



Simulation-based Learning for Police Training in gaining Initial Accounts from Children

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Aim of Research

Police often come into contact with children, but a number of key barriers hinder the the collection of 'initial accounts' from children, as identified in the 2015 HMIC report 'In Harms Way'*.

The aim of this research is to improve the competence of early career police officers when taking initial accounts during first response calls. Using game-based learning tactics, an innovative simulation training tool has been co-developed with Lancashire Constabulary to complement existing police training methods.

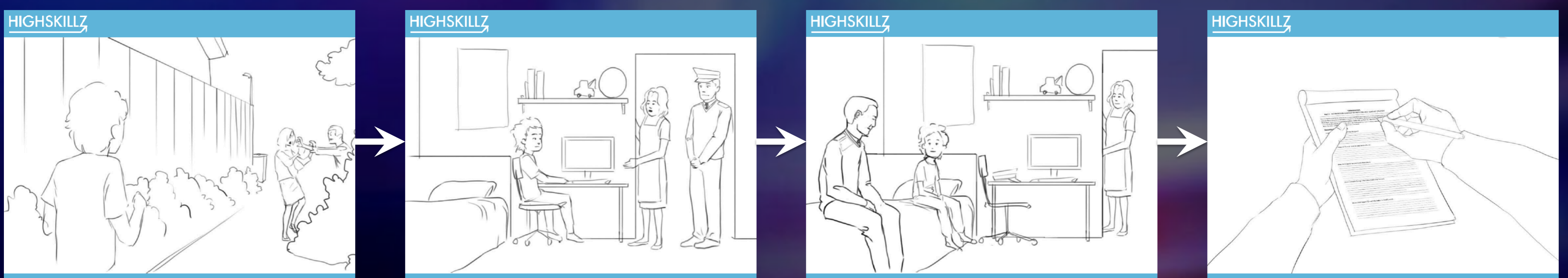
This research intends to achieve the following objectives:

- Provide a more engaging mode of police online training.
- Assist in the embedding of good practice when interacting with children.
- Support current police training methods.

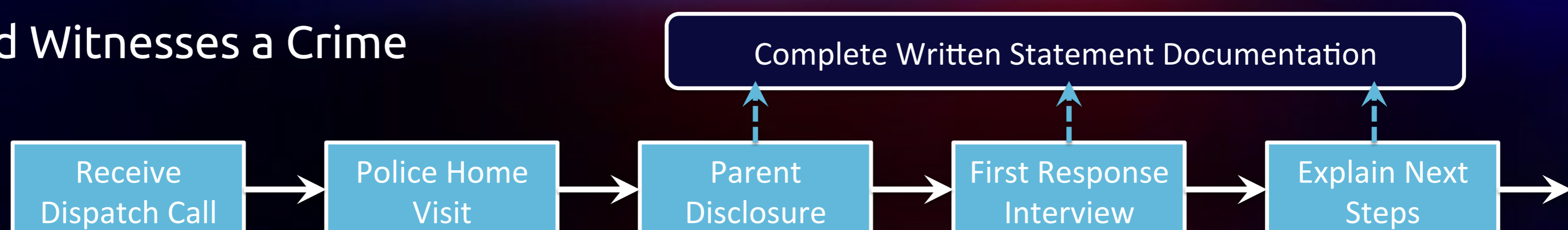


Co-Design Approach

Collecting an 'Initial Account' from a child was identified through example **Storylines** by adopting a co-design approach between, police experts (in child interviewing & training), simulation developers and academics.



Storyline: Child Witnesses a Crime



Teaching and Learning Points:

- Understanding of the Process of taking Initial Accounts from a Child Witness.
- Providing Guidance in Rapport Building.
- Identifying the Importance of when to ask the Appropriate Questions.

*HMIC, (2015) In harm's way: The role of the police in keeping children safe, Inspecting police in the public interest report (www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmic/publications)