



# DEVELOPING TOGETHER

## SOCIAL WORK TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

### Template for Critical Incident Analysis

Critical reflection on social work practice will form an important part of placements for students.

The template provides a useful means of structuring your reflection on a critical incident. The left hand column provides a space for you to write notes, or a commentary, to help you present to your practice educator. The right hand column has a number of prompts to help get you thinking: you do not have to follow all the prompts, but they may help you reflect on something you had not previously considered. The middle column provides a space for you to note down relevant PCF Domains. You can choose to do this as you are writing your commentary, or when you go back and reflect on what you have written. Either way, the template is designed to help you integrate consideration of the Domains in the holistic way intended by the PCF.

Remember, a critical incident does not have to be something stressful, unpleasant or a crisis. It is usually something that you have remembered as being particularly significant, the memory of which has stayed with you.

#### CRITICAL ANALYSIS TEMPLATE

##### Background to the incident

Your commentary	Domain	prompts
		<i>What led up to the incident? Who was involved? Why were you involved?</i>

##### What happened?

Your commentary	Domain	prompts
		<i>How did the incident unfold? In what order did events happen?</i>

		<p>What were the key elements/ phases in the incident?</p> <p>What did you do and why?</p> <p>How did your social work knowledge &amp; experience inform what you did?</p>
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**What were you thinking? How did you feel?**

Your commentary	Domain	prompts
		<p>What were you thinking during the incident?</p> <p>What was your gut reaction at the time?</p> <p>Were your immediate thoughts and feelings helpful, or not?</p> <p>What do you feel now?</p>

**What do you think was the impact on other people involved?**

Your commentary	Domain	prompts
		<p>How did they react at the time?</p> <p>Did they react differently or similarly to you?</p> <p>Does this tell you anything?</p> <p>What has been the impact of the incident on them?</p> <p>What are the implications for ethical practice?</p>

**Evaluation**

Your commentary	Domain	prompts
		<p>What did you do well?</p> <p>What skills, qualities and knowledge did you use?</p> <p>Did you succeed in doing something difficult? What? How? Why? Did anything / anyone help or hinder you in what you were doing?</p> <p>What did not go so well?</p>

		<p>Were there any gaps in your knowledge/skills?  Did you feel you made any mistakes?  How do you feel now?  What were the limits of your responsibility concerning what happened?</p>
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**Your learning**

<b>Your commentary</b>	<b>Domain</b>	<b>prompts</b>
		<p>What did you learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● about yourself?</li> <li>● about how you/the team/the organisation works?</li> <li>● about social work practice?</li> <li>● about your knowledge, skills, values?</li> <li>● about the people you work with?</li> </ul> <p>Is there anything you would/ could have done differently?  What knowledge, skills, attributes would you need to develop in order to act differently?  How realistic is this?  What can you do now to improve your practice?</p>