



BTEC Public Services – Current Media Affairs in the Public Services

Objective:

To find UK media reports related to a specific public service and discuss the way in which the media have portrayed this public service. This will serve as an introduction to the ‘Current Media Affairs in the Public Services’ unit.

Task

Find an online news report or video clip of a TV news report related to a specific incident related to a uniformed Public Service. Some examples you could use include:

- Terror attacks in Manchester, London Bridge or Finsbury Park
- Grenfell Tower fire
- Marine A (Alexander Blackman) trial for killing an injured Taliban fighter

Complete the template on the next page discussing in what light the media source is portraying the public service’s work dealing with the chosen incident.

Deadline

The completed template needs to be submitted to Jason Gentles or another member of the Public Services department in the first full week of teaching starting on Monday 10th September 2018.



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1. Name your chosen uniformed public service, i.e. Fire Service, Police, Army, etc.
2. Write the web link to the news report / video clip relating to your chosen public service.
3. Explain in your own words what the incident was that your chosen public service had to deal with

4. Using a series of direct quotes from the report / video, discuss in detail what the media are suggesting about the service and include your opinion. Here is a basic example about the London Bridge terror attack:

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/firearms-cop-who-shot-dead-10723257>

“One of the brave officers was just two weeks into the job as a firearms cop and responding to his first call-out, the MoS reports” and

“Another hero police officer told how he was temporarily blinded in one eye as he fought all three London Bridge terrorist knifemen - armed with just his baton”.

This media source is portraying these police officers in a very positive light by suggesting that they were ‘brave’ and ‘a hero’ by performing their duties to neutralise the terrorists. I think this is a fair reflection of the incident and this view is held by many other people who have commented in the media. The reports suggest that the police officers went over and above their normal duties to ensure the safety of the public.