



Protecting Public Facing Professionals Online

Monica Craig
Knowledge Exchange and
Business Manager

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Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN



UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST OF SCOTLAND
UWS



about SIPR

“SIPR’s mission is to support internationally excellent multi-disciplinary policing research to enable evidence informed policy and practice”

theme 1:

Policing and health, safety and well-being



theme 2:

Technology and digital policing



theme 3:

Policing systems capability and resilience



OUR AIMS

1. RESEARCH



Facilitating internationally excellent, independent research of relevance to policing.

2. KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE



Engaging in a range of knowledge exchange activities to strengthen the evidence base on which policy and practice are improved & developed nationally and internationally.

3. LEARNING AND INNOVATION



Nurturing a culture of learning & innovation.

4. PARTNERSHIPS



Promoting the development of national & international partnerships with researcher, practitioner and policing communities.

3PO

Protecting public-facing professionals and their dependents online



Sheffield Hallam University

UCL
Security & Crime Science

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Institute of Criminology

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY

UKRI Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

SiPR | Scottish Institute for Policing Research

Peelian principles


“Policing by consent” - legitimacy of policing in the eyes of the public is based upon a consensus of support that follows from transparency about their powers, their integrity in exercising those powers, and their accountability for doing so.




Improve our understanding of the nature, drivers, mechanisms and consequences of online risks and harms for police and their families.

Create technical and non-technical solutions to assess, prevent and protect from online risks and support recovery for police officers and their families

Increase police and public understanding and effect behavioural changes through awareness campaigns and engagement


 [Redacted]
A copper whose self chosen career path takes him into a school is a nonce until its proven otherwise. They just cannot be trusted at all.


[Redacted] 1 month ago
Wow size of those 2 heifers, what happens if they have to chase on foot


 [Redacted] from Yorkshire
Thats PC [Redacted]
7-3 Reply


 [Redacted]
he not a copper he a kiddie fiddler
8-23 Reply


More Replies

 [Redacted] May 12
The British police are a disgrace.
Untrustworthy, murderers, rapists and criminals.
39

 [Redacted] 17 January 2022 · 🌐
Pedophiles, eyeing up there next victims. Warn your kids to give faulse name & change there hair colour after this organised set up has ended.
Even better keep your kid off school, nothing they can do if use there covid terrorism act : keep your kids safe 🙏🙏

 [Redacted] 4 months ago
That women can't control emotions. She shouldn't work in Police
21 Reply
1 reply

 **Thought Police Sgt** @UK_EngWalScoNI · Jul 31
Hopeless. Just do your friggin job. Policing not politics, not social engineering, not social preference.
1 3 54 557

 [Redacted]
they hire from the bottom of the gene pool.
8-14 Reply



Understanding types of online harms through social media analysis – by Dr Oliver Merry

Reputation Damage	Abusive Protest	Personal Attack	Identification
<p>Attack on individual's career and professionalism</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Defamatory Accusations: involved unsubstantiated defamatory claims about named officers/staff made by individuals who have not directly met the officer(s)/staff (e.g., paedophile allegation)2. Misconduct Allegations: made by individuals who have had interactions with the officer(s)/staff	<p>Attack on institution of police through an officer</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Political: Abusive comments accusing the police of political bias. For example, pictures of officers at pride marches attracted a lot of abusive comments for being too 'woke'.2. Rejection of Authority: Generally abusive comments made towards officers. Suggested a perceived lack of police authority in online environments, allowing users to vocally reject the police as an organisation.	<p>Attack on individual as a person</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Hostile Sexism: sexist statements towards or about a female officer, generally made by (seemingly) male accounts (e.g., capability, physical attractiveness, sexuality)2. Physical Presentation: negative non-gendered comments about an individual officer's physical presentation (weight, professional appearance)3. Mental Capacity: negative comments about the mental capacity or capability of individual officers/staff, often aimed at older officers	<p>Attack on officer/staff privacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common for pictured, video recorded, or discussed officers to be named, along with their rank and shoulder number.• In many videos, the recorder would go out of their way to request the name of the officer being recorded.

National Survey

Dr Kate Whitfield and Dr Charlotte Coleman

- Demographics

- 864 responses
- Age range 21 – 65 (avg 43.8)
- Most responses (93%) received from Northern Ireland (46%) and Scotland (47%)
- Male respondents – 58% and female 39% (other – 1% and prefer not to say – 2%)

1:1. Awareness/Concerns

	Very High Risk	High Risk	Moderate Risk	Low Risk	No Risk	Prefer not to say
How at risk are you of negative online experiences in your work life?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How at risk are you of negative online experiences in your personal life <u>because you work for the police?</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How at risk are your partner/family of negative online experiences <u>because you work for the police?</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

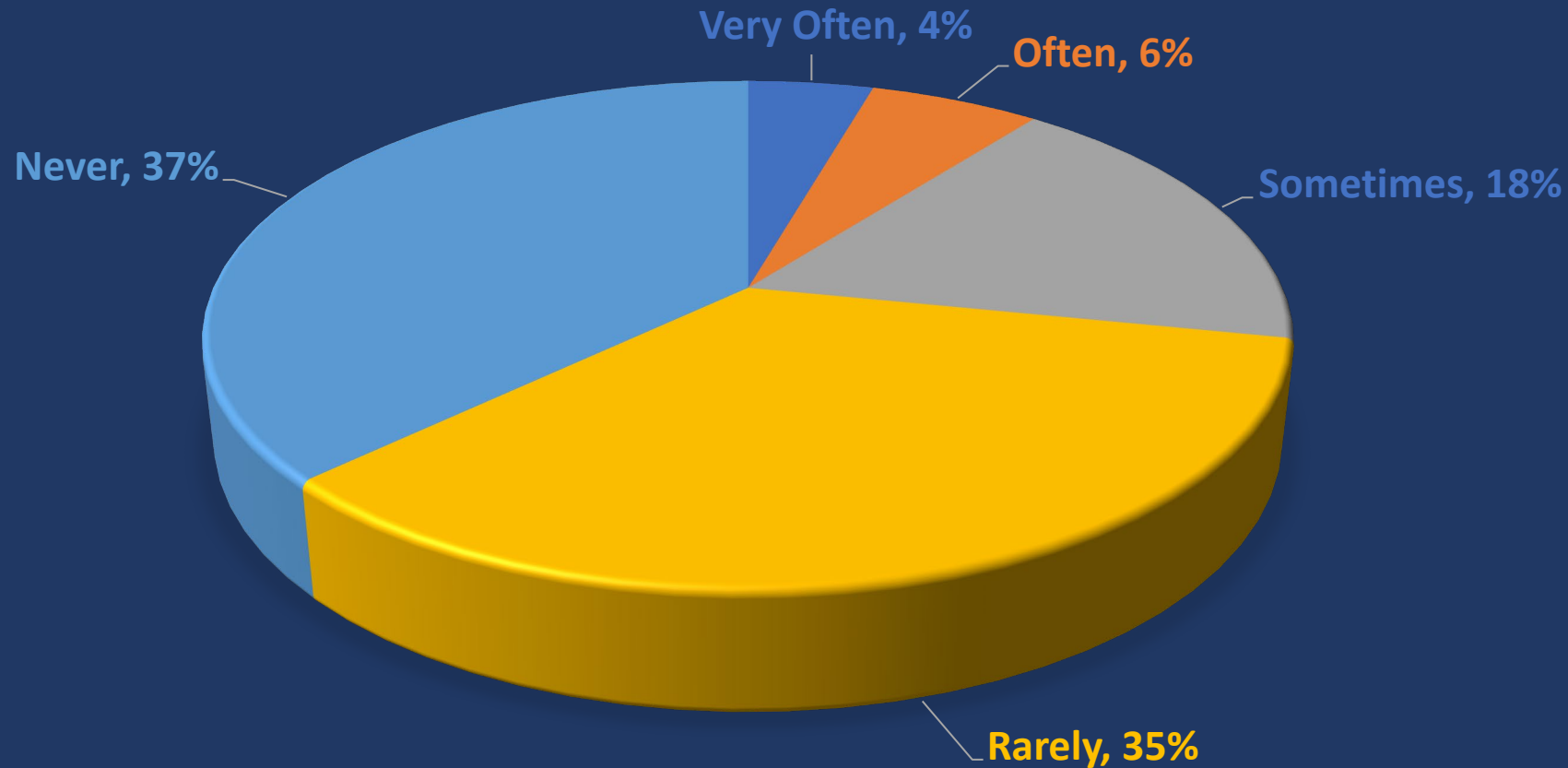
Please answer these questions in relation to your personal life. There may be overlaps with your job, but try to think about the questions in terms of your online experiences outside work.

1:2. How concerned are you about:

	Extremely concerned	Moderately concerned	Somewhat concerned	Slightly concerned	Not at all concerned	Prefer not to say
Negative experiences online caused by						

National Survey

Q: How often do you experience negative online issues because you are in the police?





National Survey

- Experiences

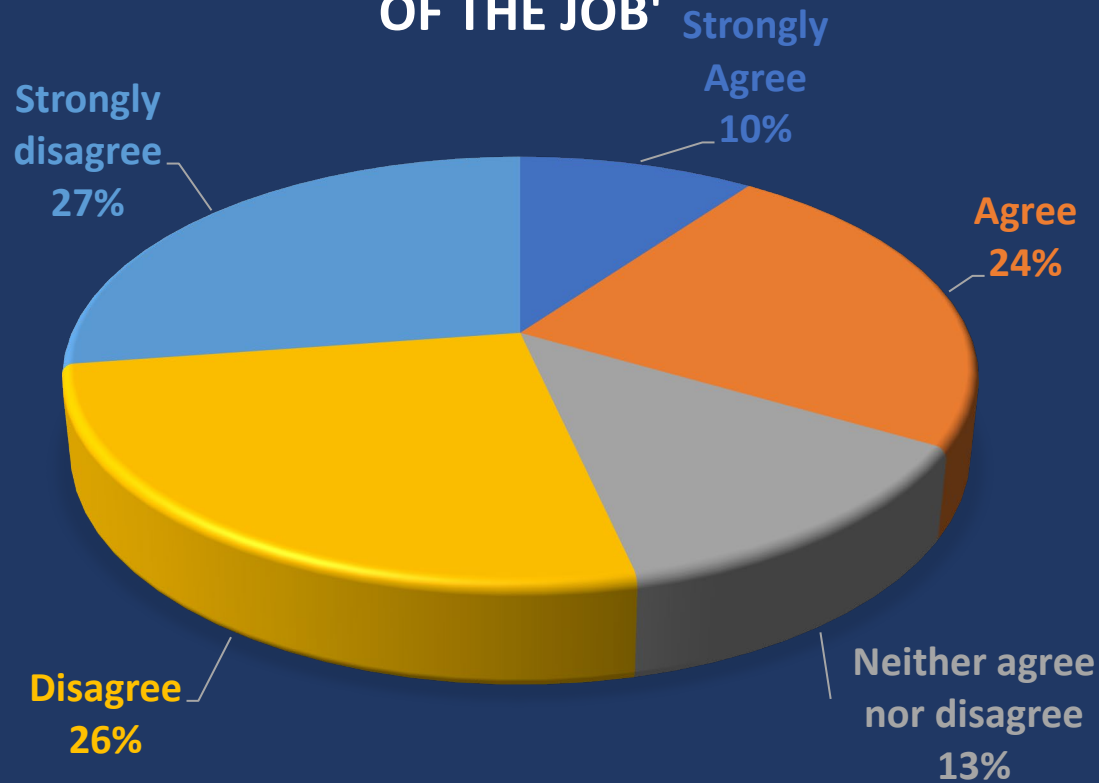
What negative online experiences outside work have you had because you work for the police? **N=613**

Work photos uploaded without permission	20%
Unwanted social media tagging	19%
Work videos uploaded without permission	15%
Abuse	14%
Publishing personal detail (doxing)	10%
Harassment	8%
Other	8%
Threats	6%

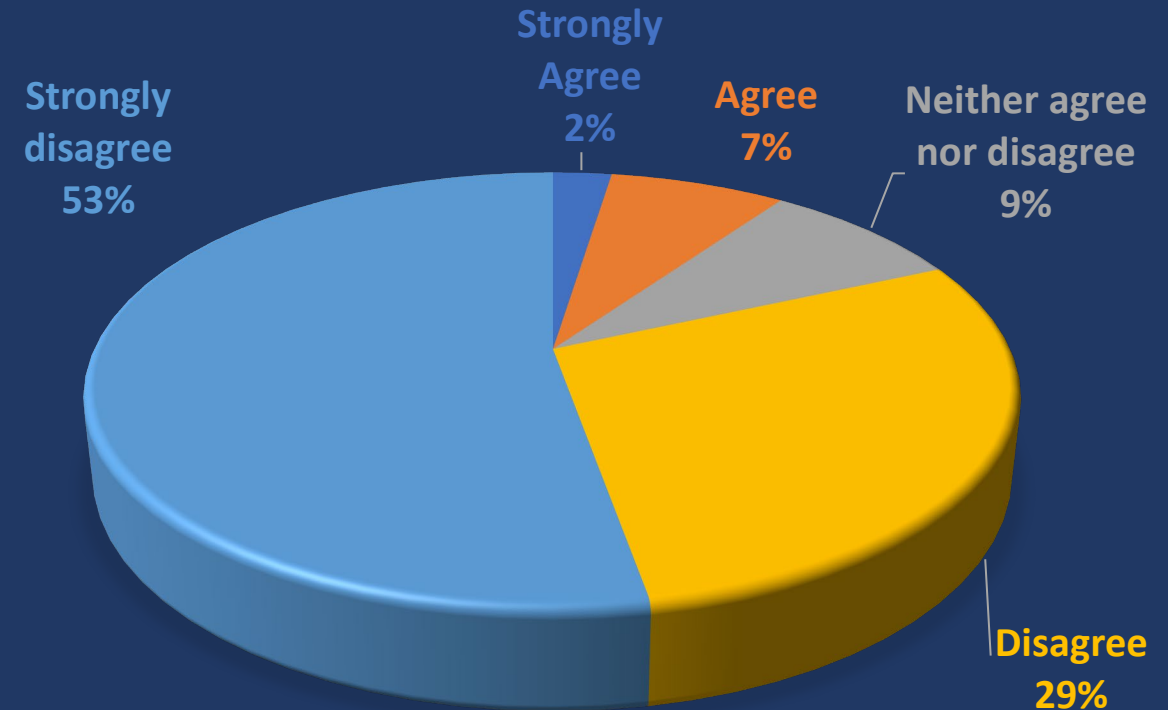
National Survey

Q: Part of the job?

NEGATIVE ONLINE EXPERIENCE 'PART OF THE JOB'



IS IT ACCEPTABLE TO BE 'PART OF THE JOB'



11 arrested in probe into attempted murder of senior police detective
John Caldwell was shot multiple times at a sports complex in Omagh, Co Tyrone, in February.

David Young • Friday 26 May 2023 13:38 BST

Detective Chief Superintendent John Caldwell (left) was shot multiple times at a sports complex in Omagh, Co Tyrone, in February.

Eleven people have been arrested by police investigating the attempted murder of a senior detective in Northern Ireland.

Detective Chief Inspector John Caldwell was shot multiple times at a sports complex in Omagh, Co Tyrone, in February in an attack linked to the Troubles.

He was assisted by...

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The rebirth of the fringe, meet the magicians, top jokes

The Guardian
Newspaper of the year

Dissident republicans have data from PSNI leak, says police chief

The contents of all 'secret' details of PSNI's records of police activities

Police chief says 'leak' of PSNI records has 'damaged' civil service

Attacks by ministers 'damaging' civil service

The INDEPENDENT

Friday 17 June 2016

John Carlin if we vote for Brexit, I'll apply for a Spanish passport

Kashmira Gander It's easy to master stress, if you train

Mark Steel Michael Gove, the new Mr Poverty

Sean O'Grady Goldsmith triumphs - Sir James, that is

Ian Herbert Ian Hodgson's Plan B sinks Bale's Wales

Jo Cox was Labour MP for Batley and Spen in West Yorkshire (Huddersfield Daily Examiner)

Shot dead in the street: MP who lived to serve

11 campaigns suspended as Jo Cox is killed in her constituency

these differences to pay tribute to one of Parliament's most promising young MPs who was killed in the street. Her suspected killer was a man thought to have links to the far right, Jo Cox, who campaigned to help Syrian refugees, was shot three times outside her surgery.

UK: More than 100 media leaders call for better police response to online abuse of women

political wide



Principles for policy

- Dr S Horgan, Dr Y Nee Wong

M Craig and Det Chief Supt M Snowden

Recognition of online harms



- Shift management of online harms away from the language of professional standards and towards ethics of care.
- Counter perception that organisational reputation supersedes duty of care create
- Create policy and guidance documents which emphasise officer wellbeing as key to staying safe online



Reporting online harms

- Develop clear guidance and procedures for reporting incidents
- Creation of safe environment to encourage officers to report all negative experiences.
- Non-judgemental, victim-centred and no stigma.



Supporting officers who experience online harms

- Targeting national policy - minimum standard of support be established and a commitment from all UK police services
- Ensuring links are made with appropriate support services where required
- Support mechanisms which recognise the specific needs of different groups of officers.



Training for online harm prevention and response

- Training across all levels but particularly those with line management responsibility
- Integrated into existing leadership training structure across each level.
- Training should be prioritised and proportionate



THANK YOU

m.craig2@napier.ac.uk

