



Vicki Harley

BSc(Hons) Psychology, 2004

Crime Analyst, Major Crime Unit, Hertfordshire
Constabulary

Developing a career path

In her role Vicki has to investigate and support some of the biggest crimes in the region, including everything from kidnapping and murder.

Vicki hasn't always worked in this team, and after graduation spent some time travelling and temping, trying to decide what career path to pursue. She spent some time working for the Police undertaking Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks, which provided her with the opportunity to review and apply for any internal roles that came up. Shortly afterwards, she was successful in an application to join the specialist interview unit, which focuses on volume crime and persistent offenders.

From there, Vicki moved on to work with the County Prolific Offender Team, which looked specifically at linking offenders and crime series, particularly burglaries across a number of police forces

Joining Major Crimes

After five years of working with various teams, Vicki joined the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Major Crime Unit, where she's been based for a year.

Vicki stresses the diversity in her role and how it continues to develop and evolve. *"The development and sophistication of technology today means that we have to keep adapting and changing both how we look at crimes and also what we use to help solve them."*

Vicki stresses how rewarding she finds her role and the satisfaction gained from being able to see the impact that her work has had upon an investigation. She also continues to use the knowledge learnt during her degree in her working life. *"As well as using the statistical and analytical skills that I was taught on a daily basis, this sort of work also uses more psychological expertise, particularly when trying to put together the profile of an offender."*

"After graduating I was unsure which career path to take. My temporary posting within the police was brilliant as it allowed me to gain an insight into the many diverse roles within the police, and consider which role best suited my skills and interests. As a crime analyst there are opportunities for career progression and I've developed skills which would be transferable to a number of roles, both in the private and public sector."



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