Student perceptions of welfare support accessibility in the PCDA (PEQF) program

This study intends to explore the perceptions of available mental health support and access by student police officers, specifically those on the PCDA program.

Key details

| Lead institution | Canterbury Christ Church University |
|-------------------------|--|
| Principal researcher(s) | Wayne Watling wayne.watling@canterbury.ac.uk |
| Police region | South East |
| Level of research | Masters |
| Project start date | October 2025 |
| Date due for completion | August 2026 |

Research context

In policing, there has been significant interest in better understanding of mental health support for police officers. This is especially prevalent with new recruits who face the pressures of police operational training together with academia. This study intends to explore the perceptions of available mental health support and access by student police officers, specifically those on the police constable degree apprenticeship (PCDA), currently studying with the university from Surrey and Sussex Police.

Research methodology

Anonymised surveys by Canterbury Christ Church University policing students.