

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

Element of competence

GK106.1 Provide group support for victims/survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse/violence

About this Unit

This Unit is about planning, preparing and facilitating group support for victims/ survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse/violence.

It is recognised that abuse can occur without physical violence, yet can be equally damaging to those affected. Throughout this standard, where the term 'abuse' is used it is taken to include instances also involving physical violence.

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

It is essential that you adhere to the Evidence Requirements for this Unit — please see details overleaf.

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

Specific Evidence Requirements for this Unit
Simulation:
Simulation is not permitted for this Unit.
The following forms of evidence ARE mandatory:
<p>Direct Observation: Your assessor or expert witness must observe you in real work activities which provide a significant amount of the Performance Criteria for example when you facilitate a group activity and are using external supervision to monitor the effectiveness of the group addressing dynamics and issues raised within the group work.</p> <p>Reflective Account/professional discussion: These will be a description of your practice in particular situations based on working practices. How you facilitate the group looking at the dynamics, the agreement of group rules, any concerns and barriers to its success and how you support the contributions from the members. You should include in your account legislation, policies and procedures affecting your work practice.</p>
Competence of performance and knowledge could also be demonstrated using a variety of evidence from the following:
<p>Questioning/professional discussion: May be used to provide evidence of knowledge, legislation, policies and procedures which cannot be fully evidenced through direct observation or reflective accounts. In addition the assessor/expert witness may also ask questions to clarify aspects of your practice.</p> <p>Expert Witness: A designated expert witness may provide direct observation of practice, questioning, undertaking a professional discussion or providing feedback on a reflective account.</p> <p>Working with victims survivors and witnesses can pose a number of challenges for Direct Observation of practice by assessors not based in the workplace and it is vital that expert witnesses are identified at the planning stage as they will be require to work closely with your assessor in the evidence gathering process.</p> <p>Witness testimony: Can be a confirmation or authentication of the activities described in your evidence that your assessor has not seen. A work colleague or another key person could provide this. It is NOT appropriate to use witness testimony from any member of their family or circle of friends.</p> <p>Products: These can be referral or initial assessments records, records of any meetings, agency approved forms and records. Any materials you gather for the service user. The use of case files for survivor/victim if appropriate may be used as evidence, in line with organisation and legal guidelines. Where products have not been developed or compiled by the candidate you need to provide an explanation of the contribution you made to them or your reasoning for offering them to the service user(s), eg brochures and application forms.</p> <p>Due to the nature of this Unit considerable care should be given to the inclusion of any anonymised records in your portfolio. They should remain where they are normally stored and checked for their authenticity by your assessor as well as occasionally by your Verifier. Where records are included great care should be taken to ensure they are anonymised to ensure confidentiality.</p>

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

General guidance

- ◆ Prior to commencing this Unit you should agree and complete an assessment plan with your assessor which details the assessment methods (including potential products) and the tasks you will be undertaking to demonstrate your competence.
- ◆ Candidates must comply with local Child Protection or Adult protection Guidelines in relation to reporting procedures at all times.
- ◆ Evidence must be provided for ALL of the Performance Criteria, ALL of the knowledge and parts of the scope that are relevant to your job.
- ◆ Candidates and assessors should ensure that knowledge evidence should be integrated into the reflective accounts, direct observations and if appropriate in professional discussions. Care should be taken to avoid assessment of knowledge through set or banks of questions as they generally do not reflect real work practice.
- ◆ The evidence must reflect the policies and procedures of your workplace and be linked to the current legislation, values and principles of best practice within the Community Justice Sector and in particular those staff working with victims, survivors and witnesses.
- ◆ ALL evidence must relate to your own work practice.

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

Knowledge Specification for the Unit

Competent practice is a combination of the application of skills and knowledge informed by values and ethics. This specification details the knowledge and understanding required to carry out competent practice in the performance described in this Unit.

When using this specification **it is important to read the knowledge requirements in relation to expectations and requirements of your job role.**

You need to provide evidence for ALL knowledge points listed below. There are a variety of ways this can be achieved so it is essential that you read the 'knowledge evidence' section of the Assessment Guidance.

You need to show that you know, understand and can apply in practice:	Enter Evidence Numbers
Legislative, regulatory and organisational requirements	
1 Legal and organisational requirements impacting upon the provision of group support to victims/survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse, and their impact for your area of operations.	
2 Legislation, policies and procedures relating to data protection, health and safety, diversity and their impact for your area of operations.	
3 The role of your organisation and its services relating to tackling domestic and/or sexual abuse, including the provision of information/support to victims/survivors.	
4 The limits of your authority and responsibility, and the actions to take if these are exceeded.	
Key, general requirements in addressing domestic/sexual abuse/violence	
5 What constitutes domestic and/or sexual abuse, and its prevalence in the community.	
6 Signs of abuse and the methods used by abusers to gain power and control.	
7 The impact upon all of those affected by domestic and/or sexual abuse, including victims/survivors and children.	
8 How children may be used by abusers as part of their abuse.	
9 The range of agencies and the services which they provide to victims/survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse in your area, and arrangements for accessing such services.	
10 Typical types of information and areas of support sought by victims/survivors and the sources of information available to assist with such requests.	
Requirements particular to providing group support	
11 What is meant by group work, best practice models, and the importance of group dynamics in managing such activity.	
12 The importance and potential benefits of group work, including the development of confidence by victims/survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse.	
13 The importance of agreeing clear and specified aims for group work	
14 The types of resources required for group activities, and options towards obtaining these within budget and time requirements.	
15 The importance of effective planning and the factors to consider, including potential barriers to effective group working and methods for addressing these.	

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

You need to show that you know, understand and can apply in practice:	Enter Evidence Numbers
Requirements particular to providing group support (cont)	
16 Ways of encouraging individuals to participate, and to ask questions	
17 Why it is important to monitor the activity for conflict and how to address this promptly and fairly.	
18 Effective ways of monitoring and evaluating group work activities, involving those participating.	
19 How to recognise achievement, and to provide constructive feedback to participants.	
Requirements relating to communicating with victims/survivors	
20 The importance of building trust and empathy with victims/survivors, and the methods for achieving this.	
21 Different styles and forms of communication that may be appropriate both in discussions with individual victim/survivor and also when addressing the group.	
22 The importance of non-verbal communication, such as body language, and how different cultures use and interpret body language in different ways.	
23 Possible barriers to communication, their causes, and ways to overcome them, including the feelings and reactions which victims/survivors may have that hinder their ability to engage with other victims/survivors.	
24 Limits of confidentiality applying to your job role and the circumstances when it is necessary to go against a victim/survivor's expressed wishes, and in such cases, the importance of ensuring that they understand what is happening and why.	
25 The importance of ensuring that you do not impose your own values and beliefs upon others.	

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

GK106.1 Provide group support for victims/survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse/violence

Performance Criteria		DO	RA	EW	Q	P	WT
1	Prioritise objectives and plan to make the best use of time and resources, ensuring that the arrangements for the group, including its timing and location, take into account the needs of those participating.						
2	Establish the format for the group, including whether the group is to be open or closed, and the criteria for membership based, upon the objectives identified and the consequences for any ongoing legal proceedings affecting potential participants.						
3	Determine the need for external clinical supervision to assess the group dynamics, and take the consequent actions.						
4	Discuss and agree clear aims for the group with the people involved.						
5	Ensure that all involved understand and agree to abide by agreed rules of confidentiality.						
6	Identify any concerns, or potential barriers to be overcome in achieving the aims, discussing and agreeing with the people involved how these should be addressed.						
7	Agree with the victims/survivors the ground rules for the group and address any concerns expressed by individual victims/survivors.						
8	Agree with the victims/survivors criteria against which the success of the group is to be monitored and evaluated.						
9	Facilitate the group work activity, encouraging the full involvement of all participants, taking all relevant actions to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the victims/survivors.						
10	Demonstrate respect, integrity, fairness and consistency in all dealings with the participating victims/survivors.						
11	Encourage and support the participants in their contributions, acknowledging their insights and input.						
12	Listen actively and respond constructively to any concerns and to disclosure within the group.						
13	Identify any judgemental and other unacceptable behaviour and address this correctly and fairly.						

DO = Direct Observation
EW = Expert Witness

RA = Reflective Account
P = Product (Work)

Q = Questions
WT = Witness Testimony

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

GK106.1 Provide group support for victims/survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse/violence

Performance Criteria (cont)	DO	RA	EW	Q	P	WT
14 Involve the participants in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the group work.						

DO = Direct Observation
EW = Expert Witness

RA = Reflective Account
P = Product (Work)

Q = Questions
WT = Witness Testimony

F9FC 04 (GK106) Provide Group Support for Victims/Survivors of Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse/Violence

To be completed by the candidate

I submit this as a complete Unit

Candidate's name:

Candidate's signature:

Date:

To be completed by the assessor

It is a shared responsibility of both the candidate and assessor to claim evidence, however, it is the responsibility of the assessor to ensure the accuracy/validity of each evidence claim and make the final decision.

I certify that sufficient evidence has been produced to meet all the Elements, PCs and Knowledge of this Unit.

Assessor's name:

Assessor's signature:

Date:

Assessor/internal verifier feedback

To be completed by the internal verifier if applicable.

This section only needs to be completed if the Unit is sampled by the internal verifier.

Internal verifier's name:

Internal verifier's signature:

Date: