2019) note that repeat victimisation often involves the same offenders, who select either the same or similar victims to target based on their previous success of committing offences. They also illustrate that with regards to HC victims, the offender is likely to possess prejudices against an individual, and therefore may be motivated to that victim repeatedly. It is therefore necessary to take positive action to prevent this from happening again, but also to ensure that the victim is safeguarded and provided with suitable advice should any further issues arise. When considering theoretically 'what works', the problem analysis triangle provides three elements, victim, offender, and location (College of Policing, no date(b)). By removing the offender from the location away from the victim, supports a problem-solving policing approach thus alleviating the chance of both repeat victimisation of that victim, as well as repeat offending by that individual.

In England and Wales, the overall proven reoffending rate is 25.5 per cent (Ministry of Justice, 2024). Situational crime prevention can minimise reoffending rates and prove beneficial in these circumstances. Situational crime prevention focuses on the settings where crime occurs, and how implementing target hardening strategies can reduce the opportunities for crimes to occur (Eck and Clarke, 2019). Installation of CCTV both internally and externally within residential blocks can work as a deterrent in the commission of criminal offences. Installation of CCTV can both reduce offending, but also assist in collecting evidence in the circumstances which it does not serve as a deterrent, and therefore can assist with securing convictions. As noted by Wadley *et al* (2023), following the Home Office introduction of the National Reassurance Policing Programme in 2003, NPT have served as an evidence-based technique in crime reduction. This has proved successful by increasing police presence in communities, as well as collaboratively working with partner agencies, positively contributing to offending rates.

To conclude this essay, I will now reflect on the incident using Gibbs Reflective Cycle (1988). Having already described the incident, I will now discuss my feelings about the experience, as well as providing an analysis and evaluation. This incident was the first hate offence that I have had oversight over throughout, which has allowed me to provide continuous support to the victim. The incident itself caused me to feel frustrated due to the offensive language used by the suspect towards the victims, as he clearly had no regard for the impact his words may have. The incident highlighted to me the significant impacts that such offences can have on its victims. This was brought to my attention when I obtained a victim personal statement from the victim, which allowed me to analyse the incident from start to finish, taking consideration to the impacts of HC on victims. Overall, I feel satisfied with how I dealt with the incident, which felt rewarding when the CPS authorised charges against the suspect. Dealing with this case has reiterated the necessity to ensure that the victims needs are met appropriately and that they are fully supported throughout the entire process. In future, I will continue to update the victim regularly, and ensure that there have been no breaches of police bail, to ensure that the victim feels that police are taking the matter seriously.

Word count: 2,199

Task 2

Choose 1 of these 5 options to answer

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

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

Task 2 Option 1:

Relevant areas of the National Policing Curriculum:

Response Policing

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

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

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

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

ANSWER:

Domestic incidents are one of the highest priorities within response policing (Barrow-Grint *et al*, 2022). Domestic abuse 'is not a simple action...it is very rarely a singular act' (RCN, 2020 in Barrow-Grint *et al*, 2022), which highlights the complex nature and the need for response officers to ensure that they thoroughly establish the circumstances of the incident, but also the narratives and context of the relationship of those involved to ensure that nothing is overlooked. This is necessary to ensure that officers understand the risk and harm often faced by victims of domestic abuse (Barrow-Grint, 2022). Whilst during my time on response, I have responded to a vast number of domestic-related incidents, which require an immediate emergency response. It is not always obvious or apparent who is the victim and who is the perpetrator within domestic incidents, with counter allegations often being raised (SafeLives, 2023). This essay will outline a domestic incident that I attended, critically assessing the challenges that arose, and the strategies used to ensure effective policing to overcome the situation.

I recently attended an emergency call whereby a female had reported that her partner wanted to divorce her following a verbal argument. As outlined by the College of Policing (2015), whilst on the way to an emergency call, if practicable, officers should obtain a full picture of the situation, information regarding involved persons and any previous history between them. This allows both the control room and officers to conduct a risk assessment prior to arrival on scene. Prior to arriving at the address, I was therefore aware that there was previous domestic history between the involved parties. On arrival, we were informed that the reporting person was upstairs within the address, so we went upstairs to speak with her, who was with her 5-year-old son. Having a child present at the scene of a domestic immediately adds complexities to the case as it raises many questions; is the child subject to abuse? Has the child witnessed any abuse? Children who witness abuse towards their mothers are at risk of developing serious behavioural problems (Blair *et al*, 2015), therefore establishing the nature in which they are involved in the incident is paramount for their safeguarding (College of Policing, 2015).

On clarifying the circumstances behind what caused the female to contact police, she stated that her husband had tried to divorce her. There were no signs of any visible injuries, and no obvious signs of any disturbance having taken place. The female was visibly upset, and so it was important that my colleague and I attempted to delve deeper into what had caused her to contact police following him stating that he wanted a divorce. At face value, there did not appear to have been any offences committed. Around 21,000 domestic incidents in the UK are recorded as 'non-crime' following police attendance (Myhill and Kelly, 2023). On police attendance, 21,000 incidents of their sample disclosed a 'verbal argument' only and officers did not note any underlying abuse (Myhill and Kelly, 2023). Whilst not to dispute that many of these will have genuinely only been verbal arguments, it will also be the case that attending officers have failed to identify any offences or failed to recognise a continued pattern

of behaviour. Should my colleague and I not have attempted to build a rapport with the female and asked her more in-depth questions about the relationship, she would have been very unlikely to disclose several assaults which had occurred over the previous 2 years which she had not reported to the police. This would have resulted in the incident being closed off as 'non-crime', a verbal argument only whereby the parties had already been separated prior to our arrival with the male leaving the address of his own accord.

Strang *et al* (2014) found that on average, a domestic abuse victim will be subject to an average of 35 physical assaults from that same partner prior to contacting police. Although, not entirely accurate for this case, the female disclosed approximately 10 assaults which had occurred over the course of 2 years. Approximately 2 years prior to attendance on this occasion, the female was involved in an ongoing case of domestic abuse by the same perpetrator, but the female withdrew her statement of complaint, and subsequently, there was no further action taken against the perpetrator. Consideration could be given here to the 'Stockholm syndrome' theory. This theory provides psychological insight into how victims of abuse can often begin to identify with their abusers (Hertlein and Teichert, 2023), developing positive feelings towards them (Holland, 2019). Simultaneously, the victim may adopt negative feelings towards police or anyone who may be trying to encourage them to leave the relationship (Holland, 2019). This approach is considered a coping strategy which is used to rationalise the behaviour of the abuser (Hertlein and Teichert, 2023) and can often make it increasingly difficult for the victim to consider leaving the perpetrator. This theory may be a contributing factor into why the female withdrew originally support for a prosecution.

Knowing that the female had previously withdrawn support immediately raised my concerns regarding this incident, as the likelihood would be that she did not wish to support again. Trying to encourage victims to support can be the most challenging element of the call. Whilst important not to influence or pressurise victim's into providing a statement, many cases unfortunately get closed with no further action being taken upon the alleged perpetrator if the victim does not wish to support, as there are evidential difficulties, particularly when there are no witnesses to the incident, which is often the case in domestic-related incidents. Some victims require 'more intensive advocacy or support' to proceed with criminal proceedings or equally to leave their partner than others may need (Robinson, 2006). This example was one of those cases. Initially whilst at the address, the female stated that she did not wish to provide a statement, however upon arriving at the station, with encouragement from officers, she was willing to assist us with the investigation.

Prospect theory (Tversky and Kahneman, 1992) is one which we can consider when evaluating victim's decision making with regards to assisting police investigations. This is grounded upon victim's perceived gain and loss around the risks involved with cooperating with police (Birdsall and Boulton, 2022). For victims of domestic abuse,

they may fear that continuing to prosecute the suspect could result in retaliatory abuse (Birdsall and Boulton, 2022). This may cause some victims to consider the risk of loss if prosecution is not secured more than the gain from securing a prosecution (Birdsall and Boulton, 2022). One way in which officers may be able to increase victim's cooperation is to emphasise the potential gains and benefits that supporting may have for them.

This theory is applicable to this case because the victim initially appeared reluctant to support our investigation, and expressed concerns regarding how she would manage the relationship and childcare if she were to leave her partner. In this instance then, she has considered the losses of the relationship. She also explained that when she has previously supported an investigation against the same partner, the abuse that she was subjected to became worse, after withdrawing and recommencing the relationship, hence why she had several assaults to disclose to police that that she had not previously reported. Femicide Census (2020) found that the risk of women experiencing serious assault and death is highest for women after she makes the decision to leave an abusive relationship. Although not explicitly disclosed by the female on this occasion, it is likely that this was a concern for her. Effective policing strategies that we utilised were by thoroughly explaining the relevant agencies that can provide support for the victim and her child, as well as submitting a public protection notification report to be shared with partner agencies.

Another added complexity to the case was that a child was involved. On initially attending, the female did not disclose any offences, and it appeared that this was due to concerns on the implications this may have on her child. Women who are victims of domestic abuse by their current partners often consider how their victimisation and subsequent contact with the criminal justice system might affect both the safety and wellbeing of their children (Novisky and Peralta, 2015). This can often influence women's decision to report incidents to police, or to support a prosecution against the perpetrator. A major concern for these women is that they risk having their children taken away from them (Wolf *et al*, 2003). This was resolved by providing reassurance to the female that we are there to provide them with support and safeguarding, as well as point them in the direction of partner agencies as well as putting in these referrals.

Concerns were immediately raised with the child being present, because there is a possibility that he has been exposed to or has been subjected to violence by his father. Children exposed to violence can become involved in an intergenerational cycle, in which children's direct and indirect exposure to abuse can increase their risk of both perpetrating and being a victim of violence in their adult relationships (Jung *et al*, 2019). This is because children can perceive violent behaviours as a way that individuals express emotions (Jung *et al*, 2019). In this case, it was important that as soon as practicable, officers spoke with the child to ensure that they had not been victim to any violence, but also to establish whether they had witnessed any incidents. Due to the age of the child, this needed to be done in the presence of an appropriate

adult, however due to his mother being involved in the case, it was not possible to do this immediately. This matter was tasked to the Public Protection Unit to urgently address to reattend and speak with the child once he had been suitably safeguarded, and once a person who could act as an appropriate adult had been located. With regards to further safeguarding for the child, officers submitted a high priority public protection notification report detailing the incident and potential that the child had witnessed a series of assaults against his mother.

This brings me onto the next challenge that we were presented with when dealing with this incident, which was the immediate safeguarding of the female and her child. In this instance, the victim lived with her partner and his parents, she did not have any immediate family in this country, and therefore needed to be removed from that address and relocated as a matter of urgency. Her son also needed to be removed from the address, and this presented challenges when trying to find emergency refuge because many of the shelters did not have enough bed space available. Whilst trying to arrange this, the female and her son had to be taken to the police station as a place of safety. Although not ideal, this was the safest place for them in the interim whilst officers were arranging refuge for them. Whilst the victim and her son were at the station with officers, her in-laws were constantly trying to make phone contact with her. This was concerning for officers due to the suspect still being outstanding at this time, and concern that the victim was going to disclose her location to the in-laws, who would in-turn disclose her location to the suspect, putting her and her son's safety at jeopardy. Officers had to adopt a 'firm but fair' approach with the victim, with trying to reiterate the importance to her that she is not to disclose the location to any of the family, whilst also being cautious not to damage the rapport officers had built with her.

This domestic incident had several complexities, which required the application of various strategies to ensure effective policing was applied to the situation. One of the main strategies I prioritised in this instance was building rapport with the victim, but also with her son. On initial attendance, the female initially stated that a verbal argument had occurred, not disclosing any offences. However, based on the female's demeanour it was apparent that this was not the extent of the incident. My colleague and I took the time to sit with the female and build a bigger picture regarding the nature of their relationship, which in turn led to the disclosure of several assaults, which meant that we could appropriately deal with the offences and provide immediate safeguarding to her and her son. We quickly realised the risk associated with the case, and the need for a multi-agency approach to dealing with the incident once immediate safeguarding had been completed. The strategy of using multi-agency approach was particularly useful in this case, because not only did it ensure safeguarding, but also provided reassurance and assistance to the female following her initial reluctance to support. A multi-agency approach to responding to domestic incidents can provide long-term support and solutions for the victim. Having been the initial attending officer responding to this incident taught me a vast amount regarding initial safeguarding, as it was not as clear-cut as previous incidents I had dealt with.

Word count: 2,197

Authentication signature:

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

Signed: Lucy Nethercott

Date: 05/02/24

Bibliography

The bibliography should only include sources referenced within the workbook using the Harvard referencing system. Information about referencing in written assignments and how to avoid plagiarism can be found on Moodle. It is important that you are aware of the importance of ensuring that the work submitted is your original work.

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