

Professionals	Outline Their Role	Issues of Expertise, Cost and Availability	Some Positives of This Role	Some Negatives of this Role
Police Officers	POLICE OFFICERS ARE ' FIRST RESPONDERS ', THEY WILL TRY TO SECURE THE CRIME SCENE THAT IS TAKING MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT EVIDENCE IS NOT CONTAMINATED IN ANYWAY. OFFICERS NEED TO SAFEGUARD THE PUBLIC AND ATTEND TO ANYONE SERIOUSLY INJURED AS WELL AS ARRESTING THE SUSPECT IF NEEDED. AFTER THIS THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE OF OFFICERS IS TO INVESTIGATE CRIME , ALL OFFICERS DO THIS BUT SOME ARE SPECIALLY TRAINED IN CRIME SOLVING TECHNIQUES, THESE ARE THE CID AND OFFICERS WHO WORK HERE ARE DETECTIVES , NOT CONSTABLES	ALL POLICE OFFICERS REQUIRE A HIGH LEVEL OF TRAINING AND EXPERTISE . THIS IS MINIMUM OF 2 YEARS BUT DETECTIVES WILL NEED MORE AND WILL HAVE TO PASS SPECIAL EXAMS TO QUALIFY. THE COST OF POLICING IS VERY HIGH. THE BUDGET FOR THE METROPOLITAN POLICE (THE UK LARGEST FORCE) WAS £3.24 BILLION IN 2020. THIS IS FOR 32,000 FULL-TIME OFFICERS AND ABOUT 10,000 SUPPORT STAFF; THIS MEANS THAT EACH OFFICER COSTS AROUND A £100,000 TO EMPLOY – SO, THE COST OF EMPLOYING AND DEPLOYING POLICE OFFICERS IS VERY HIGH. AVAILABILITY OF POLICE OFFICERS IS LOW; THIS IS PARTLY BECAUSE OF ISSUES OF STAFF SICKNESS, RECRUITMENT, AND HIGH STAFF TURNOVER. A REPORT IN 2020 SUGGESTED THAT AS MANY AS 19% OF POLICE OFFICERS WERE OFF-WORK, SICK, MANY DUE TO STRESS. THIS MEANS THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN OFFICERS SUCH AS DETECTIVES, SPECIALIST OFFICERS IS VERY LOW.	THE KEY ADVANTAGE OF POLICE OFFICERS IS THAT THEY ARE EXPERTS IN INVESTIGATING CRIME , THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE OF CID/DETECTIVES, WHO MUST ATTEND EXTRA TRAINING TO QUALIFY AS DETECTIVES (DETECTIVE ACADEMY). POLICE DETECTIVES ARE HIGHLY TRAINED OFFICERS WHO WORK TO SOLVE COMPLEX OR SERIOUS CRIME. THIS ALLOWS OTHER PROFESSIONAL SUCH AS SoCOs AND FORENSIC SCIENTISTS TO FOCUS ON THEIR ROLE (COLLECTING AND ANALYSING EVIDENCE) WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT CATCHING OR APPREHENDING A SUSPECT.	ONE OF THE MAIN LIMITATIONS OF POLICE/CID IS THAT SOMETIMES THEY CARRY OUT POOR INVESTIGATIONS AND DO NOT INVESTIGATE CRIME AS THOROUGHLY AS THEY SHOULD. THEY HAVE OFTEN FAILE TO SECURE CRIME SCENES AND THIS HAS LED TO SOME MISCARRIAGES OF JUSTICE. THEY ALSO HAVE CARRIED OUT SUBSTANDARD INVESTIGATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE CASE OF DAHILOLA TAYLOR , THEY INTERVIEWED A WITNESS CALLED BROMLEY WHO LIED ABOUT WITNESSING THE KILLINGS, THESE LIES WERE OBVIOUS AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN DETECTED. THE POOR INVESTIGATION THAT FOLLOWED THE MURDER OF STEPHEN LAWRENCE WAS BLAMED ON THE ATTITUDES OF THE POLICE FORCE WHO WERE LABELLED AS ' INSTITUTIONALLY RACIST '. FOR EXAMPLE THEY FAILED TO GIVE STEPHEN FIRST AID, WHICH MIGHT HAVE SAVED HIS LIFE AND DID ASK STEPHENS FRIEND 'DUWAYNE' FOR A E-FIT PROFILE UNTIL 11 DAYS AFTER THE KILLING.
SoCOs	SOCOs GATHER AND PRESERVE EVIDENCE FROM THE CRIME SCENE TO USE IN AN INVESTIGATION DURING THE ' GOLDEN HOUR '. THE EVIDENCE IS COLLECTED, PROCESSED, INTERPRETED, AND KEPT IN AN UNCONTAMINATED CONDITION. SOCOS MAY ADVISE POLICE AND OTHER SPECIALISTS ON HOW TO COLLECT EVIDENCE TO AVOID CONTAMINATION. THEY PHOTOGRAPH EVIDENCE, SHOEPRINTS, TYRE TRACKS AND RECOVER PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE FROM THE CRIME SCENE OR FROM THE SUSPECT. THESE INCLUDE CLOTHING FIBRES, HAIR, DNA, FINGERPRINTS ETC THAT CAN PROVE INNOCENCE. EVIDENCE MAY BE CONCLUSIVE TO THE OUTCOME OF A TRIAL.	THE LEVEL OF EXPERTISE OF SoCOs IS HIGH THEY ARE GENERALLY GRADUATES (OR HAVE COMPLETED AN ADVANCED LEVEL APPRENTICESHIP) AND WILL ATTEND A NINE-WEEK RESIDENTIAL TRAINING COURSE. THE EQUIPMENT USED BY A SOCO IS OF A HIGH COST DUE TO ITS ADVANCED AND TECHNICAL NATURE OF THE TESTS MADE, ALSO SoCOs ARE EXPENSIVE TO EMPLOY AS THEY ARE HIGHLY PAID PROFESSIONALS, AND THERE IS A HIGH TURNOVER OF STAFF. THIS DECREASES THE AVAILABILITY OF SOCOS ACROSS MANY AREAS, PARTICULARLY IN RURAL TOWNS AND CITIES. LOW AVAILABILITY MAY RESULT IN EVIDENCE COLLECTION BEING RUSHED AND NOT COMPLETED TO A SUITABLE STANDARD.	SoCOs ARE EXPERTS AT COLLECTING EVIDENCE , ONE STRENGTH OF THIS ROLE IS THAT WHEN EVIDENCE IS PROPERLY COLLECTED, THEY CAN CONCLUSIVELY LINK SUSPECTS TO A CRIME, OR ELIMINATE THEM FROM THE INVESTIGATION. THIS MEANS THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN CARRYING OUT CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS. BY WORKING IN A FULLY SECURED CRIME SCENE, DURING THE GOLDEN HOUR AND CAPTURING ALL THE AVAILABLE EVIDENCE, THEY ALLOW OTHER PROFESSIONAL SUCH AS POLICE OFFICERS AND FORENSIC SCIENTISTS TO GET ON WITH THE IMPORTANT TASKS OF ANALYSING EVIDENCE AND INVESTIGATING LEADS.	ONE OF THE NEGATIVES OF THIS ROLE IS THAT EVIDENCE IS NOT ALWAYS PROPERLY COLLECTED . THE CASE OF AMANDA KNOX ALSO ILLUSTRATES THE WORK OF SoCOs AND HOW IT CAN GO WRONG. ALTHOUGH THEY WERE CAREFUL OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING, SoCOs FAILED TO WEAR ANY PROTECTIVE CLOTHES INSIDE OF THE BUILDING AND PICKED UP ITEMS OF EVIDENCE (KNIVES IN DRAWS) WHICH LED THE DEFENCE TO ARGUE THAT THE CRIME SCENE HAD BEEN CONTAMINATED. THEY ARE ALSO EXPOSED TO HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK ISSUES . THEY MAY BE DEALING WITH BODILY FLUIDS, GUNSHOT RESIDUE OR HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS. THEIR WORK ON THE SALISBURY POISONINGS ILLUSTRATES THIS ASPECT OF THEIR WORK AND THE DANGERS IN IT. THE SoCOs DID A GOOD JOB OF SECURING THE CRIME SCENE BUT UNFORTUNATELY SOME OF THE TOXIN (IN A PERFUME BOTTLE) WAS REMOVED BY THE RUSSIAN AGENTS AND WAS LATER FOUND IN A BIN BY MAN WHO GAVE IT TO HIS PARTNER, SHE SPRAYED IT ON HER WRIST AND LATER DIED.

Forensic Scientists and Specialists	A FORENSIC SCIENTIST PROVIDES SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE FOR USE IN COURTS OF LAW TO SUPPORT THE PROSECUTION OR DEFENCE IN CRIMINAL AND CIVIL INVESTIGATIONS. FORENSIC SPECIALISTS ARE FORENSIC SCIENTISTS BUT GENERALLY WORK IN A SPECIALIST FIELD. SPECIALISMS INCLUDE DNA ANALYSIS, TOXICOLOGY, COMPUTING FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY, FIRE ANALYSIS (IN ARSON INVESTIGATIONS), TOXICOLOGY (POISONINGS) AND PSYCHOLOGY.	FORENSIC SCIENTISTS HAVE A HIGH LEVEL OF EXPERTISE , THEY WILL HAVE A MINIMUM QUALIFICATION OF FIRST DEGREE IN A SCIENCE SUBJECT. FORENSIC SPECIALISTS ARE EVEN QUALIFIED MANY HAVE A MASTER'S DEGREE OR PhD RELATED TO THEIR CHOSEN SPECIALISM. THE COST OF FORENSIC SCIENCE SERVICES IS VERY HIGH. A REPORT BY BBC NEWS IN 2013 SUGGESTED THAT THE SERVICE COST BETWEEN £300M AND £350M ANNUALLY. THIS IS BECAUSE THE STAFF ARE GENERALLY HIGHLY PAID AND NEED UP-TO-DATE AND EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT TO DO THEIR JOBS. THE AVAILABILITY OF FORENSIC SCIENCE STAFF IS LOW. POLICE BUDGETS HAVE BEEN CUT IN RECENT YEAR AND POLICE MAY SEE THESE SERVICES AS AN OPTIONAL 'EXTRA'.	FORENSIC SCIENTISTS' EXPERTISE IS OFTEN NEEDED IN A COMPLEX CASES . THEY CAN CONCLUSIVELY LINK SUSPECTS TO A CRIME (OR ELIMINATE THEM FROM THE INVESTIGATION) FORENSIC CAN TAKE SAMPLES COLLECTED BY THE SoCOs AT THE CRIME SCIENCE AND THEN ANALYSE THEM IN LABORATORY CONDITIONS. THEY CAN FIND EVIDENCE THAT MIGHT BE VERY HARD TO DETECT WITHOUT COMPLEX TECHNOLOGY. FOR EXAMPLE, IT WAS MICROSCOPIC TRACES OF FIBRES FROM THE ASSAILANTS' CLOTHES THAT EVENTUALLY LED TO TWO MEN BEING CONVICTED OF STEPHEN LAWRENCE'S MURDER	THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED BY FORENSIC SCIENTISTS MAY BE BELIEVED BY A JURY BECAUSE THEY ARE PRESENTED TO THE COURT AS A ' EXPERT ' IN THEIR FIELD, BUT THEY DO MAKE MISTAKES AND THERE HAVE BEEN MANY HIGH PROFILE MISTAKES LEADING TO MISCARRIAGES OF JUSTICE . FOR EXAMPLE, CONTAMINATION OF DNA ON THE BODY AND CLOTHS OF MEREDITH KERCHER LED TO A MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE WHEN AMANDA KNOX WAS CONVICTED OF HER MURDER. MORE THOROUGH ANALYSIS BY ANOTHER FORENSIC SCIENTIST DISCREDITED THIS EVIDENCE AND THE CONVICTION WAS OVERTURNED.
CPS	THE CPS IS AN INDEPENDENT PROSECUTION SERVICE SET UP IN 1986. IT ADVISES POLICE ON CASES FOR POSSIBLE PROSECUTION AND REVIEWS CASES. THE CPS DECIDES WHETHER TO PROSECUTE, AND WHAT THE CHARGE WILL BE. IT HAS SPECIALIST DIVISIONS THAT REQUIRE SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE INCLUDING TERRORISM, COMPLEX FRAUD, ORGANISED CRIME.	THE CPS HAS A HIGH LEVEL OF EXPERTISE . PROSECUTORS WORKING FOR THE CPS MUST BE QUALIFIED SOLICITORS OR BARRISTERS. THEY MUST HAVE COMPLETED THEIR LEGAL PRACTICE COURSE (LPC) OR BAR VOCATIONAL COURSE (BVC), AS WELL HAVING COMPLETED A TWO-YEAR TRAINING CONTRACT OR 12-MONTH PUPILLAGE IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION. THE COST OF RUNNING THE CPS IS VERY HIGH, THE BUDGET FOR 2020-21 WAS £567 MILLION. HIGH STAFFING COSTS ARE MADE WORSE BY A HIGH TURNOVER OF STAFF, LEADING TO LOW AVAILABILITY . THERE ARE SEVERE SHORTAGES OF LAWYERS IN THE CPS. IN 2020 THERE WERE 58,657 ALLEGATIONS OF RAPE IN ENGLAND AND WALES BUT JUST 1,925 SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS; THIS WAS BLAMED ON A LACK OF LAWYERS WITH SUITABLE EXPERIENCE IN THE CPS.	ONE ADVANTAGE OF THE CPS IS THAT THERE IS A SEPARATION OF CRIME INVESTIGATION FROM PROSECUTION. BEFORE 1986 WHEN THE CPS WAS FIRST SET-UP THE POLICE WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHARGING AND PROSECUTING OF CRIMINAL CASES. THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CPS CREATED INDEPENDENCE BETWEEN INVESTIGATORS AND PROSECUTORS WHICH HAS HELPED TO MAKE JUSTICE MORE IMPARTIAL. THE CPS HAS EXPERT DIVISIONS THAT REQUIRE SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE INCLUDING TERRORISM, COMPLEX FRAUD, ORGANISED CRIME, BECAUSE OF THIS IT IS ABLE TO PURSUE COMPLEX CASES THAT WOULD BE BEYOND THE LEVEL OF EXPERTISE OF ANY POLICE FORCE.	MANY CRIMINAL CASES ARE HIGHLY COMPLEX, AND THE CPS HAS MADE FREQUENT ERRORS. SOME OF THESE HAVE BEEN IN HIGH PROFILE CASES SUCH AS THE MURDER OF DAMILOLA TAYLOR AND STEPHEN LAWRENCE . MISTAKES BY THE CPS IN THESE CASES LED TO PEOPLE NOT BEING CHARGED, OR EVEN THE WRONG PEOPLE NOT BEING CHARGED. THE CPS IS SOMETIMES ACCUSED OF BEING SOFT ON CRIMINALS ESPECIALLY BY THE POLICE. THE CPS DEMANDS A HIGH STANDARD OF PROOF BEFORE SENDING A CASE TO TRIAL. THIS HAS SOMETIMES LED TO A DIFFICULT WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE POLICE WHO BELIEVE THEY SHOULD PROSECUTE MORE CASES AGAINST 'KNOWN' CRIMINALS