

Role of interview manager with vulnerable suspects – assessing the risk in high stake investigations

This project will explore the role of the Interview Manager when the interview subject is considered vulnerable.

Key details

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Police region	South East
Level of research	PhD
Project start date	February 2014
Date due for completion	May 2022

Research context

The overall aim is to address the lack of research in the literature by investigating the role of an interview manager when deployed to interviews conducted in high stakes investigations such as, child abuse, fraud, rape, and homicide with vulnerable suspects in order to establish if the interview processes are both ethical and effective.

Research methodology

There will be five studies. The current programme of research is to be conducted using a mixed methods approach. Approach IM's in 5 -10 HO Police Forces using the interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA). Using questionnaires, data will be collected from IM's,

Appropriate Adults and Custody Officers.

No research has addressed such issues in high stakes investigations.

National Occupational Standards (NOS) will be examined and a coding system will be constructed to analyse the interview strategy content. Data will be fed into a computer analysis system such as SPSS. The actual corresponding interviews will then be examined using the Griffiths Question Map (GQM) and NOS components. Finally the actual training programmes will be evaluated.

This study will examine the training provided to IM's to allow them to effectively perform their role. It will also examine the training provided at interviewer level which should underpin their knowledge as managers and establish a gap analysis if one exists. The effectiveness of the training will be assessed by examining the evaluation processes adopted by each participating force.