



BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT

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Six weeks into their training and Guernsey Police's latest batch of recruits have already learnt a wide array of topics.

So far they have covered the laws surrounding theft, burglary, robbery, assault and criminal damage among others.

The 10 student officers have also put into practice what they have been taught through a series of roleplays including simple arrests, powers of entry, stop and search, criminal damage, public order and this week witness interviews. For these, officers were divided into pairs – one taking the role as lead interviewer, the other as note taker and summariser. Scenarios included a drunk male smashing a window pane, theft of a bottle of wine from a shop and someone breaking into a warehouse.

The officers interviewed the "witness" and had to get as much information as possible from them – including a detailed description of the suspect and a thorough explanation of what the witness saw. This took place in front of the other students, who afterwards provided feedback – focusing on the style and manner of questioning, whether all topics were covered and if there were elements for improvement next time.

Training officer Matt Le Page said:

"Interviewing witnesses and suspects is a near day-to-day element of policing, and these role plays, along with the constructive feedback from their peers is an excellent way to introduce them to and then hone their interviewing technique. By keeping the same 'storyline' for the suspect interviews, it will allow them to see a 'case' through to the end.

"The students are roughly a third of the way through their training and have bonded as a team. We have a full schedule of training right through until Christmas, when they will be getting a well-deserved week off."

