The Scottish Institute for Policing Research

A 60 Second Briefing

The Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SIPR) is a strategic collaboration between 14 of Scotland’s universities and the Scottish police service supported by investment from Police Scotland, the Scottish Police Authority, the Scottish Funding Council and the participating universities.

Our key aims are:

- To undertake high quality, independent, and relevant research;
- To support knowledge exchange between researchers and practitioners and improve the research evidence base for policing policy and practice;
- To expand and develop the research capacity in Scotland’s universities and the police service;
- To promote the development of national and international links with researcher, practitioner and policy communities.

We are an interdisciplinary Institute which brings together researchers from the social sciences, natural sciences and humanities around four broad thematic areas: Police-Community Relations; Evidence & Investigation; Education & Leadership; and Public Protection;

We promote a collaborative approach to research that involves academics and practitioners working together in the creation, sharing and application of knowledge about policing;

Our activities are coordinated by an Executive Committee comprising academic researchers and chief police officers, and we are accountable to a Board of Governance which includes the Principals of the participating universities and Her Majesty’s Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland.

We work closely with Police Scotland, the Scottish Police Authority, the Scottish Government, Her Majesty’s Inspector of Constabulary and the Scottish Parliament to ensure our research informs the development of policing policy in Scotland;

We engage in joint projects with colleagues in the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research, and are a founding member of the European Police Institutes Collaboration (EPIC) and currently chair the Policing Working Group of the European Society of Criminology;

Since we were established in 2007 our key achievements include:

- Making significant contributions to evidence-based approaches to policing policy and practice closely aligned with the requirement for universities to demonstrate the impact of their research;
- The award of c. £11 million in research grant income to academics in the participating universities;
- Supporting the development of a postgraduate community with c. 80 students having completed or currently studying for PhDs on policing-related subjects since 2007;
- Investing in a dynamic knowledge exchange programme of over 125 events attended by more than 7,000 people;
- Establishing Scotland’s first postgraduate programme in Policing Studies for police practitioners and those who work with policing organisations;

1 Abertay, Dundee, Edinburgh, Edinburgh Napier, Glasgow, Glasgow Caledonian, Heriot-Watt, Queen Margaret, Robert Gordon, St Andrews, Stirling, Strathclyde, and West of Scotland Universities, and The Open University in Scotland.
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It is with great pleasure that I write the foreword to SIPRs Annual Report for 2017/18, in my capacity as the new Director of SIPR. The policing community in Scotland owe a great deal to Professor Nick Fyfe, whose vision, determination and careful management has sustained and developed SIPR over the last 11 years. SIPR, as a model, is the envy of academics and practitioners across the globe, and Nick has forged links that put Scottish policing research centre stage in the international arena.

Simultaneously, with the help of Tim Heilbronn, the Associate Directors, and key SIPR supporters in various organisations, SIPR has facilitated knowledge exchange between researchers, practitioners and policy makers. In building research capacity across Scotland, Nick has embedded a collaborative approach. Indeed, I have experienced first-hand how SIPR investment benefits the development of researchers, leads to external funding, and generates independent research which has an impact on policy and practice.

Over the coming years I plan to work with the domestic and international policing research community towards further enhancing the sustainability of SIPR. To this end, three of the priority areas I have identified are: enhancing partnerships; facilitating research and innovation; and strengthening education and learning. Through consultation with members I plan to develop SIPR values and a strategic plan.

Since my appointment as Director in June, I have been out and about meeting with various strategic partners. The next step is to engage and consult with academics and practitioners across Scotland to seek their assistance in the bottom-up development of a strategy for SIPR. There will then be an opportunity for various parties to work together across SIPR networks and institutions to help deliver on key areas of the strategy and take SIPR forward into its next phase.

Now I invite you to read about some of the great work that has been going on across the network in 2017/18, and to share this widely with your contacts. I encourage you to get in touch and tell us about ongoing work and opportunities in your organisation. Also, please let us know how you would like to get involved in helping to shape SIPR’s future. I look forward to working collectively with you all to develop SIPR’s sustainability and enhance capacity for independent and relevant policing research and knowledge exchange in Scotland and beyond.

Dr Elizabeth Aston
Director, Scottish Institute for Policing Research, from June 2018
Introduction and Overview of 2017/18

Professor Nick Fyfe, Founding Director, SIPR, 2007-2017

At the start of 2017, the Scottish Funding Council published its impact review of SIPR which looked back at 10 years of our research, knowledge exchange and capacity building activities. The SFC review¹ highlighted the different ways in which SIPR has far exceeded initial expectations, building strong relationships of trust between police and academia in Scotland, which have created unique opportunities for innovative and relevant research that have a significant influence on policing policy and practice. 2017 also saw the publication of the first comprehensive and systematic text on evidence-based policing² which explores the benefits and challenges of ensuring that research ‘become a part of the conversation on what to do about reducing crime, increasing legitimacy, or addressing internal problems’. This text makes specific reference to SIPR as an exemplar of police-academic partnerships and highlight the role it has played in helping the police to become more familiar with the evidence-base for policing and providing access to specialized expertise. The authors conclude that ‘in a time of austerity and tight budgets for police and universities, leveraging one another to improve practices, shake up traditions and cultures, and provide meaningful experiences to advance each other can be a win-win for all involved’ (p.254). This report on SIPR’s activities in 2017/18, exemplifies that mutually beneficial relationship, the continuing contribution of SIPR to developing the evidence base for policing, engaging in a wide range of knowledge exchange and scholarly activities and making research a central part of the conversation about the development of policing in Scotland and internationally.

A strategic contribution to Scottish policing and policing research

At the core of SIPR’s activities is a commitment to mobilize the partnership² between Scotland’s universities and the police service to create, share and apply research evidence in ways which make a strategic contribution to the development of policing in Scotland. The various case studies captured in this report illustrate the wide-ranging nature of that contribution:

- SIPR leads the Scottish Government funded project on the evaluation of police and fire reform, working in partnership with ScotCen Social Research and What Works Scotland and over the course of 2017/18 has published major reports on the local experience of reform for communities across Scotland and the role of reform in driving innovative activity in relationship to partnership and prevention. An integral part of this work has been the communication of findings to those contributing to the research as well as strategic level bodies including the executive team in Police Scotland, the Scottish Police Authority and the Justice Committee of the Scottish Parliament.

- An important part of the work on police reform is engagement with international partners in order to understand the Scottish experience in a comparative context, and the contribution of Jan Terpstra to this annual report exemplifies that activity (pp. 16-17). But this is part of a wider set of international relationships and projects that have helped position SIPR as a globally recognised centre of excellence for policing research and allowed Scottish policing to benefit from knowledge and experience gained from other parts of the world.

- One important example of this is the Memorandum of Understanding SIPR signed with the Norwegian Police University College (PHS) in 2016. Members of the Executive Board of PHS made a two day visit to Scotland in October 2017, meeting with the academic community, Police Scotland, representatives of Scottish Government and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary. Some of our PhD students have already benefited from this partnership, becoming involved in the Nordic network of young policing scholars and having the opportunity to study at PHS (pp. 20-21). SIPR has also hosted researchers from PHS and in 2017 saw the publication of an edited volume of Moral Issues in Intelligence-Led Policing derived from work done in collaboration with Scandinavian partners through the Trends in Modern Policing Project led by PHS.

- SIPR also continues to play a key role in understanding new and emerging challenges for policing in Scotland and identifying new frontiers in policing research. The articles in this report on policing and public health (pp.33-34) and cybercrime and digital forensics (pp.54-55) exemplify this and also illustrate how SIPR is able to mobilize inter-disciplinary teams involving researchers and practitioners, often drawn from fields where there has been limited engagement between academics and policing in the past. The work on public health for example, involves researchers with backgrounds in mental health and nursing, while research on cyber security taps into the expertise of those working in computing and informatics.

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³ SIPR was delighted to welcome Queen Margaret University as a 14th member of the consortium of universities during 2017/18.
Supporting the next generation of policing scholars

As this and previous reports have demonstrated, SIPR continues to play an active role in supporting the next generation of policing scholars in Scotland. This year’s postgraduate conference was one of the biggest yet with 16 presentations and posters. We were delighted to have an expert panel (see the Education & Leadership Network Report by Associate Director, Dr Denise Martin, below) providing feedback to the students and acting as judges for the best presentation (awarded to Robert Skinner, Heriot-Watt for his pioneering research on the policing of the deaf community) and best poster (awarded to Najla Etaha, University of Strathclyde for her work on the influence of gender on risky business in the use of smartphones.)

During 2017 we were also engaged in planning the second International Summer School for Policing Scholars which was hosted by the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy at George Mason University in Washington DC in June 2018. Following the success of the first Summer School hosted by St Andrews University in 2016, the intention is to follow a similar format of student presentations and academic and practitioner inputs on issues of research design, methodology, ethics and writing for different audiences.

Supporting collaboration and co-production through SIPR networks

Since its formation, SIPR networks have been the ‘engine rooms’ for building collaborations between researchers and practitioners, facilitating the co-production of research and providing a focus of knowledge exchange. Each of our Associate Directors reflects here on the activities during 2017/18.

Police-Community Relations Network

The efforts of the PCR Brokering Team were focused on coordinating input from SIPR into Police Scotland’s new Local Approaches to Policing programme. This is an ambitious programme seeking to improve service delivery at all levels.

Key priority areas include ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences), the Contact Assessment Model (CAM), Schools-based officers, role and deployment of the Special Constabulary, partnership responses to crises and mental health incidents, public confidence in policing, coordination of response policing resources, and the balance to be struck between centralism and localism.

Such a comprehensive programme requires diverse input from the Brokering Team in the long, medium and short terms. In the long term, full evaluations of ACEs and CAM are required, and the process of designing and costing tenders for this work is being pursued in discussion between Police Scotland and the SIPR Director.

In the medium term there is a need for new research projects that involve academic-police collaboration throughout the process of the development of these initiatives. To support this, a Sandpit event was held in Edinburgh in June 2018, at which academics and police and partner colleagues pitched ideas and began to forge networks that might go on to develop tangible projects. The Board of Governance were asked to cascade the sandpit call throughout their own institutions (in recognition of the fact that a very broad set of disciplines could have a role to play in engaging with the Local Approaches programme) and this resulted in a satisfyingly diverse engagement with the Sandpit from right across the network, and seeing some fuller contributions from some disciplines we have been keen to involve more for a while (such as Community Education). We attached £100k of funding to the sandpit with the potential for larger projects up to £20k to be funded through the call. Applications will be in by late September 2018 and decisions will be made by the Brokering Team and SIPR Executive in the autumn.

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4 Professor Lesley McMillan, Associate Director for the Public Protection Network, is currently on maternity leave so no report is included here.
In the short term there remains possibilities for the Local Approaches team to engage with scholars in the SIPR network (including international colleagues through the Norwegian MoU and links with George Mason University, Washington, US; Sweden; and the Netherlands, in particular) to get input from existing research and knowledge that has been carried out. The Brokering Team have produced resources to support this (lists of relevant research) and the Local Approaches Team can draw on these networks as required on an ongoing basis.

Finally I’d note that following grant applications from the Sandpit it is the intention to follow up with all participants at the Sandpit to request information on how they used the sandpit in order to capture networking and benefits that perhaps did not result in a project application but which might nonetheless have been of great benefit. The survey will also be used to review practice and develop Sandpits for the future. This idea actions a suggestion made at the Board of Governance meeting in 2017.

**Dr Alistair Henry**  
Associate Director, Police-Community Relations Network

### Evidence & Investigation Network

Over the past twelve months efforts have been directed towards reinvigorating the Network with the establishment of an active, multi-disciplinary steering group to broaden the Network perspective and activities.

Dr George Weir, University of Strathclyde, organised International events on Cybercrime in August 2017 and 2018, which were both sponsored by SIPR and brought together an international audience to present and discuss a range of key issues on Cybercrime.

In June 2017, Dr Penny Woolnough chaired the 3rd International Conference on Missing Children and Adults at Abertay University, in partnership with SIPR and Police Scotland, with ACC Andy Cowie giving a Keynote Address. This was attended by delegates from 14 countries and yielded excellent publicity; it was an ideal opportunity to showcase Scottish research.

All of these events have done much to raise the profile of the Network. As a follow up to the SIPR Forensic Science Sandpit held in 2015, a further “sandpit” event is organised for September 2018 with an associated funding call for collaborative projects. The Network is also keen to branch out into areas beyond forensics and will be organising smaller networking events on special interest topics (e.g. Applied Cognitive Psychology in Forensic Settings).

**Dr Penny Woolnough**  
Associate Director, Evidence & Investigation Network

### Education and Leadership Network

The Education and Leadership Network has continued to engage in a number of activities which have promoted the goal of supporting workforce development, professionalism and education. This included the Scottish International Policing Conference in 2017 being focused on the topic of Policing and Professionalisation: Opportunities and Challenges. The conference was a huge success as was the postgraduate conference that followed. The postgraduate event, run through the network, included a range of topics, presentations and some excellent poster presentations. As part of the event we invited our guest panel, including T/ACC Gillian MacDonald; former HMICS, Derek Penman; former Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Kenny MacAskill; and Dr Victoria Herrington of the Australian Institute of Police Management, to offer their expert opinion for PhD students.

In November 2017, we contributed to a collaborative event with the Norwegian Police University College. In March 2018, Dr Denise Martin and Dr Andrew Wooff also presented their research on police education at the Research and Police Practice in Scotland and Finland: Police Education Visit from Police University College of Finland (POLAMK). Dr Martin and Wooff were also asked to contribute to a Special Edition of Policing, a journal published by Oxford Journal Press about their experience of developing Higher Education Routes of Scotland.

The network continues to support PhD students and nine Scottish students attended the joint SIPR - Centre for Evidence Based Crime Policy (CEBCP) International Summer School for Policing Scholarship (ISSPS) at George Mason University in Virginia, USA, alongside four member of staff who contributed to the summer school including an expert panel. Dr Megan O’Neill and Dr Martin also gave presentations at the 10th Annual CEBCP Symposium.

The Policing Pathways Project that has been running for a number of years came to an end but this has led to the expansion of policing related degree programmes. In future years the network aims to support the further development of both CPD opportunities in line with the Policing Strategy 2026, and Dr Martin has also been working with the New Leadership and Development team in Police Scotland. Dr Wooff and Dr William Graham, key members of the network, are also exploring the development of Practitioner Fellowships and collectively the network is working with Police Scotland to develop the opportunities for current students studying at HEI’s in Scotland to get engaged in being a Special Constable.

**Dr Denise Martin**  
Associate Director, Education & Leadership Network
Concluding reflections

This is my final Annual Report as SIPR Director and although tempting to look back at what we have achieved I would rather look forward at some of the opportunities that lie ahead. These opportunities pivot around the scope to broaden and deepen the unique collaborative partnership between the academic, policy and practitioner communities that exists in Scotland around policing.

A key strength of SIPR has been its ability to mobilize interdisciplinary perspectives to address complex policing problems, and it has been able to draw on knowledge and expertise far beyond the ‘usual suspects’ within criminology, sociology and forensic science. But there are areas where there is still opportunity to draw in other perspectives to provide insights into contemporary policing issues. Those working in the field of public health can contribute to the increasing focus on the policing of vulnerable populations and the shift towards a more preventative approach; colleagues in business schools bring a range of expertise which could help policing think through the issues of efficiency and effectiveness in the management of resources; and those working in the fields of technology and applied computing could contribute much to the cyber security agenda.

In terms of deepening the collaborative partnership, I still see a fundamental role for a much stronger relationship between universities and police organisations around training and education. Police Scotland, in partnership with SIPR, has taken a significant step in this direction through the Pathways to Policing project aimed at new recruits but if we are to ensure that police forces become learning organisations, in the ways that Vicky Herrington described in her 2017 James Smart Lecture at the SIPR International Policing Conference (see pp.14-15), then there must be a commitment to continuing education and professional development for all officers and staff throughout their careers.

Universities have vast experience of professional and inter-professional education which could be woven into the development of police personnel and contribute to equipping them with the skills and knowledge to tackle the increasingly complex problems confronting police organisations.

Of course, alongside these opportunities there are the continuing challenges faced by police organisations to be more efficient (because of diminishing resources), more effective (because crime and community safety are becoming more complex) and more engaged with communities (because public trust and confidence in the police is vital to achieving longer term goals of contributing to community well-being). In addressing these challenges, SIPR offers not simply an instrumental view of ‘what works’ and ‘what doesn’t work’ but a more strategic sense of understanding of interdependencies between efficiency, effectiveness and engagement, and the wider socio-economic, political, cultural, technological and institutional landscapes of which policing is a vital part.

In closing, SIPR’s achievements over the last ten years has been down to the commitment, imagination and hard work of people across the academic consortium and the wider community of practitioners and policy makers across Scotland, the UK and internationally. It has been an immense privilege and pleasure to be the founding Director and although I am moving on to a new university role, I will continue to be an active member of SIPR’s community and wish the incoming Director, Dr Liz Aston, and her team every success. The SFC impact review of SIPR which I referenced earlier made the point that SIPR is now ready to be more ambitious in terms of its research programmes and its contributions to wider academic and public sector debates about community safety and well-being. With its strong ethos of partnership, collaboration and co-production, SIPR is perfectly positioned to deliver on these ambitions and I very much look forward to learning about and contributing to the Institute’s future work.

Professor Nicholas Fyfe,
SIPR Founding Director, 2006- June 2018
SIPR : International Engagement

Our international strategic partnerships continue to play an important role in providing opportunities for knowledge exchange and helping drive innovation in Scotland, particularly in relation to the need to ‘professionalise’ the police service in order to face multiple demands.

The annual International Policing Conference and the 45th James Smart Memorial Lecture, presented by Dr Victoria Herrington, Director of Research and Learning at the Australian Institute of Police Management, took Policing and Professionalisation as its theme.

In this “International Section” we also highlight comparative research on police reform in Scotland and the Netherlands, carried out by Professor Jan Terpstra, Radboud University, Nijmegen, during a welcome return visit as a Visiting Professor. The 2-way flow of knowledge exchange was further enhanced by events organised for Scandinavian groups from Norway and Sweden visiting Scotland, and we include an article based on a talk on local policing and public trust, presented to the visitors by Professor Ben Bradford, SIPR Associate. University of Dundee PhD student, Amy Humphrey, also reports on a prestigious ESRC-funded visit to the Police University College, Oso.

International development is integral to Scotland’s ‘global contribution within the international community’, and in recognition of the importance of this, SIPR and Police Scotland commissioned a desktop review to develop monitoring and evaluation tools that would demonstrate the impact of police training and development interventions within an international environment. A summary of their Review is provided in this article by SIPR Associate Dr Georgina Sinclair, and Dr Jeffrey Murer (St Andrews University).

Finally, Dr Penny Woolnough, Associate Director for the SIPR Evidence & Investigation Network, reports on the highly successful 3rd International Conference on Missing Children and Adults, hosted by the University of Abertay and sponsored by SIPR, which show-cased the breadth and depth of research being carried out across Scotland by both police practitioners and academics to an international audience.
The success of failure: can we really build learning organisations in policing? The 45th James Smart Memorial Lecture

Dr Victoria Herrington (Australian Institute of Police Management)

Dr Victoria Herrington is Director of Research and Learning at the Australian Institute of Police Management, a role she has held since 2011. The James Smart Memorial Lecture was delivered on 14th December 2017 as part of the Scottish International Policing Conference, organised by SIPR as its Annual Conference, with the theme of Policing and Professionalisation: opportunities and challenges. This brief precis provides a “flavour” of Victoria’s talk; the full text of the Lecture, together with other outputs from the Conference, can be found at: http://sipr.ac.uk/events/scottish-international-policing-conference

Introduction

Today I want to talk about the challenge of building learning organisations in policing. Most of the time we actually don’t know where we are going in leadership, and one of our greatest hurdles in policing is being able to admit that to ourselves, and to those who are expecting us to show them the way. My intention is to provoke a shared conversation about how our profession evolves. In doing so I hope to meet the vision of the James Smart Lecture Series as a means to promote the widening and deepening of police thought.

What is a learning organisation?

David Garvin¹ tried to define more concretely a learning organisation as one that was “skilled at creating, acquiring and transferring knowledge, and modifying its behaviour to reflect new knowledge and insights”). The key components of this definition are that there is an active management of the knowledge process, and that subsequent learning translates into new ways of operating. It is more than just recruiting smart people and leaving them alone to do smart things.

Here our thinking about learning organisations intersects with the literature on double-loop learning, which differentiates two types of learning: how to do things better (single loop learning); and reflecting on what it is we should be doing in the first place (double loop learning)². Double loop learning gets us to observe and question the underlying “theories of action” that drive our decisions to act a certain way.

There is more than a hint of this type of thinking in problem orientated policing (POP), of course, so we are in many ways already versed in the mechanics of double loop learning in policing. What I wonder about with POP, with Double Loop Learning, with reflection and with Systems Thinking, however, is how capable are we really in policing to move beyond our police thinking and by doing so to avoid falling into the trap of thinking we are engaging in deep questioning of our assumptions and beliefs, when in fact we are continuing to see every problem as a nail because all we have in our tool kit is a hammer.

The reason I wonder this is because of a tendency, I think, to see the things we are called on to deal with in policing as falling into one of two categories: someone else’s problem that we are getting dragged into because they are not doing their job properly, or something we can fix by throwing more bodies at it. Let’s explore a couple of examples.

Let’s take the high number of mental health incidents that police officers are called to. There is some evidence that as much as 30% of all calls to police involve some sort of mental health element, and there has long been discussion on how police can extricate themselves from the more time-consuming elements of this³. So the resulting police solution is to clearly demarcate the police response. There is some sense in this approach from a police perspective, but it is not a systems thinking approach.

A second issue highly salient to Australian policing at the moment is the low level of female retention and advancement in policing, against a backdrop of investigations into hyper-masculine cultures, stories of gendered bullying, harassment and discrimination in the workplace⁴. We routinely categorise this as the fault of the women, of course. They are not putting themselves forward for promotion, and without more women how can we expect the culture to change! We fix the problem by throwing more bodies at it. Female bodies. We do not articulate why we want more women in the police service and as such why we should think about the issue differently. We don’t ask ourselves, what is really going on here?

We can’t arrest our way out of this problem

Our favourite police cliché is “we can’t arrest our way out of this problem”. And while perhaps never a truer word was spoken, I’m always impressed that we continue - in one way or another - to try.

Ok, so that might not be entirely fair, but we continue to address complex problems by doing police-y
things. “Probably”, I hear you say, “because we are the police!” But let’s think about the net result of continuing to see problems through police eyes, instead of seeing problems as patterns in the system; as seeing issues in terms of their connection to social disorder, instead of as an emergent property of the system of which we are a part. Does that limit our ability to see other points of view? Does that limit our ability to truly question our underlying assumptions? Does that limit our ability to learn, and in learning to recognise and deal with the dynamic complexity of modern life?

Today’s solution may be tomorrow’s problem; but today’s problem may also be tomorrow’s opportunity to leverage new ways of operating.

It’s crazy out there!

Australians love to speak in acronyms, and one of the most popular acronyms in my circle is VUCA. VUCA stands for Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous.

We are on the cusp of the fourth industrial revolution that will, excitingly and terrifyingly, be characterized by technologies that are fusing the physical, digital and biological worlds\(^6\). Why is this important? The fourth industrial revolution is emblematic of the futures that are possible in a VUCA environment, and with that the problems and issues that we as societies will have to navigate. These issues will include new crimes, new opportunities for social control, new ways of social organisation, new seats of power and new geopolitical shifts.

The Internet of Things is a good example of this. With estimates of 50% of crime occurring online\(^6\), our opportunity to see the system at play, assess the likely outcomes, to position ourselves outside our lanes and leverage a different result, has been missed. I wonder whether this is in part because of a set of deeply held assumptions about what it means to be a police officer.

I suggest that when we are talking about learning organisations, we are looking for organisations that employ learningful practitioners, wrapped in the cultures, systems and leadership that enable, encourage, and enact new ways of thinking, innovation and creative potential.

In fact, whether by accident or design there is plenty of learningful activity going on in policing, for example:

- The evidence based policing movement and research into what works, for whom and why;
- In academic-practitioner consortiums such as SIPR, or in bilateral relationships between police and universities, including in Australia one force handing its data over to a university explicitly to fish for patterns and explanations;
- In post-hoc reviews of successes and failures to identify organisational learnings, (and less helpfully, typically, also who was to blame);
- And in much of the professionalisation work being done by the College of Policing.

These are all changes that provide opportunity for learning and transformation. If that opportunity is taken.

Conclusion

So where do we go? Perhaps there is a role here for collectives like SIPR, Perhaps for professional bodies such as the College of Policing. Perhaps it is for our respective governments. For me there is a role here for leaders.

Such leadership may cause us to radically rethink how we staff our organisations. Whether we want to retain everyone for 30+ years. Whether everyone needs to go to the academy. Whether our police officers should look radically different from the way they look today. And it would almost inevitably lead us to start thinking very differently about our position in the system, with perhaps a conscious shift upstream to tackle complex problems as multi-agency flash teams, instead of retaining our organisational boundaries, funding, and police-y KPIs. Which in turn would undoubtedly vex our political stakeholders, and their community “investors”, who despite our efforts to build organisational legitimacy, remain a bit suspicious of policing, its motives, and its ability to “reach”.

Not every change we make has to be grand. It could be as simple as choosing to listen instead of providing advice in that encounter with a subordinate. Or choosing to invite different voices and left field thinking into that meeting. But we do have to choose to make that change. And given our start point – a long way behind the line – that will undoubtedly take courage.

References

In 2013 the research project started with a comparative analysis of the police reforms in the two countries. This study also focused on the underlying policy processes that resulted in the decision in both countries for the fundamental reform of their police systems. A first paper about these two issues was published in 2014. Next, a comparative study was conducted that dealt with the process of implementation of the two police reforms over the first twelve months. This study mainly focused on the consequences of the reforms for the policing at the local level. This study showed that both in Scotland and the Netherlands already during the first year the implementation of the reform was confronted with serious problems. For that reason the second paper based upon this study was entitled: ‘Mind the Implementation Gap’.2

The new analysis of the two reforms at the end of the year 2017 did not only give us the opportunity to have a look over a longer period of time, but we could also draw on a greater body of evidence than existed before. Five years after the reforms were introduced, the transition to the national policing arrangements in both Scotland and the Netherlands have been evaluated more extensively and more systematically. As a result we can better assess the implementation and long-term impact of the police reforms.

First, we made a comparative study of the police reforms in Scotland and the Netherlands over the first five years since the reform (2013-2017). We tried to detect the most important differences and similarities by looking at the following aspects of these two reforms:

- the original reform proposals,
- the main arguments of the governments to reform the police,
- the policy processes and political decision-making, the implementation of the reform,
- and their evaluation.

This analysis showed that despite many differences in both countries the implementation of the reforms was confronted with serious problems, tensions, and delay. In both Scotland and the Netherlands, the implementation of the police reform proved to be much more difficult and complex than was originally envisioned by the respective governments and has been associated with significant (and largely unanticipated) political and leadership problems.

Important differences can also be found in the evaluation of the two police reforms. In the Netherlands the Police Act 2012 contained a legal obligation for an evaluation of the reform within five years after its start. This evaluation was conducted by an independent committee and published in November 2017. The Scottish Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 did not include a comparable legal obligation to evaluate the new police system. Only after a couple of years did the Scottish government decide about the evaluation of the reform. An important aspect of the evaluation in Scotland is its formative role. With each annual report setting out recommendations and wider lessons for the police to inform the next stage of the reform, the Scottish model of evaluation may be better if the main goals of the evaluation are seen as creating opportunities to learn from earlier experiences. On the other hand, in principle the Dutch model of evaluation may give a better opportunity for an overall and inclusive assessment of the police reform.

One of the main conclusion of this analysis was that both reforms were over-ambitious, requiring large scale structural changes within a far too short time frame. In both countries politicians underestimated the complexity of the implementation of these reforms. For the near future it may be better for the police not to continue the strong focus on organizational and structural issues, but to be more concerned with questions of how to improve the skills and capabilities of professional police services and...
the relations of the police with citizens, communities and relevant partner agencies.

The main findings and conclusions of this long-term comparative analysis of the police reforms in Scotland and the Netherlands can be found in a paper that will (presumably) be published in 2018.³

A second paper was written about what we have called the Abstract Police. The main thesis of this paper is that over the past years the police have made a shift towards a fundamentally different kind of organization. This break with traditional ways of organizing the police can especially be found in countries such as Scotland and the Netherlands with their large scale police reforms. The rise of the abstract police is a significant unintended outcome of these reforms.

With the increasing abstractness of the police services, both the internal and external relations of the police organizations have changed. For instance, the relations with citizens and communities are now often more at a distance. Relations between police officers and with their chiefs are more formalised, fragmented and dependent on IT.

The abstract character of the police may have diverse and sometimes contradictory consequences. On the one hand organisational changes such as scale enlargement, standardisation, formalisation, and a stronger reliance on IT systems may contribute to rationalisation and make the police more efficient. But these organisational measures and innovations may also have a range of unintended and negative effects. The abstract police may be less informed, less flexible, and highly dependent on rigid systems. Internal processes and organisational procedures may become fragmented, creating a lack of overview, and may have a negative effect on feelings of ownership and responsibility. The increasing abstract character of the police may also disrupt the close and personal relations between police officers and officers and their chiefs. This may not only result in alienation among officers, but may also undermine the traditional police culture, with its strong emphasis on solidarity and togetherness. In the long run, the increasing character may also have an impact on the kind of policing that is delivered. Relations with citizens and communities will be less personal and will become more dependent on abstract police information systems.⁴

What is most remarkable is that the increasing abstract character of the police was barely noticed until now. Because this process may have far-reaching consequences for both the police and for their relations with communities, we think that it is time for a public debate about this development.

Monitoring and evaluation tools for assessing police interventions in Fragile and Conflict Affected States

Dr Georgina Sinclair (SIPR Associate) and Dr Jeffrey S. Murer (St Andrews University)

Police Scotland developed a National and International Development Strategy (IDS) to support the strategic priorities for international policing assistance within the wider UK agenda. In 2016, SIPR and Police Scotland commissioned a desktop review to develop monitoring and evaluation tools that would demonstrate the impact of police training and development interventions within an international environment. Police Scotland noted that it ‘has increased overseas work to support Police Organisations in the Asian and African continents and that the review provided a well-researched baseline from which the International Development and Innovation Unit of Police Scotland was able to review the work undertaken overseas.1

Police Scotland and the wider national and international context

International development is integral to Scotland’s ‘global contribution within the international community’ and encompasses international policing assistance: a key tenet of our IDS is to harness existing Scottish and in-country expertise in key areas that could benefit global development’.2 Sections 86 and 87 of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and the supporting Scottish Police Authority (Provision of Goods and Services) Order 2013 provides the necessary legal framework.3 The Scottish Police College has historically provided training, leadership and development services to support the development of policing in other countries through the International Development and Innovation Unit. Police Scotland has recently been involved in a range of projects (for example: community policing, leadership training, crime investigation and public order management) across the globe including Scotland’s ‘Partner Countries’: Malawi, Zambia, Rwanda and Pakistan4

Police Scotland’s 2015 National and International Development Strategy reflects the Scottish Government’s vision of ‘Safer Communities in Scotland’. The four key priorities named within the strategy are:

- Delivering national and international training and development
- Providing specialist services, advice and support nationally and internationally
- Developing national and international collaborative partnerships
- Developing police officers and staff through national and international actions5

In relation to international policing assistance, Police Scotland currently contributes to three key areas:

- Police/Police personnel: providing professional and personal development opportunities through policing activities and knowledge work within an international environment
- Skills: exposing police/police personal to new and different ways of working to enhance skills sets, learning and knowledge transfer to build police professionalisation and innovation
- Impact: contributing to police effectiveness, efficiency and good governance internationally to enhance the reputation of Scotland, the wider Scottish public services (including Police Scotland) and the UK

Internationalising the Police Scotland ‘Brand’

Providing international policing services had necessitated the development of a Police Scotland ‘brand’ within wider UK policing. The research undertaken in preparation of this review looked at the brand’s constituents and its impact on the perceptions of Police Scotland nationally and internationally. The findings underlined the importance of an emergent and well-defined Scottish policing approach though distinguished between an identifiable Police Scotland ‘brand’ as distinct from a ‘Scottish policing approach’, which was less well defined. Community-focused objectives are at the heart of the brand and integral to ongoing public sector reform. The 2016 Scottish Government’s ‘Building Safer Communities’ initiative framed a range of strategies, legislation and guidance that relate to the concept of ‘community safety’.6 One international police respondent noted that the Police Scotland brand had an emphasis on ‘community policing, citizen safety, integrity and respect as key values with a focus on public service and partnership-oriented strategies’.

Benefits of International Policing Assistance for Police Scotland

The benefits of providing international policing assistance are well-recognised in the UK and can contribute to the ongoing development of the Police Scotland brand nationally and internationally. In addition, it has been demonstrated that the provision of overseas policing services provides a high level potential return on investment for individual Police Scotland officers, Police Scotland and Scottish communities, which far outweigh any limitations.

However, these benefits are often unknown outside policing circles. Visibility of these benefits should be circulated across government nationally and locally,
as well as to those stakeholders who work with Police Scotland and, importantly to the general public. Providing evidence of these international policing activities not only develops institutional memory but functions as a systematic evaluation of policing practices in Scotland more widely.

Police Scotland has an opportunity to promote key areas highlighted within the IDS that relate to fragile and conflict affected states and the developing world. Future international policing activities could encompass the Scottish experience of police reform/managing change; partnership working across government institutions; police organisations; industry and academia; and meshing Scottish policing traditions with Police Scotland’s ongoing professionalisation.

**Evaluation Processes – Measuring and Sharing the Scottish Policing Approach**

An evaluation of these international policing activities will enhance the professionalisation of police officers and staff, and the shape of policing partnerships across Scotland. Measuring the impact upon these wider communities can contribute to the overarching institutional memory and ‘lessons learned’.

The research found that measuring the potential impact of an international deployment should commence prior to deployment when police officers and staff could consider how their overseas activities might influence their future activities on their return to Scotland, how that overseas experience might open up new horizons and an exposure to different cultures and values. Bringing home the experience varied policing challenges and new cultural encounters could potentially impact upon the way that police officer interacts with very diverse Scottish communities.

Historically international policing assistance, and the impact that this may have had, has had little visibility outside police circles. Yet there was clear recognition that the benefits to local police internationally could also be transferred back to Scotland for the greater good of local communities and to enhance police-community relations. Providing evidence of these activities on a regular basis would provide a systematic evaluation of police practices outside of Scotland and demonstrate how potential ‘impact’ at national as well as at international levels. The process of evaluation would require a range of methods that could capture international activities, the impact upon those local communities and chart how these outcomes had or could be transferred to the national-local contexts in Scotland. Impact evaluation employed through a range of qualitative-based approaches could measure international policing activities within four key areas: the International (e.g. fragile and conflict affected states); the National through partnership working with Scottish stakeholders and within local Scottish communities. The support required for these ongoing impact evaluation programmes will provide further opportunities for police practitioners and academic researchers to engage in knowledge exchange activities and evidence-based practice.

**Wider Partnership Working**

Working with police partners who are committed to community engagement is central to the safer communities’ strategy in Scotland. One approach could be through dedicated project work by bringing the key players within the wider community safety agenda together with Police Scotland. This would entail knowledge-sharing and development of joint working opportunities through the evaluation of international activities. Sharing the experiences of international activities and knowledge gained through impact evaluations with Scottish communities can bring about enhanced police-community relations.

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SRC-funded Overseas International Visit to Norway: Exploring the importance of space and place in the police investigation of missing persons

Amy Humphrey (University of Dundee)

In May 2017, Amy, a PhD student at the University of Dundee, spent 3 weeks as a visiting scholar at the Police University College (PHS), Oslo, funded by the ESRC Overseas Institutional Visit scholarship. The stay emerged from discussions with fellow PHS and George Mason University postgraduates during the inaugural SIPR Summer School that she attended in St Andrews the previous year. It would not have been possible without the strong relationship, formalised via the MOU signed in 2015 between SIPR and PHS. Her aspirations for this visit were two-fold: to build on these developing links at the postgraduate level, initiating an ongoing reciprocal exchange of early years scholars between our institutions; and secondly to disseminate and explore her own research findings in a comparative setting. The visit also had unintended but enduring benefits which Amy also shares in this article.

My Research:

My research ‘Journeys to found’ explores the practices and networks of UK Territorial police, police animals and policing technology in missing persons work. I am now in the writing up year of an ESRC-funded PhD based at the University of Dundee.

Being missing has been linked to risks and vulnerabilities such as child sexual exploitation¹, gang involvement (such as County Lines²) and on a regular basis to mental ill health, self-harm and suicide³. It is a high risk and highly scrutinised area for policing, with serious consequences to both individuals, society and the police if mis-handled. Police in the UK handle over 370,000 calls relating to missing people each year⁴.

I used a combination of qualitative research methods in two case study areas, including one division of Police Scotland, to capture in detail the complexity of policing in this area. Further, I have constructed a thematic framework of what success in missing persons police work means to officers and staff at all levels and roles, as well as influential national specialists and leaders. At the time of the visit I had recently completed data collection, had interim results, and had been actively reflecting and writing about some of the more novel aspects of my methodology.

Why PHS?

PHS has a thriving research community with close links with practitioners across all the Nordic countries, and a large, active PhD cohort researching a number of areas relevant to both my current and future research interests. As it is the national police training and education establishment, I was able to share my work with academics and practitioners alike, ensuring its international relevance was explored in both contexts.

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Having met some of the PhD students at the SIPR summer school last year, I was also keen to spend more time getting to know them and sharing our research. It seems PhD colleagues at PHS had the same idea, as I accepted an invitation to contribute to a Special Interest Seminar on Police Organisational Boundaries in May, alongside information on the Young Nordic Police Research Network’s (YNPRN) Annual conference the same week.

In terms of Missing Persons, despite no apparent academic focus on missing (which is interesting in itself) Norway is well known in UK search circles, for their Joint Coordination Search and Rescue teams, especially the training, so I was drawn to explore those aspects further.

Making the Most of the Opportunity:

Key objectives of this visit were to build on the SIPR-PHS partnership at postgraduate level; engage in international knowledge exchange around my PhD findings; and explore potential for an international comparative post-doctoral project on the policing of missing persons.
Gaining Comparative perspective:

Using contacts here in the UK and at PHS (special thanks to Nina Jon, my Sponsor at PHS, and Joe Apps of the UK Missing Persons Bureau), I met with a number of missing persons practitioners. This included two days with the Norwegian Criminal Investigation Bureau (Kripos) to explore Disaster Victim Identification and Family Liaison work. In turn, a Kripos contact introduced me to the Oslo Police Districts Missing Person Unit, with whom I spent a long afternoon comparing notes. Unfortunately on this occasion I was unable to look more into the Joint Coordination centres.

From these applied visits, especially, I have identified some interesting and potentially impactful areas of difference in the two national approaches which I can use to inform a postdoctoral funding application, which aims to look beyond the narrow confines of the police as an organisation and instead explores missing person police work in the context of the society they serve. Of particular note in comparison to UK debates, is the comparative lack of organisation boundary tension between police and other partners such as social services, and the embedded sense of community responsibility underscoring responses to vulnerable children.

These experiences have also given me fresh insights into my PhD data and its application in both the UK and Norwegian contexts. My interest in my own research has been renewed by this fresh insight – a sorely needed boost during the ‘writing phase’ of a PhD.

Network building and knowledge exchange

As part of the Young Nordic Police Research Network (YNPRN), I presented my paper ‘Integrity and Position in Embedded Research Practice’ which looks at the benefits of contributing whilst researching. Contributing to a separate special interest group, allowed me to strengthen my own application of the theories in my thesis.

A connected series of networking events the same week helped cement my relationship with a core group of this network with common research and academic interests, enhancing future research opportunities. More valuable to me however was the opportunity to be part of a community of researchers, not just in terms of academic benefits, but in building stronger personal relationships with other early years academics, widening my peer network.

During the YNPRN seminars, a commitment was made to boost involvement of Scottish postgraduate police researchers in the Nordic networks and vice-versa. This year has seen a number of reciprocal visits, and increased representation of Scottish students at the 2018 YNPRN Conference.

I am very grateful to the ESRC, the SIPR-PHS partnership and my supervisors: Nick Fyfe, Jon Mendel and Penny Woolnough, for supporting this opportunity.

Celebrating constitution day (May 17th) with other early career police researchers

References

Local policing and public trust

Professor Ben Bradford (SIPR Associate / Institute for Global City Policing, UCL) and Professor Jon Jackson (London School of Economics)

Police rely on the trust of the public. Even if the idea of ‘policing by consent’ brushes over important questions about the nature of state power and what happens when consent is withdrawn, there can be little doubt that the activity of policing, in liberal democracies, relies on the active cooperation of citizens – and that trust is a vital motivator of such cooperation. This is especially true in the arena of local policing. The ability of police to solve local problems of crime and disorder relies fundamentally on local residents reporting, cooperating and, increasingly, participating. Symmetrically, local policing policies have often been aimed at enhancing public trust by enhancing police-community interaction and reducing distance and tension between officers and residents.

Often lacking, though, has been a clear understanding of what trust is and where it comes from. This has impeded both the understanding of trust generation and maintenance, and the ability to set meaningful and achievable goals. Too often, police have been charged with increasing public trust without being given the tools to grasp the issues at hand and an awareness of what is possible and what is not. In this article, Professors Bradford and Jackson outline a definition of trust that is gaining widespread acceptance in the social science literature, and explore how using this definition can aid in understanding public trust in policing.

This article is based on a talk presented by Professor Bradford at a SIPR workshop held in Edinburgh in December 2017 for police researcher colleagues from the Swedish Crime Prevention Council.

What is trust in the police?

On many current accounts, trust can be defined as the judgment an individual makes concerning the likelihood that a person, organization, or other corporate body will follow through with an expected, valued action under conditions of uncertainty. Trust is cognitive and subjective – the trustor must make a judgement about the trustee – and constitutes, at least to some degree, a ‘leap of faith’, since we do not know whether those we trust will actually do the things we trust them to do. Moreover, trust relationships revolve around actions or behaviours valued by the trustor, so a failure to act or produce a desired outcome is in some way harmful. Trust inevitably contains an element of risk – and willing vulnerability to the potential misdeeds of the trustee is often seen as central to the concept of trust.

At stake here are people’s expectations regarding valued, yet uncertain, future behaviours of police. What will happen if officers are summoned to deal with an incident? Will they behave in an appropriate manner? Will they produce a desired outcome? These questions cannot be definitively answered: we can never be certain what will actually happen. Yet, we form judgments about the intentions and capabilities of police to fulfil particular, valued, functions – and these judgments are foundational components of trust.

Particularly important in these judgements is the distinction between effectiveness and fairness, and – in the wider trust literature – between outcomes and (good) intentions. Trust rests in part on assessments of how effective police are in achieving outcomes – e.g. dealing with crime and disorder. But police are also assessed on the extent to which they use their authority in measured, restrained, and professional ways: by being neutral, respectful and fair; communicating clearly, openly and honestly; by providing people a voice. This second requirement – procedural justice – is a particularly important component of trust, and usually more so than questions of effectiveness. Evaluations of police community engagement are a further central component of trust. It is here, in particular, that neighbourhood concerns come to the fore. Many people attend closely to the extent officers are present in their neighbourhood, and they expect police to listen to, understand and act on the concerns of local residents.
Trust can, then, be best seen as a process. It 'begins' with evaluations of individual and/or organizational behaviour, which in turn form expectations of likely future behaviours. Evaluations and expectations shape in turn willing vulnerability under conditions of risk. Trust is thus based in part on direct and indirect experiences of police officers, important moments in which the beliefs that constitute trust are formed. But the 'knowledge' one has of the police – the expectations and evaluations one forms – is garnered from many different sources: generalized propensities and motivations to trust; the extent to which one believes police represent and enact certain values; perceptions of the types of outcomes police produce; and others beside.

Sources of trust

Elucidating the sources of trust further offers insight into where police can focus efforts to enhance trust – and also the limits to such efforts. There are, first, factors they can control – most obviously, direct contact between officers and public, 'teachable' moments during which people glean important information about the intentions and capabilities of the police. We could add here other direct forms of communication, such as neighbourhood leaflet drops and, of course, social media. Second, there are factors that may be under the control of the police. Neighbourhood concerns about crime and disorder, and perceptions of social cohesion, are closely linked to trust, perhaps most importantly because those living in orderly and cohesive neighbourhoods infer from this very order and cohesion that the police are both effective and well-intentioned. But there is considerable doubt about the extent to which police action has an effect on crime and disorder in local areas. It may well have some, but whether this is a suitable or sufficient policy lever for increasing public trust is another question entirely.

Third, there is a large set factors that are largely beyond the control of the police. General motivations to trust and other psychological traits, certainly. But more pertinent may be people's locations in vertical and horizontal structures of social ordering. 'Group position', the place individuals and groups occupy within hierarchies of power, income and influence can have an important effect on trust. Put bluntly, those who do well out of a particular social and political arrangement seem likely, all else equal, to believe an institution tasked with maintaining it are 'doing a good job': those served less well may make a different set of inferences about its capabilities and intentions. People's social and physical 'locations', and how they experience these locations, are important factors in shaping their knowledge of policing.

Conclusion

In some ways the lesson here is well known. If police wish to enhance trust, they must attend to the quality of interactions between officers and public, demonstrate an appropriate neighbourhood presence, and communicate well with those they serve. Trust is in this sense profoundly local, formed in the quotidian interaction between police and public. Yet, evaluations and expectations of police also stem from other sources, many of which are beyond the ability of police to influence. The extent to which wider – even global – economic forces shape the character and condition of local areas, for example, is likely to have an effect on trust. There is, in other words, a limit to what police can expect, and be expected, to achieve, and it is important that this limit is recognised in performance targets, goals or aspirations that are set in this area.

We will close with two thoughts. First, this may be no bad thing – it is entirely plausible to suggest that people can have too much trust in police, which may allow excessive freedom to an already powerful institution. Second, none of the above should be taken to mean that police should only 'do' procedural justice and community engagement because they wish to garner trust in return. These are simply the right ways to do policing. Indeed, they may be particularly important in communities where structural issues of poverty and exclusion inhibit the extent to which they build trust – another example of policing's 'impossible job', perhaps.

References

Working in partnership with Police Scotland and SIPR the 3rd International Conference on Missing Children and Adults was organised by Dr Penny Woolnough, Associate Director for the SIPR Evidence & Investigation Network, and was held at Abertay University from the 14th-16th June 2017. It is the only international conference which sees academics, practitioners and policy makers come together to explore and discuss the full range of issues associated with the challenges faced by those who are missed, those who are charged with responding to missing and those who are affected by missing in its broadest sense. This was the first time that this important event had been hosted in Scotland and it was a great chance to showcase the breadth and depth of work going on across Scotland in relation to missing persons and reiterated Scotland's commitment to leading development of policy and practice in this area. SIPR was delighted to sponsor the attendance of one of the Keynote Speakers, Dr Susan Hitchin of Interpol.

Vital to the cross-disciplinary nature of missing, the conference attracted delegates from a range of disciplines and organisations including: academics and students; police officers and specialist police staff; search & rescue personnel; charities; health and social care; local and national government; and, importantly, those immediately affected by missing as former missing people themselves or as family members of former and currently missing individuals.

Highlighting the sometimes tragic nature of missing, Professor Dame Sue Black, Director of the Leverhulme Centre for Forensic Science at Dundee University and Dr Susan Hitchin of Interpol reminded us of the local, human and personal nature of identification and recovery as well as the international challenges associated with communicating across national boundaries to facilitate human identification and development of technologies and tools to speed up forensic processes and investigations. Linked to this, two sessions were devoted to presentations on psychological aspects of missing person identification (Professor James Lampinen, University of Arkansas) forensic age progression (Ali Bukar, University of Bradford) and the identification and recovery of bodies in a variety of environments including marine (Jon Rees, CEFAS), inland waterways (Lorna Dennison-Wilkins, Sussex Police / Dundee University) and on land (Zara Fuhl, National Crime Agency).

Focusing on the lived experiences of missing, four international family members (Loren O’Keeffe, Inger de Vries, Medea Moons and Allison Drew) with varied and powerful experiences of missing, provided some early inputs in the conference to remind us of the personal experiences of family members, the complexities of missing abroad, and the power of the internet (which was echoed by Esther Beadle (former missing person) and Joe Hamilton (student, Abertay University) in later inputs). This was complimented by a session on the correlates and treatment needs of psychological distress in relatives of missing (led by Geert Smid, University of Groningen) and community responses to missing which explored experiences in a diverse range of countries including Mexico (Arely Cruz-Santiago, Durham University), Israel (Shuki...
Taking a missing person centred approach, the conference also allowed significant discussion regarding responses to young people at risk covering issues of partnership working (Gillian Scott, Police Scotland and Liz Lafferty, South Lanarkshire Council); child protection mechanisms as a prevention and response tool (Harold Burrows, National Search and Rescue Dog Association, and Michaela Zanneki, The Smile of the Child, Greece); and a bespoke project for responses to young runaways in Tayside (Alison Watson, Shelter Scotland, and Mike Whitford, Police Scotland).

Staying with the theme of return, a session was dedicated to exploring how best to manage return for missing adults and children and the important opportunity which return interviews / discussions offer for support and protection (led by Hester Parr, Glasgow University).

The importance of technology and developing new investigative techniques was also a key theme of the conference. Behavioural and psychological approaches / developments were shared including the development of a missing interest and proclivity scale (Claire Taylor, Abertay University); ongoing work to examine the efficacy of a self-administered report form in missing persons investigations (Donata Andriuskeviciute and Fiona Gabbert, Goldsmiths University) and proof of feasibility studies to develop an interactive geo-spatial decision support system for police forces (Susan Giles, Liverpool University, and John Bayly, Liverpool John Moores University).

These paragraphs give a flavour of the conference but by no means convey the full conference. As conference chair I was overwhelmed by the diversity of topics presented and discussed at the conference and I encourage anyone interested to look at the full programme and book of abstracts along with copies of many of the presentations which can be accessed at: https://www.abertay.ac.uk/research/society/conference-missing-children-and-adults/

The final important point I wish to make is that in May 2017, the Scottish Government published the first National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland with the four key themes of Prevention, Response, Support and Protection. The publication of this Framework represents a significant step for missing in Scotland, and was referred to throughout the conference by Scottish delegates from all partner agencies represented. The conference critically allowed us to discuss the new Framework with our international colleagues and to challenge our understanding, knowledge and current ways of working in relation to these key themes. New and innovative knowledge was shared, many vital questions asked and new connections made.
SIPR Research, Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building Awards

Supported by funding provided by Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority, SIPR regularly awards research and knowledge exchange grants on topics aligned with current policing priorities. These awards are intended to support:

- Research that is relevant for policing in Scotland;
- Knowledge exchange involving academic, practitioner and policy communities;
- Enhancing the UK and/or international visibility policing research in Scotland;
- Development of research capacity and capability within universities and policing in Scotland.

The following articles report on recent awards relating to

- Rural policing in Scotland: measuring and improving public confidence
- Domestic Abuse and Police/ Victim Interaction: changing legislation and new research challenges
- Public Confidence & Police Visibility
- Law Enforcement and Public Health: Setting the Research Agenda for Scotland
- Investigating code 52 special bail visits for domestic abuse perpetrators: impact of the service

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Maintaining and improving public confidence is a key part of Policing Strategy 2026 (Police Scotland, 2017). The strategy notes that ‘public confidence [is] a key measure of our performance’ (p33) and that a ‘broader understanding of public confidence’ (p57) is vital for maintaining and improving policing (Police Scotland, 2017), highlighting the link between public confidence and broader legitimacy and accountability of policing. A range of academic literature also points to the importance of public confidence for understanding police legitimacy and accountability (Jackson et al., 2012; Tyler, 2004). Public confidence, is used as a key measure of how the police are perceived to be doing, with the Scottish Government releasing statistics annually on ‘confidence with the police’. The diverse geography of Scotland and local variation in policing styles makes it important to understand the variation in public confidence across different community types and different geographical locations.

Dr Wooff and his co-investigators were awarded a SIPR Small Grant for this project in July 2017.

Background/context to the project:

Literature on the police, and policing more generally, has tended to neglect the rural aspects of the job (Fyfe, 1991; Mawby and Yarwood, 2011). A number of recent studies, however, have begun to explore rural policing (Wooff, 2016., 2015; Gilling, 2010; Yarwood and Gardner, 2000; Yarwood, 2007, Mawby and Yarwood, 2011). In Scotland, rural locations are an important area of study, not only because 94% of the country is classed as rural using the six-fold urban-rural Scottish Government classification (Scottish Government, 2010), but also because examining rural policing reveals important details about rural society and the role that the police play in controlling rural space (Mawby and Yarwood, 2011).

The rural environment in particular, is often considered as a place where the public perception of the police is higher (Wooff, 2015), in part because officers frequently use their ‘softer’ policing tactics (Wooff, 2016). ‘Soft’ policing focuses on the non-coercive elements of policing, where community engagement, situated knowledge and negotiated order maintenance play important roles in shaping the police response (Innes, 2005; McCarthy, 2014). Although critiqued for ‘obscuring the ‘hard’ realities of the ‘coercive state’ (Loader & Walker, 2007: 76), ‘soft’ policing styles are often synonymously linked to rural policing, with the common perception being that negotiated order maintenance tends to take precedence over enforcement policing styles in these environments (Donnermeyer & DeKeseredy, 2014; Wooff, 2015; Yarwood & Wooff, 2016). Rural environments, however, by their very nature also tend to be isolated, complex and multifaceted, requiring a nuanced and context dependent policing response.

It is therefore important to understand the broad trends in public confidence in rural locations. In particular, understanding the nuanced variations of public confidence that occur over diverse rural policing beats is important for facilitating the successful implementation of the localisation agenda in strategy 2026. Additionally, understanding the ways that these factors – public confidence, policing visibility and efficiency – interact is important for thinking about how policing in rural locations varies depending on the context and environment, particularly amongst those living in areas of social deprivation. This qualitative study therefore explores public confidence in the police in two rural environments, focusing on the relationships between visibility, efficiency and confidence.

Methodology:

This research is being undertaken in 2 contrasting Police Scotland local policing areas. Both these locations are predominantly rural and both have a mix of different types of rural community. Two communities in each of the policing areas have been selected – one with high socio economic deprivation and one with low socio economic deprivation. The four case study sites were selected on the basis of rurality and socio economic status. This allows us to understand the differences in public confidence in different types of rural community and across a range of stakeholders. The study makes use of a qualitative methodology, involving ride-alongs with local community police officers (n=20 hours) and focus groups with community members (n=8). Semi-structured interviews have been conducted with police officers and community stakeholders (n=8). The data will be recorded and is in the process of being transcribed and systematically analysed by the researchers, allowing themes to develop.

Research Questions:

- What factors influence public confidence of the police in rural Scotland?
- To what degree does policing style impact on public confidence in rural Scotland?
- To what extent do the police adequately manage the tensions arising from balancing efficiency against visibility across different rural contexts, and for different communities and stakeholders?
- How can the police improve public confidence across diverse rural communities, including amongst those living in deprived rural locations?
Research update:

We have completed the first stage of the fieldwork and the data is still being fully analysed. The following analysis should be considered partial and incomplete as the second case study fieldwork is currently being undertaken. However, there are a couple of key themes that are beginning to emerge. The significance of understanding the local context is key component to gaining the trust of the local community:

Knowledge both ways of the public knowing who the local Policemen [sic] are and the local Policemen knowing the local community… once he goes and you get somebody that is piloted in, we don’t know them, they potentially don’t live locally so you don’t get that local knowledge and I think that is really, really important. (Community member)

The ability to be able to ‘speak the local way’ is reported as being important for the police in being able to engage with the local community. The police also talk about the importance of being able to link to the local community and understand what the pertinent issues are within their community:

You know, we are the community and the community are us. Down here that’s one of the strengths we’ve got, because of the job, you’re still essentially being policed by and large by the same boys and girls that were policing before Police Scotland. They’re people that stay in the communities. They’ve got roots there. You know, that hasn’t changed. There’s always been a pride, in the local officers here that are from the region, brought up in the region…’ (Inspector)

Understanding the way that local rural community operate is important for beginning to break down the insider/outside dichotomy that can be a challenge for rural police officers. The sense of belonging to a community works both ways; the lack of back-up in rural locations requires the police to more often ‘use their knowledge of the community’ for de-escalating tensions, while for community members it builds a sense of trust in the police and a sense that the police understand the local issues:

We had a really good working relationship with the local officers here. Nowadays I would say that is almost non-existent and part of that is you can’t even phone the Police. It’s almost an impossible task to get through to [the] person you need’ (Police partner interview)

Although informal local workarounds exist and relationships that have developed over time, there is frustration that the national policing models have undermined what were previously very strong community partnerships. Localism is at the heart of Policing Strategy 2026 and it is beginning to support better rural outcomes in this first case study, but on the evidence of this partial analysis, the change in policing style associated with Police Scotland has undermined partnerships.

As the analysis continues and we complete fieldwork from the second case study location, these themes will be further developed.

Reference List:


The new legislation is the outcome of sustained research and campaigning to ensure understanding and formal recognition of the nature of domestic abuse and its damaging impacts. The years leading up to the initial consultation saw an increasing emphasis in policy and practice on ‘coercive control’ and on the need to distinguish controlling abusive behaviour, typified as gendered violence with highly dangerous and detrimental outcomes for victims, from situational or mutual violence arising between partners absent the dynamics of control and coercion. Within this climate of change, academic research began to make the distinctions between these purported different victim experiences to measure the extent or prevalence of the problem of coercive control with existing population survey data in England and Wales. Initial findings indicated controlling abuse was experienced by a small minority of victims. However, emerging criticism suggests that surveys utilised to date to capture differences in victim experience of domestic abuse were failing to measure abuse appropriately. A focus on physical, rather than psychological, abusive behaviour and a lack of attention to its impact, meant only limited insight to the issue was possible.

Yet the survey data utilised in the ‘Domestic Abuse and Police/ Victim Interaction’ project did provide a much more appropriate set of abuse indicators for analysis. The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) had developed a self-completion module, asking respondents about experiences of a range of abusive behaviour and its psychological and physical impacts. In response to the shifting focus of the policy and practice climate, and the need for police (and other justice agencies) to understand better the impacts. In response to the changing legislation and formal recognition of the nature of domestic abuse and its damaging impacts, academic research began to make distinctions between these purported different victim experiences to measure the extent or prevalence of the problem of coercive control with existing population survey data in England and Wales. Initial findings indicated controlling abuse was experienced by a small minority of victims. However, emerging criticism suggests that surveys utilised to date to capture differences in victim experience of domestic abuse were failing to measure abuse appropriately. A focus on physical, rather than psychological, abusive behaviour and a lack of attention to its impact, meant only limited insight to the issue was possible.

Using latent class analysis, SCJS respondents were grouped into classes or categories according to common response patterns within the data. Identified classes are not ‘absolute’ categories; they are based on response probabilities. So respondents in each class will not necessarily follow the exact response pattern depicted. Nevertheless, the emerging classes provide an important starting point for dialogue about the distinctions between clusters of abuse experience. Better understanding of how the experience of abuse varies amongst victims is critical to the serious development of responses to it, and to considering how imminent Scottish legislative change may work in practice.

Four classes emerged from the analysis of the SCJS data. Based on a pooled sample of victims who reported their abusive experiences as occurring within the 12 months preceding their survey interview, Figure 1 provides a comparison of these four distinct classes of respondents.

The first class comprises around 12% of the total victim sample and exhibits high to moderate probabilities of victims experiencing an array of physically and psychologically abusive behaviours, including some of the most extreme expressions of violence and control. This group have a high likelihood of reporting their partner preventing them from seeing friends and family; putting them down repeatedly; behaving in a jealous or controlling manner; and threatening to hurt or kill them with a weapon or otherwise. They also exhibit a high likelihood of reporting a range of physical violence, such as their partner throwing things at them; pushing or holding them down; and kicking, biting or hitting them. This group also have a moderate likelihood of reporting more extreme physical violence, such as being choked or strangled or having a weapon used against them, and similarly that their partner has used threats against the victim, themselves or others as a means of coercion.

The second class, comprising around 18% of the sample, also exhibit high to moderate probabilities of victims experiencing a range of abusive behaviours, albeit that the more extreme expressions of violence and control are not present. Notwithstanding, this group exhibit high probabilities of reporting that their partners repeatedly put them down or behave in a jealous or controlling manner. They also exhibit high to moderate probabilities of reporting physical abuse, such as their partner pushing or holding them down, or kicking, biting or hitting them.

The remaining two classes exhibit comparatively low probabilities of reporting any of the available indicators of abuse. This may be symptomatic of the sample analysed here: a relatively high proportion of the sample only identify a very small number of abuse types (60% have experienced three ‘types’ of abuse or less, and around 25% only report one form of abusive behaviour). Nevertheless, distinct
response patterns do emerge for these two groups. We can distinguish between those who predominantly experience ‘jealous or controlling behaviour’ (56% of the sample), and those who experience both threats and acts of physical violence (14% of the sample).

The analysis therefore reveals an interesting and unexpected pattern. By utilising an extended set of abuse indicators, the prevalence of what appear to be extreme expressions of control exerted by partners (i.e. coercive control) is considerably higher than in previous research. Moreover, in all classes, some element or degree of controlling behaviour is present, indicating a much wider prevalence of controlling behaviour overall than influential typology-led theory would suggest.

Converting class membership into variables allows an exploration of the impact of abuse and how this varies by the nature of the abusive experience. As might be expected, respondents in classes 1 and 2 (extreme controlling and controlling violence) report the greatest accumulation of combined psychological and physical impact, as well as the most serious physical injuries. Importantly though, respondents across all classes report an array of negative psychological impacts or effects of their abuse, which may broadly be categorised as the emotional state or wellbeing of the respondent, on their involvement in other relationships and aspects of life, or on their adoption of problematic coping strategies or risk behaviours. In the interests of brevity, taking those impacts of greatest relevance to the forthcoming legislative changes, experiencing ‘psychological or emotional problems’ as a result of the abuse was reported by 68% of those in the ‘extreme controlling’ class, 56% in the ‘controlling’ class, 34% in the ‘threats and physical violence’ class and 28% in the ‘jealous and controlling’ class. ‘Fear, anxiety or panic attacks’ are reported by 50% in the ‘extreme controlling’ class, 36% in the ‘controlling’ class, 24% in the ‘threats and physical violence’ class and 11% in the ‘jealous and controlling’ class.

Drawing on the wide range of abuse and impact indicators available in the SCJS has led to a complex and important set of findings. The extent of psychological and controlling abusive behaviour is considerably wider than would have been anticipated from existing typology-based theory and previous research. Moreover, the negative effect of abuse, in all its forms, is pervasive. There is a clear detrimental and damaging impact for all victims. With regard to the forthcoming domestic abuse, there are clear implications for its scope, which may be wider and more challenging to determine in practice than might have been anticipated.

References
5 Ibid.

Figure 1. Four class model of abuse experience (n=1,011)
Public Confidence & Police Visibility: a Review

Dr Yvonne Hail (Co-I, Edinburgh Napier University), Dr Liz Aston (PI, Edinburgh Napier University), Dr Megan O’Neill (Co-I, University of Dundee) and Superintendent Ian Thomson (Police Scotland)

The focus for this project emerged from ongoing collaborations between the academic researchers and Police Scotland from within two of the internal Police Scotland governance groups for stop and search (the Research and Operational Review Group (REORG) and the Stop and Search Strategic Group (SSSG)) and also from discussion within Police Scotland’s National Violence Prevention Board (NVPB) and conversations with the chair of the Public Confidence Steering Committee. In these fora, questions had arisen as to whether there are links between some recent rises in violent crime in Scotland and the fall in stop searches since 2016. Through discussions at REORG it has been established that a wider consideration of visible policing methods, including but not limited to stop and search, and their impact on communities would form a useful evidence-base to guide future operational practice. ACC Cowie had recently met with all three researchers (Aston, O’Neill and Hail) to discuss how changes to policing policy and practice (such as stop and search) and its impact on public confidence is also a priority for the Public Confidence Steering group. The project has been funded by SIPR under the Police Community Relations Collaborative Projects funding.

Introduction

This systematic literature review aims to establish the current evidence base in relation to how methods used in visible policing impact on public confidence. Visible policing was chosen as the focus of this review as it is a key method by which officers can make contact with their local communities, through both responsive policing (including enforcement methods like stop and search) and through more preventive approaches (such as community engagement in problem solving). If these methods are used in the most effective and fair way (as suggested by the police legitimacy literature) this will improve public confidence.

This update introduces the project and outlines some of the initial findings from the systematic review which will be developed further during the analysis stages with the full report due at the end of May 2018. The findings from the review will be reported to key partners through the above channels (REORG, SSSG, NVPB, and the Public Confidence Steering Group) in order to guide current practice and future strategy. These bodies include representatives from Scottish Government and the Scottish Police Authority, so the reach of the research will be wider than just Police Scotland. This research has clear connections to Police Scotland’s 2026 strategic priorities of localism, response, prevention and accountability.

Context to the project

Like their counterparts south of the border, Scottish policing has held visible foot patrol as a core part of its mandate since the first police force was established in Glasgow in 1801. The purpose of this method was for police officers to detect and prevent crime by being present in communities and becoming familiar with local areas and their residents. This aspect of policing was not questioned in terms of its effectiveness until the latter half of the 20th century.

At that time, police forces had decided that their officers would be better to patrol in cars so that they could respond to calls for service more efficiently. However, the unintended consequences of this action was the damage to police community relationships as local officers were no longer visible to their communities.

Post-police reform, Police Scotland have increased their focus on improving public confidence in policing by situating it at the core of their new ten-year policing strategy, Policing 2026. The strategy sets out public confidence as a key indicator in terms of informing the organisation on how effective police are, highlighting the requirement for a greater understanding of public confidence. The issue of police activity in public spaces and public confidence in policing has particular salience for Police Scotland. This organisation came under intense scrutiny of its use of stop and search in 2014 and 2015. Stop and search is an example of an enforcement-oriented approach to visible policing in public areas and there is some evidence in the existing literature that repeated stop searches of the same people can have a detrimental impact on public confidence in policing. In addition, research has also suggested that procedural justice has more salience for young people than it does for adults and so particular care is needed with this group of people when conducting visible policing, such as with stop and search.

As part of a larger body of work which is planned to examine police visibility and public confidence, it was decided that the first project should involve a systematic review of existing research literature. However, due to the financial and time constraints placed on the project, it was not possible to conduct a fully accredited systematic review. Therefore, a review of the research evidence was conducted in a “systematic” manner.
Approach taken for review

The aim is to establish the current evidence base on how various methods used in visible policing impact on public confidence. The review was based on the following research question:

What effect do enforcement-orientated and engagement-orientated methods of visible policing have on public confidence?

It included the following search terms:

1) ‘police visibility’ OR ‘visible policing’, OR ‘foot patrol’, OR ‘police presence’, OR ‘directed policing patrol’

AND


AND

3) ‘public confidence’, OR ‘public satisfaction’, OR ‘legitimacy’, OR ‘trust’

Our initial search was conducted through the Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts (ASSIA) which showed us that there were no existing reviews which fitted the exact criteria for the project. It was found that where research has been conducted looking at police visibility and styles of policing it tended to be in a context of crime control or crime prevention, rather than public confidence. From an initial review of the research literature, which is still ongoing, we have identified some core findings which relate to our project aim. Research supports the idea that varying policing techniques (i.e. soft versus hard policing styles) implemented over time have an impact on how the police are viewed and engaged with locally. For example, used repeatedly enforcement led styles have a negative impact on police community relations, whilst familiarity and positive communication can enhance confidence. Crucially there is a lack of research on what police officers do while being visible e.g. on foot patrol, and the impact on public confidence. As we complete the analysis in April 2018 we plan to develop these findings relating to public confidence, foot patrol and policing styles further. Our intention is to focus on drawing out implications for policy and practice.

References


4 http://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/138327/386688/policing-2026-strategy.pdf


Law Enforcement and Public Health: Setting the Research Agenda for Scotland

Dr Jennifer Murray, Inga Heyman, Dr Andrew Wooff, Professor Nadine Dougall, Dr Liz Aston and Iniobong Enang (Edinburgh Napier University)

Police Scotland’s contact with people with vulnerability and health problems has been increasing year-on-year, with significant costs and unknown outcomes associated. This is unsustainable, and pathways involving increased partnership between the police and other partners is now essential. Finding ways of delivering more efficient, evidence-based partnership working is a key national priority. To that end, a one day event, hosted on January 15th 2018, brought together an Expert Advisory Group (EAG) of 26 members across law enforcement, public health, and academia to inform and support the development of a co-constructed programme of research crossing the intersect of Law Enforcement and Public Health (LEPH). The event benefitted from an international perspective, delivered via keynote address by Professor Nick Crofts, President of the Global Law Enforcement & Public Health Association. The event, hosted by the Scottish Government, was part of a larger project funded by a SIPR Police Community Relations Collaborative Project Grant.

Background
Police Scotland’s and the NHS’ 10-year strategies envisage enhanced partnerships to support vulnerable people and communities. Public health and policing have traditionally worked in separate spheres with markedly different roots. Yet, they share common complex challenges, drawing the intersection of these agencies closer together. Given that the police are the most publicly visible criminal justice agency, with the highest levels of contact with the public, developing cross-sector working is imperative to achieving enhanced partnerships and supporting health and management decisions around vulnerable individuals. While there has been an evolution in international LEPH practices, the operational development of such an initiative in Scotland is comparatively limited.

The police are the gateway to the criminal justice system (CJS). The Equality and Human Rights Commission Inquiry argued that the CJS needs to increase responsivity and accessibility to victims of crime and disabled people to provide more effective support. A range of policy responses to well-being and vulnerability have been enacted, with the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 making the “safety and well-being of persons, localities and communities’ the core policing principle for Police Scotland”. Wellbeing, vulnerability and risk-management therefore lie at the heart of the CJS. Given that police officers are frequently the conduit to mental health assessment, it can be argued that officer decision making is further challenged when faced with multiple vulnerabilities. Equally, health practitioners, as frontline workers, are confronted by public protection and public health challenges such as violence, sexual exploitation, substance use and curbing the spread of blood borne viruses.

There is therefore little doubt that there has been a global escalation in police and health touch-points, with a growing recognition of the extent to which policing and public health share common ground. This has brought about a call to consciously ‘join forces’ to more effectively and efficiently address the complex needs of vulnerable people and communities. Although such imperatives have drawn agencies closer, such unions are complex. In the rapidly emerging LEPH field, there remains a gap to bridge within the collaborative policing and public health research agenda. This can be addressed through the development of a robust evidence base to support informed, effective, efficient, collaborative policies and partnerships.

Project Partners
The project benefits from the blend of expertise of a multidisciplinary research team, including psychology, mental health nursing, applied health, criminology, and risk management. The team have experience of working closely with policing, third sector, health, and emergency health service partners at both academic and practitioner levels.

Key Findings
The research priority areas across LEPH were identified through guided discussions in small groups, which were later summarised and brought together as whole group discussions. Overarching findings related not only to the shaping of key priorities for research, but also for the approach required and the need for cross-professional collaboration. To achieve this, both higher level strategic ambitions and buy in from front line and managerial staff must be being met, with local and national priorities aligning.

The key research priorities were identified as: Vulnerability; Mental health crisis; Decision making around assessment and triage; Peer support and organisational well-being; and Information and data sharing.

Table 1 provides operational definitions of each of the priority areas, and examples of central areas for future research investigation and the context in which this priority area was discussed.

Conclusion and Ambitions
This work aims to improve partnership working across LEPH and push forward an agenda for research in the area. Research should be collaborative, multi-agency, and person-centred, to improve health assessment and outcomes for LEPH
staff and service users across Scotland. Local and national priorities must be considered and met, and partnership working is essential. Integrating research aims into policy and communicating findings across sectors is central to the uptake and use of the evidence generated. Research should focus on preventative and rehabilitative care and assessment, and should make use of a range of methodologies as appropriate to the project(s) and their local context.

This project has resulted in the development of a LEPH thematic network. This network will draw on the EAG’s continued collaboration with the project team, and it is hoped that this LEPH thematic network will drive forward research projects to inform guidelines, policy, professional behaviours, and clinical outcomes. In the short-term, the findings from the current research project will inform and develop LEPH practice through close collaboration and co-production. It will encourage the progression of specific collaborative research projects, focusing on tackling the themes emergent from the EAG event. In the long-term, co-producing research areas for progression will increase the efficiency and practice-relevance of the research process via the development of the network. Also, the identification of the five key research priorities should enable more efficient levels of activity across sectors.

References
5 Dodd, V. (2016). Police say they are becoming emergency mental health services. The Guardian. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/oct/09/police-forces-mental-health-section-136

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority Area</th>
<th>Context and Areas for Future Research Investigation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerability</td>
<td>The central area of investigation is the need to assess vulnerability, ways to do this meaningfully, and identifying/establishing the evidence base for assessing vulnerability. The intersect between policing and health in assessing and triaging people who are vulnerable is central, and there is an additional focus on the consideration and treatment of substance (mis)users, and whether vulnerability in this group should be considered under a health or a criminal model.</td>
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<td>Mental health crisis</td>
<td>There is overlap between this theme and vulnerability, though the focus here was on assessing and managing people who are undergoing mental health crisis. The investigation on how decisions are made and best practice (under realistic constraints) is achieved when all decisions are essentially uncertain was discussed, as was the need for training, particularly around suicide assessment. Triage is central, as is the need for identification of the most suitable place of safety and out of hours’ service, and sharing risk and decision making across the sectors. Adverse Childhood Events trauma in offending behaviours is a core area of interest, and tied back to the need to treat the person appropriately at the earliest opportunity; i.e. proactive, rather than reactive.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision making around assessment and triage across professional groups and professional roles</td>
<td>Better working together and shared decision making and risk practices/processes are needed. Appropriate triage of vulnerable people and people in mental health crisis as agreed across professional groups, ideally based on an evidence-based or evidence-informed model. Technology assisted decision making and assessment was further indicated as an area for exploration to improve assessment times with CPN’s in cases where police are attending a call and do not have access to a CPN on call with them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer support and organisational well-being</td>
<td>This theme encompasses supporting others both within professions and across professions. Examples include sharing the decision making burden and risk across professional groups, making information available when possible to other professional groups if working with the same person across services, and sharing education and training. Staff wellbeing and mental health needs was acknowledged as important.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information and data sharing</td>
<td>The need for accessible information sharing, as easily and smoothly as is possible, across professions to inform decisions and person-centred care is needed. Shared information could reduce response times, help to signpost towards the most appropriate service response, and ultimately inform the best outcomes and reduce service burden. The use of innovative technology to help share information, support decision making, and share good practice was a priority area.</td>
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Table 1. Post-event identified priority areas for LEPH research, with operational definitions and exemplar project priorities.

Dr Kath Murray (University of Edinburgh)

How the public view the police matters. Effective policing requires public engagement and cooperation which in turn, relates to people’s confidence and trust in the police (Bradford and Jackson, 2011). Scottish Social Attitudes (SSA) is an annual, nationally representative, face-to-face survey of adults living in Scotland. Respondents in this project were aged 18 years or over.

Drawing on data from the SSA surveys, this research project examined public confidence in Scottish policing between 2012 and 2015, together with public awareness of police reform. The project was SIPR funded, and the SSA survey module was sponsored by SIPR and Scotcen Social Research.

While the findings cannot be generalised beyond the four-year survey period, the results provide a baseline that could usefully be incorporated into Police Scotland strategic planning on public confidence.

Public awareness of police reform

Between 2012 and 2015, public awareness of how Scottish policing is organized increased significantly. In 2012 (the year prior to reform), less than half the sample (46%) correctly identified the organizational structure of Scottish policing (at the time, eight forces). By 2014 (the first full year of reform), this proportion had increased to 58% and remained broadly constant thereafter.

It is nonetheless striking that by 2015, against a backdrop of intense media coverage and high-profile controversies, that nearly half of the respondents (44%) did not correctly identify the single service structure, a fifth had heard nothing about police reform, while 28% didn’t know anything about what it involved. These findings help to provide a different perspective on the sharp increase in media attention in the post-reform period and suggest that many people remained unaware of the key debates and political issues around police reform.

Public confidence in the early reform period

Looking at public confidence in local policing – as measured by the question, ‘Taking into account all the things the police are expected to do, would you say they are doing a good job or a bad job in your local area?’ – Figure 1 shows that ratings remained relatively stable between 2012 and 2014, with over two-thirds stating that the local police did a good or a very good job. The proportion of positive ratings then fell significantly between 2014 and 2015, to 60%. The timing of this downturn, around two years after police reform, is striking, and suggests that the shift was more likely to relate to on-the-ground police practice than the idea of a single force per se.

Breaking down the results by SSA regions (note these are not directly comparable with Police Scotland Command Areas), there is also evidence of regional convergence over time, with initially higher confidence ratings in the East and North falling to meet those in the West (which remained broadly unchanged). These findings might, very cautiously, be read as evidence of a West/Strathclyde policing model taking hold in the early reform years.

Figure 1. Are the police doing a good job or bad job in your local area (%) SSA 2012-2015

Explaining public confidence

The project tested a range of possible explanatory factors associated with public confidence in local policing. Consistent with existing research, perceived police visibility related significantly to public confidence, with ‘good’ or ‘very good’ ratings ranging from 71% among respondents who saw the police daily, down to 46% who did not see the police at all.

The relevance of these results is underscored by a significant reduction in perceived police visibility between 2012 and 2015. Figure 2 shows that between 2012 and 2015, the proportion who saw the police every day had almost halved, from 20% to 11%, while the proportion who never saw the police rose from 8% to 13%.

Proportions include ‘don’t know’ and refusals = 2.5%. p=.000
While the results suggest that a visible police presence is broadly welcome, by the same token it is also clear that police interaction matters, with experience of police-initiated encounters (for example, being questioned on the street or searched) associated with lower ratings of local policing. While no data are available on the quality of these interactions, the findings nonetheless underscore the importance of fair and proportionate policing.

Analysis of socio-demographic factors found that for the most part, the associations were relatively weak or not statistically significant (for example, in relation to age, gender and ethnicity). Socio-economic effects were however evident, with those in the least deprived Scottish Index of Neighbourhood Deprivation (SIMD) quintile more likely to express confidence in local policing.

Despite intense media and political interest in Scottish policing, there was no strong evidence to suggest that media coverage influenced people’s perceptions of local policing (although the picture is complicated). While confidence ratings fell more sharply among regular newspaper readers in 2015, compared to non-regular readers, more advanced regression analysis found no statistically significant relationship between media consumption (newspaper or online) and confidence in local policing.

When controlling for all these factors (using regression analysis), confidence in local policing related significantly to neighbourhood deprivation and police-initiated contact. Respondents from the most deprived SIMD quintile were less likely to express confidence in local policing, compared to those from the other four quintiles, while those who had experienced one or more police-initiated encounters were around 2.5 times less likely to rate local policing as ‘good’ or ‘very good’, compared to those who had not.

Frontline matters

Looking to the policy implications, it should be acknowledged that Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) are already addressing some of the issues raised by the research, notably those around police visibility. The need to maintain a visible police presence is prioritised in the Policing 2026 ten-year strategy published in June 2017, while police reform more broadly has sought to protect frontline services.

To make this commitment more transparent and accountable, it is suggested that the SPA publish disaggregate police workforce data on an annual basis, with frontline visible policing clearly demarcated (as per police workforce statistics in England and Wales). While the SPA has made clear that these data are essential to planning and strategy, there is still a need for greater public engagement and transparency on frontline policing in Scotland. Data publication would align with the commitments to accountability and localism set out in the Scottish Government Strategic Police Priorities (and supported by Policing 2026), meet the requirement for robust evidence on operational capacity, and allow benchmarking with other police forces.

It is also suggested that the SPA and Police Scotland commission follow-up SSA survey modules to track change over time, and to triangulate the SSA findings with other data sources on public confidence and police visibility, including the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, and Police Scotland management data.

A full version of this Report can be viewed at http://www.sipr.ac.uk/Plugin/Publications/assets/files/SSA%202012_2015_Public_confidence_and%20police%20reform.pdf
Investigating code 52 special bail visits for domestic abuse perpetrators: what is the impact of the service?

Professor Lesley Diack (Robert Gordon University)

This was a small scale collaborative research project funded by SIPR in 2015 that aimed to investigate the impact of code 52 bail visits for domestic abuse perpetrators.

In Scotland there are over 56,000 reported domestic abuse incidents every year and of these there are roughly 30,000 crimes committed with a detection rate of 75+%. The perpetrators of these crimes are often not allowed to return to their normal place of residence because of the seriousness and/or repetition of the offence.

In 2013-2014, special bail was granted to 6,005 of those who went to court. This meant that two police officers conducted three random visits (‘Code 52 visits’) in a four week period to check that the perpetrators were continuing to meet their bail conditions. There are over 18,000 of these special bail visits every year.

The primary aim of the research was to investigate if there was an evidence base for ‘Code 52 visits’, the optimum number and what the impact was on the recidivism of domestic abuse perpetrators.

The objectives were to:
- research the frequency and the timing of these bail visits;
- collect evidence that indicates the optimum number of visits;
- ascertain whether the type of visit needs to be more bespoke;
- collect evidence on impact of the visit on recidivism.

Background and context

The statistics on domestic abuse make dramatic reading when it is considered that 20 percent of Police Scotland’s time is spent on domestic abuse, 15 percent of all violent crimes can be classed as domestic abuse, 66 percent of all rapes are domestic, and that every nine minutes police are dealing with a case of domestic abuse.

Since 2013 and the establishment of Police Scotland, a database on the number of visits and bail breaches has been kept in some of the divisions. What became apparent as the research commenced was that there was no standard method of recording the number of bail visits (breaches of bail are easy as they are recorded as criminal offences). Bail visits were recorded, but the difficulty was that they were mostly on electronic spreadsheets held by Local Area Commanders (Chief Inspectors), as opposed to a single database.

There were a number of outcomes expected from this study:
- It would become part of a larger study investigating the impact of bail visits on all sexual crime offenders including rapists and murderers. This would help create a consistent service for the victims of the crimes, but also help protect them from any subsequent acts of abuse.
- The compilation and analysis of this database would aid Police Scotland’s Domestic Abuse Task Force to develop an evidence base to allow them to establish an optimum number of code 52 visits. Discussions with the then DCI McCluskey of the Domestic Abuse Task Force (now Superintendent McCluskey of Professional Standards) have indicated that this could potentially cut costs for Police Scotland, increase efficiency of this vital service and reduce reoffending.

Information on project partners

Principal Investigator: Professor Lesley Diack, Robert Gordon University (h.l.diack@rgu.ac.uk)

Dr Sundari Joseph, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Robert Gordon University

Superintendent Samantha McCluskey, Police Scotland

This was planned as a four phased research project that would investigate the data from previously unconnected databases, merging and cleaning any sensitive data from the combined database and then analysing the data using a number of statistical tests to identify the effect of the code 52 visits on reoffending.

However, when the project started in late 2015 it soon became apparent that there were a number of issues to be overcome in the initial stages of the project. The main problem was accessing and recording the data.
The data was very disparate and Police Scotland were unclear on how best to give the research team access. Therefore it was decided initially to undertake a scoping exercise using published literature, grey literature and visits to the three areas chosen for the study: Aberdeen City, Edinburgh Southern and Glasgow North West.

In the three areas visited, the three stage approach of arrest, safe and well check on victim, and bail visits appeared to be working well but all interviewed felt that efficiencies could be made. It was agreed that the safe and well visit to the victim close after the arrest of the perpetrator was vital in developing the trust and support of the victim and might be crucial later in detecting bail violations.

During the scoping exercise it became apparent that there were a number of differences in the three areas, these included:

1. the means of recording the data
2. the use of the term Code 52
3. the process for follow up of the perpetrators
4. the database for all types of crime in each area

After the scoping was completed, the research team were vetted and a memorandum of agreement for access to the records was signed with Police Scotland, SIPR and the University. It was decided to take a snapshot of the three areas over a six month period from October 2015-March 2016. However it soon became clear that Police Scotland did not feel it was appropriate to allow access to the records in the operational locations and after more months of negotiations it was decided to send the anonymised records to the team electronically. The data from two areas arrived between late 2016 and summer of 2017. One of the datasets had 11 entries for the six month period the other had 191. The third dataset has never appeared despite many emails and phone calls.

Results

Table 1 suggests that there were very few failed visits, only four in 191 visits, two after visit 1 and two after visit 2, and four had no visits at all. Nearly 61% had all three visits. From 191 perpetrators to be visited during their bail period most were single offenders over the six month period, 89.52% (171 out of 191) however seven perpetrators offended twice and two offended three times in the period. It is interesting to note that these perpetrators did not receive the three visits stipulated.

There were 11 breaches of bail during the research period, five occurred after only one visit, three after two visits and three after the mandatory three visits. In the case of nine of the breaches it was ‘with the consent’ of the victim and in the ‘full knowledge that it breached bail,’ only two of the cases happened without consent. The number of visits did not appear to have any impact.

It would appear from the records that while at present most (63.4%) received three visits, this was not the major factor in curtailing recidivism and that other factors played a part. Factors such as place of residence, age and date all indicated they were more likely risk factors than lack of bail visits. If this is indeed the case there would be benefit in reducing the number of bail visits, supporting and educating the victim in their safe and well visit, and analysing the results to develop a risk/benefit algorithm.

This was a small snapshot of a six month period in one division in the north east of Scotland, however the results indicate that it would be worthwhile to develop a longitudinal and more geographical diverse study of the behaviours of perpetrators.

Table 1 - Perpetrator and Failed visits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Perpetrator visits by Police Scotland</th>
<th>Number of Failed visits</th>
<th>Total number of visit attempts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Postgraduate Student and Practitioner Fellow Research

The initial investment in SIPR provided funding for nine policing-related PhDs. By 2017, c. 80 PhD students had completed or were currently studying policing-related topics within the consortium universities. This dramatic growth in numbers makes Scotland one of the largest centres for postgraduate policing research in the UK.

SIPR Practitioner Fellowships are aimed at all practitioner groups involved with the policing of Scotland, including police officers and police staff, those working on policing issues in central and local government, the business community and in the voluntary sector. They provide an opportunity for practitioners to work together with members of academic staff from the consortium universities on the practical and/or policy applications of a policing topic or issue. Academic staff provide guidance on issues of research design and methodology, including topics such as data collection and analysis, the relationship with other relevant research, and the writing up and presentation of the project. The outputs from this period of study might include a briefing paper for the police service, or a conference presentation co-authored with their academic supervisor. More information on this initiative can be found at http://www.sipr.ac.uk/research-activities/sipr-practitioner-fellowships.

The Winners of the Best Poster Award (Najla Etaha) and Best Presentation (Robert Skinner) with T/ACC Gillian MacDonald (Police Scotland)
Proximity interpreting: day-to-day policing and delivering access for deaf citizens

Robert Skinner (Heriot-Watt University)

The objective for this PhD study, funded by the Scottish Graduate School for the Arts and Humanities (SGSAH), was not only to ask questions about how the police can appropriately serve deaf people, whose preferred language is British Sign Language (BSL), but also to raise awareness about how deaf people can and should be included in the development of our publicly funded services. The study seeks to investigate the way video-mediated interpreting (VMI) services may be utilised to facilitate access to Police Scotland for deaf British Sign Language (BSL) users in Scotland. VMI services are remote call centres that can dispatch specialist interpreting services on demand using high speed audio-video internet technology. In the UK VMI services are being used by deaf people to facilitate a range of interactions such as telephone banking, work place interactions, medical appointments. The potential to extend the use of VMI to facilitate ad-hoc and unexpected encounters between a police officer and someone who is deaf is great but remains to be proof tested. In addition to testing its suitability the question around appropriateness has also yet to be considered – do deaf people consent to the use of technology and interpreting services in this way?

Robert won the SIPR-Police Scotland Postgraduate Student Award for the Best Presentation at the Postgraduate Conference held on 15th December 2017.

The objectives of this PhD project is to produce recommendations for Police Scotland policy relating to when and how to make use of VMI services; the technological set-up required to meet the needs of Police Scotland to ensure that deaf BSL users have appropriate access; sign language interpreter training aimed at working in policing settings and video interpreting contexts.

BSL (Scotland) Act 2015

The Scottish parliament unanimously voted through the BSL (Scotland) Bill, which later received Royal Assent on 22nd October 2015. Scotland is the only part of the UK that has officially recognised the deaf community as a linguistic and cultural minority group. Scottish public authorities, including Police Scotland, are now working in collaboration with the deaf community to develop a range of national strategies that will see BSL integrated into everyday life. The ambition is to be the best place in the world for BSL users to live, work and visit (Scottish Government, 2017).

Following the BSL (Scotland) Act the Justice Sector partners for Scotland have begun their consultation with the deaf citizens. The process has been about opening dialogue that will hopefully create a social contract between the bodies like the police and the deaf community (see http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/10/3540). Part of this consultation has included ways in which organisations like Police Scotland can make greater use of video-relay services (VRS), a remote interpreting service, to facilitate police-civilian interactions. In Scotland a national online VRS is already available and free to use, this service is called ContactScotland.

The police and Video-Mediated Interpreting (VMI) services

ContactScotland was a demonstration of the Scottish Government’s commitment to providing equal access to public services and non-governmental organisations for Scottish deaf BSL users (see: http://contactscotland-bsl.org). Established in 2014, deaf Scottish citizens whose preferred language is BSL have the opportunity to make independent and direct contact with Scottish public authorities (See Figure 1 for a description of how the service operates). In England and Wales a patchwork of VRS provisions exists and relies on private and public organisations to fund their own bespoke VRS.

Greater Manchester, Leicester and Northants police forces have respectively recognised the need to provide ways for deaf people to contact the police, in line with the Equalities Act, by establishing their own bespoke VRS 101 non-emergency service (Greater Manchester Police, 2017; Leicestershire Police, n.d.; Lumsden & Black, 2017; Northamptonshire Police, n.d.).

The VRS service can be located by pressing a ‘call button’ via a designated webpage (see Figure 2 as one example). This VRS service concept is similar to the existing spoken foreign language telephone interpreting service used by police forces nationwide.

5 See more at: www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Curre ntCommittees/83760.aspx#sthash.8HwTcT41.dpuf

6 For a more detailed list visit: http://contactscotland-bsl.org/list/
My PhD is interested in investigating the use of online platforms, like VRS, to facilitate police-deaf civilian interactions. Currently the model is restricted to 101 non-emergency but there are other ways to possibly expand how technology is used to provide appropriate linguistic access to policing services. Figure 3 demonstrates other ways technology can be used to facilitate police-civilian encounters.

For my research I plan to simulate and critically analyse police-civilian interactions mediated by a remote interpreter. I want to look at how police-civilian interactions can progress where personal matters can be appropriately recorded, well-being assessed and subsequent steps be agreed. These encounters will rely on the awareness and assistance of a remote interpreter. With this in mind, there are two overarching questions that guide my critique of using technology in this context. The first looks at how all three participants, the police officer, the interpreter and the deaf civilian spontaneously come together to create and exchange knowledge and information; the second is concerned with the social acceptability of an online policing service to meet the needs of deaf civilians. The success of the human and technical abilities can only form one part of the evaluation. Social attitudes and values must be considered to determine its likely success.

Scoping study

For my scoping study I looked at how four regional forces (Scotland, Greater Manchester, Leicester, and Northants) along with two video interpreting providers developed a bespoke 101 non-emergency video relay service (101 VRS). The development of these services was done with a range of stakeholders: the police, video interpreting providers, interpreters and deaf representatives. To evaluate the collective development of 101 VRS I applied the Social Construction of Technology (SCOT) framework, a branch of Social Shaping of Technology (SST) studies (Bijker, 1995, 2009; Pinch & Bijker, 1984). The SCOT framework seeks to describe the range of ontological and epistemological experiences in using technology to understand its future trajectory. In the case of 101 VRS the SCOT framework is useful in evaluating the shared conceptual understanding and to determine any potential power imbalances.

I found there was a cautious roll out of the online video interpreting platform because of insecurities around the technologies and capabilities to communicate clearly and effectively. For deaf people their immediate sense was “more needed to be done to achieve parity of service”. Searching for a designated webpage was not an instinctive process. A concept like this was heavily dependent on social networking to raise its profile. Deaf respondents wanted to see a more universal concept in how the service was disseminated; currently deaf citizens have to move between different systems, including downloading multiple apps, because VVMI providers used different software technologies. Deaf people were insecure about interpreter quality and valued the real-world physical contact. It was explained that when a deaf person can visually see the officer there is less reliance on the interpreter, instead the civilian can make informed judgements based on the officer’s physical mannerism (e.g. sincere, attentive, aware, aloof, tired or frustrated).

For interpreters they saw real benefit in using the technology to cover certain police-citizen interactions. Interpreters reported on having to deal with pressure, from the public and police, to extend this concept to other forms of police-civilian interaction. This was because the caller had no other service to turn to. Interpreters were asked to assist with the taking of statements, supporting police with home visits and 999 emergency calls. Currently, these requests go beyond the original scope of a 101 VRS concept, suggesting that there is a level of demand. The reluctance to go beyond the 101 framework was related to the unreliability of technology (e.g. the caller’s low bandwidth or weak wifi signal) or misusing an online service when an onsite interpreter could and should be used. Onsite interpreting has been argued to produce better results and user experience.

Despite the guarded approach, all of the stakeholders believed the technology had the potential to be used in a number of ad-hoc police-civilian encounters. Independent testing of the platform was put forward as a way to determine appropriate use of the technology.

For more information please visit my website www.proximityinterpreting.com.
Waste, crime and environmental harm: exploring the Scottish waste management sector and its vulnerabilities to organised crime

Fergus Kelly (University of Glasgow / Police Scotland)

The concept of ‘harm’ within the context of environmental crime, and Serious and Organised Crime in particular, has been relatively under-studied from a Scottish perspective. As such, this research looked primarily to explore the ways in which the Scottish waste management sector is vulnerable to specific types of crime. It sought to discover how criminal groups, businesses and individuals are able to circumvent regulations and avoid enforcement in order to make illicit financial gains through mismanagement and fraudulent waste activity. This research was concerned not with creating a narrative of problem and panic around those who are directly involved in waste crime, but more importantly with exposing the problems within the waste management systems and structures which facilitate and stimulate criminality.

Fergus was highly commended for his Presentation at the Postgraduate Conference held on 15th December 2017.

Waste, crime, and environmental harm – research context and rationale

As Antonioli and Massarutto (2011: 1) note: “The last 30 years have been characterised by an increasing quantity of waste, accompanied by a corresponding increasing difficulty to accommodate it.” A distressing effect of this global trend has been the intensification of waste – related environmental degradation and harm.

Workers in Agbogbloshie, Ghana, strip valuable metals from discarded electronic waste, much of which originates from Western Europe. Many workers suffer serious health problems as a result of the toxic conditions.

The research

This research took the form of a small-scale qualitative study, using semi-structured interviews with officials working for the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency to gain an understanding of their experiences of waste crime and how it operates in the Scottish waste sector. The interviews were structured in such a way as to allow explorative discussions about the waste sector, underpinned by the framework of the ‘sector vulnerabilities’ approach (e.g. Vander Beken et al., 2007; Van Daele and Vander Beken, 2008). This approach was theoretically guided by the idea that business sectors and product markets have particular characteristics which make them uniquely vulnerable to organised crime. From this perspective, it is the environment within which the criminal operates that is of most interest, rather than the characteristics of the criminals themselves. The data collected proved to be quite fruitful in providing an insight into the Scottish waste sector and identifying aspects of the sector which provide entrepreneurial criminals with opportunities to make illicit profits.

The vulnerability framework and research findings

In this context, a vulnerability can be described as a particular issue or problem in a system which puts it at risk of exploitation by criminals. In the course of this research, vulnerability data was thematically analysed and categorised into three broad vulnerability levels, corresponding with the different structural levels of the waste management system.

Findings were as follows:

![Figure 1. Vulnerability in Scottish Waste Management](image)

Macro-level vulnerabilities were found to be inherent within social and cultural attitudes towards waste in modern society. The unwanted and ‘dirty’ nature of waste management has created a booming economic sector which for all intents and purposes remains unseen by the public eye. A lack of public oversight allows mismanagement, fraud and other types of crime to flourish in an environment where under-reporting is a critical issue.
Meso-level vulnerabilities were categorised as those which exist within the regulatory frameworks and policy structures governing waste management. For example, waste carrier licensing regulations – the laws which govern how people can apply for licenses to carry and manage waste – are piecemeal, complex, and filled with loopholes. As one interviewee shared, a criminal with links to Serious and Organised Crime Groups and convictions for serious offences is free to hold a waste management license, on the only condition that he has never been found guilty of an environmental offence. It is such oversights which allow SOCGs to use waste management companies to make huge illicit profits with little risk of being caught or prosecuted. From an enforcement standpoint, intelligence sharing between different law enforcement agencies such as SEPA and the Police in regards to SOCGs is relatively poor, allowing criminals to slip through the net. This is problematic, especially when coupled with a general attitude of disinterest towards environmental crime on the part of non-specialist law enforcement agencies.

Micro-level vulnerabilities relate to the actual physical characteristics of waste which make it attractive to criminals. Three waste streams in particular were discussed in the course of this research. To briefly overview:

**Waste tyres:** given the constant consumer demand for tyres, the removal and management of waste tyres from garages across the country is a lucrative business. While there are numerous environmental laws which govern the environmentally safe management of tyres, organised criminals have been seen to make vast profits from illegal tyre dumping, at significant cost to the taxpayer.

**Mixed-paper waste:** when it is exported, mixed paper waste is generally described as ‘greenlist’ or non-harmful. However, if contaminated paper waste is mis-classified by criminal actors as ‘greenlist’ to avoid treatment costs, toxic consignments of waste can end up in developing countries where contaminants cannot be treated safely, often leading to hugely harmful pollution.

**Waste electronics and electrical equipment (WEEE):** The pace of technological development in the consumer electronics market means that the UK is filled with discarded electronic goods, which are comprised of many dangerous and toxic components. Organised crime groups have been known to win lucrative electronic waste management contracts and dump their waste illegally, thus making fraudulent profits. There have been numerous cases in recent years where criminals have exported waste electronic equipment, disguised as second-hand consumer goods, to developing countries where the lack of proper infrastructure leads to dumping with extremely harmful effects on the local populace and natural environment.

**Recommendations and Concluding Remarks**
This research was intended as an exploratory project, hopefully paving the way for more in-depth and rigorous exploration of the links between waste management and crime. The use of a sector vulnerabilities framework has been found to be fruitful in that it allows clear identification of risks and problems within systems, which can then be addressed.

Briefly, it is recommended that the Scottish Government and other agencies intensify their efforts to educate the public about waste management, and the harmful impact that poor waste disposal has on the natural environment and the planet as a whole. It is further recommended that policy-makers review the regulations surrounding the licensing of waste management and improve these with a concerted effort to deter and punish those within the waste management sector who would seek to commit crime. Lastly, it is hoped that understanding and knowledge about environmental issues will be shared out-with specialist agencies, so that others in law enforcement, such as the Police, can develop an awareness of criminality within the waste sector and more usefully collect, gather, and disseminate intelligence relating to environmental organised crime.

**Key Partners**
The Scottish Environmental Protection Authority (SEPA), and in particular the LIFE SMART waste team, were key partners in this research. This project would not have been possible without their expertise and generosity.

My colleagues and tutors in the University of Glasgow Criminology department and the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research (SCCJR) also played a vital role in guiding and overseeing my research, for which I am hugely grateful. It should be noted that the views expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect those of SEPA, the University of Glasgow, the SCCJR or Police Scotland.

**References**
Influence of Gender on Risky Behaviour in Use of Smartphones

Najla Etaher (Strathclyde University)

These days, most teenagers and adults use smartphones since they allow us to access a huge selection of readily-available services. In recent years, the availability of these ubiquitous and mobile services has significantly increased due to the different forms of connectivity provided by mobile devices, such as GSM, GPRS, Bluetooth and Wi-Fi. At the same time, the number and types of vulnerabilities that exploit these services have also increased. This study by Najla considers smartphone security with a particular perspective on how this may impact upon children and adult users. A mobile usage survey was conducted that included focus on gender in order to shed light on differences in how males and females approach smartphone use.

Najla won the SIPR-Police Scotland Postgraduate Student Award for the Best Poster at the Postgraduate Conference held on 15th December 2017.

Introduction

In many ways, smartphones represent an ideal target for malware writers. As the number of vulnerabilities and attacks have increased, there has been a corresponding focus on security. Still, research in the area of mobile risks and security is immature and unexplored in depth.

The more children go online, the more they may encounter threats and risks, knowingly or by accident. Along with benefits, access to the Internet by children has brought exposure to a wide range of online dangers, some of which exist in the real world, like bullying, sexual exploitation, pornography, and others that are new in children’s lives, like abuse of personal data and privacy, geo-location tracking, online grooming and sexual messaging. Such fast adoption of the Internet by children poses associated risks to their personal information and of unpleasant experiences. Threats may be encountered if young users are exploited. However, children may also face danger if they are inclined to be risk-takers on the Internet and have expertise in using online social networks. As a result, using the Internet without regard for personal safety may result in children facing undue online risks.

Objectives

Since the spread of mobiles in school-age users has seen a rise in cyberbullying, sexting and on-line grooming, our study considers smartphone security risks with a particular perspective on how this may impact upon mobile device users.

As risks are considerable, especially for smartphone users, the objectives were to:

- profile the behaviour of school pupils when using their smartphone devices,
- explore their knowledge and understating of apps,
- assess how much important information is stored on school pupils’ phones and to determine whether this data could be used to commit cybercrime;
- uncover the security practices of smartphone users;
- determine the level of security awareness in smartphone users;
- reveal any correlations that may arise between gender, smartphone variety, and level of awareness;
- consider whether there is evidence of specific gender behaviour.

Methodology

Two online surveys were conducted on two different groups (first group (School pupils) 147 participants, second group (university students) 199 participants). Participants were presented with a short questionnaire asking them about their behaviour, knowledge, experience of mobile phone usage and the associated risks. Toward these objectives, we analysed four main perspectives:

- security practices and concerns;
- information stored on mobile devices;
- online activities and associated threats;
- user awareness.

Results

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- profile the behaviour of school pupils when using their smartphone devices,
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- security practices and concerns;
- information stored on mobile devices;
- online activities and associated threats;
- user awareness.

Results
The majority of our survey sample (47.7%) own iPhone devices (Figure 1). This choice is higher for females (73.5% of females) than for males (36.5% of males). Android devices accounted for 46.2% of the total sample. Males were more likely (56.6% of males) to have Android devices than females (21.6% of females).

To highlight exposure to online risks and threats, specific questions were asked about receiving photos from known contacts and strangers; receiving upsetting content; and bullying content.

While a large proportion of respondents had not received upsetting, attacking or bullying content from other people, 19.8% of females and 15.6% of males acknowledged receipt of such material.

Awareness of personal location data was also addressed and we found that a larger proportion of males than females seem to take care when it comes to turning off GPS. Apparently, females were more likely to expose their current location, as only 16.3% of female respondents indicated that they had ever turned off GPS for safety, while 38.1% of males had done so (Figure 2).

Males and females appear to be close in their attitude toward managing app permissions (a notorious source of privacy issues). For both groups, the majority (73.3% for males and 75.2% of females) had intentionally avoided some apps when faced with permission requests rather than give access to personal information (Figure 3).

In similar vein, males and females were close (95.5% for males and 99.0% for females) in their tendency to download applications (Figure 4).

Our results suggest that the gender effect on behavioural differences in smartphone use is mainly reflected in (i) choice of smartphone brand, (ii) likely receipt of unwanted or unsettling materials, and (iii) vulnerability to location revealing apps. These insights support a case for improving specific risk awareness in female smartphone users.

References
Quantification of RNA degradation of blood-specific markers to indicate the age of bloodstains

Suaad Alshehhi (University of Strathclyde / Dubai Police) & Penelope R. Haddrill (University of Strathclyde)

Recently, there has been increasing interest in the use of Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) in the forensic science community, for various applications. Some RNA types such as messenger RNA (mRNA) and microRNA (miRNA) have shown the ability to reveal the activities of genes and their respective cells/tissues, which might help to give an indication of pathological states or any condition that leads to death\(^1\). These molecules have also proved to be potential tools to identify the origin of a body fluid and give some indication of the time it was deposited\(^2,3\). Since 1983, when RNA first appeared in forensic science, many studies have been carried out to try and understand how patterns of gene expression can be useful in forensic science. Suaad was highly commended for her Presentation at the Postgraduate Conference held on 15\(^{th}\) December 2017.

Background

Identification of body fluids

Identification of the types of biological stains recovered from crime scenes can be very important to criminal investigations, i.e. whether stains originate from blood, saliva, semen, etc. This kind of information may help in reconstructing events that occurred at a crime scene. Current methods used in forensic laboratories for body fluid identification depend on catalytic or enzymatic tests, to identify proteins or compounds present in one specific body fluid, such as the Kastle-Meyer presumptive test for blood, which indicates the presence of haemoglobin. Some of these methods lack specificity and sensitivity, and may also destroy precious samples, precluding the ability to perform subsequent DNA profiling. As such, RNA is of increasing interest in forensic science as a novel means to identify body fluids, and the similar chemical structures of DNA and RNA mean they can be co-extracted from biological samples.

It has been shown that the identification of cell type-specific mRNAs can provide high specificity for body fluid identification, due to distinct gene expression patterns in different tissue types\(^3\). As a result, each body fluid has its own specific gene expression pattern that can be defined by the presence of mRNAs that encode for proteins with body fluid-specific functions.

In a small number of published gene expression association studies, it has been found that, similar to mRNA, a number of miRNAs exhibit expression restricted to one cell type, making them useful markers for body fluid identification. All miRNA assays exhibited different expression profiles across a range of tissues other than their specific body fluids, confirming the high degree of specificity of the selected potential markers.

Biological stain age determination

Knowing the time of body fluid deposition at a crime scene can be crucial for criminal investigations, as it can give information regarding when a crime occurred, or whether a stain is pertinent to a specific criminal investigation. Conversely, samples that do not correspond to the time when the crime is proposed to have occurred may be excluded. To date, a number of publications have revealed that the degradation rate of RNA can be useful for estimating the age of biological samples recovered from a crime scene\(^4,5\). Given that RNA is known to be unstable and gradually degrades in the environment, it has been proposed that quantifying the level of RNA degradation may be useful as a measure of stain age. This is an emerging area of research with, as yet, a small number of publications investigating the relationship between age and RNA decay in blood\(^4\) and hair\(^5\). These studies have analysed the degradation level of RNA in an attempt to estimate the age of biological stains.

Project aims

The overall purpose of this project is to develop a method to estimate the deposition time of biological fluids commonly encountered in forensic casework – blood, saliva and semen – using the application of RNA analysis.

Initially, the degradation profiles of multiple RNA markers will be analysed, including reference genes, as well as mRNA and miRNA body fluid specific markers. The first aim is to look for a correlation between the age of the bloodstain and the degradation rate of these RNA markers in order to identify those most useful for body fluid stain ageing and to assess the possibility of using the degradation rate to determine time since deposition.

The expression level and degradation rate of multiple RNA molecules in blood samples were analysed; these were HBA, HBB, HMBS, miR16, miR451, ACTB, 18S and U6. The RNA markers have been selected from a thorough literature review, and have been shown to indicate the presence of bloodstains. After this, the stability of mRNA and miRNA was examined, by calculating the relative expression ratio (RER) of these two different RNA molecules. This was done in order to provide information about which markers are likely to be more accurate for use in
estimating the age of biological stains, both over the short- and long-term.

In order to use RNA markers for estimating the age of bloodstains, the degradation rate of these markers needs to be large enough that it is observable across ageing time periods. In this work, the degradation rate of blood specific RNA markers in aged samples was analysed. A total of 10 volunteers (six females and four males) were asked to give blood samples, which were deposited on cotton swabs and then stored in a dry dark place at room temperature to simulate natural ageing, until they reached a series of desired ages (0, 3, 6, 15, 30, 90, 180, 270 days). The degradation levels of eight RNA molecules were analysed and the RERs calculated in order to study the degradation behaviour and its relationship with age.

Key findings

![Figure 1. ΔC_q (C_q time x – C_q time 0) for HBA, HBB, PBGD, ACTB, 18S, miR16, miR451, and U6 in total RNA extracted from blood samples stored at room temperature for up to 270 days. Data represents the mean of n = 10. Error bars were omitted for clarity.](image1)

The outcomes of this research showed that different RNA molecules showed a unique pattern of degradation behaviour in bloodstains (Figure 1), with miRNA markers exhibiting strong stability, likely due to their small size.

By applying correlation tests and regression analysis, the data indicate that the RERs of blood-specific markers have a positive correlation with ageing time points. The regression analysis of the relationship between the RERs of miR16/U6 and HBA/HBB with time produced the highest R² values (98.6% and 97.9% respectively) with narrow confidence intervals, using a non-linear model (Figure 2). These results indicate that these two ratios are the most reliable in bloodstain age estimation.

The RERs of blood-specific markers represent a potential method to estimate the age of bloodstains and therefore, the findings of this study emphasise that future methods using RNA have shown some success in accurate determination of the age of bloodstains.

References


![Figure 2. Regression analysis of the relationship between bloodstain age (up to 270 days) and RER. A second-order polynomial curve was applied to RERs: (A) HBA/HBB and (B) miR16/U6. Data represents mean of n = 10.](image2)
Vulnerable witnesses and the police: How to develop evidence-based practice to support witnesses on the autistic spectrum when giving evidence

Dionysia Lali (Open University)

Current procedures for gathering evidence from witnesses can create significant anxiety for people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD), due to difficulties with memory, language and face recognition. This could potentially have an adverse impact on accuracy during the identification process. Working with ASD witnesses could also be stressful to police officers, as they are the first to interact with witnesses that could need special assistance, and it is therefore vital for officers to be able to identify and support ASD witnesses appropriately.

This empirical study aims to address these issues by investigating police officers’ knowledge and understanding about ASD witnesses and how this translates into their practice, as well as developing operational procedures to improve policing practice, particularly for eyewitness identification procedures. This is part of a fully funded PhD at the Open University and is being supervised by Professor Graham Pike and Dr Hayley Ness.

Introduction

Eyewitness testimony is critical to the Criminal Justice System regardless of who the witness is. Providing accurate testimony can be difficult for any witness, but ASD witnesses face additional challenges. They have specific problems with memory for, and processing of, faces which may impact their ability to accurately recall unfamiliar faces when providing a statement. This can also affect their ability to make accurate identifications during an eyewitness identification procedure.

Understanding their abilities in terms of their memory and face processing functions, including how this may impact on their ability to recall an eye-witnessed event, and how professionals in the Criminal Justice System can devise ways to best interview ASD witnesses, is, therefore, essential.

Memory in ASD

ASD is characterised by impairments in social communication and interaction, as well as restricted and repetitive patterns of behaviour. Individuals with ASD have a unique memory profile characterised by difficulties with remembering personally experienced events and putting the pieces together (Bowler et al, 2007) in order to remember what has happened and who was responsible (Bowler et al, 2004).

In addition, witnesses with ASD report fewer person details in their statements (Maras and Bowler, 2012) and process faces differently (Greimel et al, 2014).

These difficulties raise questions concerning performance during an eyewitness identification procedure and whether the quality of their description of the suspect to the police might be affected. It is important to remember that these two questions are interlinked; a witness who is unable to provide a good description may be less likely to be asked to return to view a line up.

Impact of the ASD memory profile on eyewitness’ testimony

Studies have shown that ASD individuals can act as reliable witnesses (Bowles and Sharman, 2014), but they may be more reliant on prompts to help accurate recall and identification (McCory et al, 2007).

Mattison, Dando and Ormerod (2015) developed a sketch technique to support children with ASD to recall information. They found that autistic children who were supported by the sketch-technique showed improved free recall performance and reported more details about people.

ASD witnesses may find it difficult to understand verbal instructions in an eyewitness interview situation. Visual prompts have been known to effectively support understanding verbal information (Mirenda, 2003).

Evidence therefore suggests that there is added benefit in allowing individuals with ASD to create their own visual prompts through a sketch approach as this could elicit more accurate information (Maras et al, 2014).

Research Priorities

The long term aim of this study is not only to identify areas where improvement might be needed, but also to develop operational procedures to improve policing practice, particularly for eyewitness identification procedures.

This could have significant implications in resolving a crime and therefore it is important to examine in more detail, issues on how police officers make decisions around how to best engage ASD witnesses with the investigative process.

Methodology

In order to develop an understanding of police officers’ perceptions and knowledge about autism and how this translates into their practice, a survey was conducted with the 17 forces that are currently collaborative partners within the Open University’s Centre for Policing Research and Learning.
The aim of the survey was to gain a better understanding of:

- the Police Officers’ understanding of different types of vulnerable witnesses;
- their ability to recognise a person with ASD;
- frequency of asking different types of witnesses to draw the face of a suspect (sketch approach) rather than describe them verbally;
- the Police Officers’ perceptions about the effectiveness of the sketch approach (including any perceived advantages and disadvantages) and when they would consider using it;
- the Police Officers’ training on vulnerable witnesses and ASD in particular

Preliminary findings

Some key themes have emerged:

**Training:**

An emerging theme was that police officers continue to receive little training around ASD and often this is part of broader training focusing on vulnerable witnesses. Furthermore, they identified the need to be able to recognise ASD as being critically important, in order to be able to interact effectively with them, which also requires training in appropriate methods of communication to achieve the best results in helping the ASD witnesses to understand the processes involved.

**Methods used:**

A sketch approach was not widely used. However, it was acknowledged that it can be very useful in helping witnesses with poor communication skills or learning difficulties to engage with the investigative process.

...some adults with poor communication skills or learning difficulties can often sketch what they are trying to describe rather than verbalise… (police staff)

...person is able to refer to visualisation which can assist in prompting memory to be able better description to be recorded… (police staff)

Impact and next phase

The themes emerging from the survey indicate that police officers need more specific training about ASD, focusing on better identification and techniques to help witnesses with ASD to provide good evidence.

Currently, the identification process as outlined in the PACE Code of Practice (2017) does not give witnesses the opportunity to revisit their suspect description. Research has shown that ASD witnesses could potentially benefit from this help them accurately recall an event and the person's taking part.

The next phase of the project includes an experimental study aiming to develop and test a procedure which takes into account the ASD witnesses’ memory profile.

References

Looked After and Accommodated Children: Evaluating the Impact of a National Partnership Agreement in Dundee

DC Richard Grieve (Police Scotland)

Of the 40,000 annual missing person incidents within Scotland, Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC) make up around 12,000 of these (Police Scotland, 2017). This is of particular concern given LAAC are amongst the most vulnerable members of society and the ‘majority go missing because of abuse, neglect or conflict at home, and many also have serious mental health issues. While missing, 1 in 6 children sleep rough or stay with someone they have just met, and 1 in 8 report being physically harmed’ (Missing People, 2016).

Whilst acknowledging the potential vulnerability of missing children, previous research has also suggested that the police response to missing persons can be overly bureaucratic and in need of a more proportionate and risk based response (Berry, 2010).

For this Practitioner Fellowship, DC Richard Grieve is being supervised by Professor Nick Fyfe (University of Dundee) and Dr. Penny Woolnough (Abertay University)

In December 2015, Police Scotland commenced piloting The Looked After and Accommodated Children who go missing from Residential and Foster Care in Scotland, National Partnership Agreement across 3 pilot areas. This National Partnership Agreement (NPA) reintroduces an ‘absent’ category but makes substantial changes with how this absent category is applied, in comparison to previous iterations within the U.K. In Scotland, the Young Person House decides if a young person will be classified as absent or missing when they fail to return or are not where they would be expected. If the young person is classified as absent then the local authority will manage a single agency response without contacting Police. This decision will be dependent on the assessed risk and can be escalated to a Police led missing person at any stage, with the passage of time or any increase in the assessed risk.

The primary aim of this project will be to evaluate the National Partnership Agreement, in its implementation in Dundee local authority against a framework of competencies. These competencies will explore: Legitimacy; Prevention of Harm and Attainment of Positive Outcomes; Efficiency and Interagency Working. Particular focus will be given to the implementation and impact of the absent category. A qualitative research methodology will be combined with existing quantitative data from Dundee City Council and Tayside Division of Police Scotland.

Looked After and Accommodated Children will be invited to complete a survey that will seek to capture their understanding of the NPA and provide them with an opportunity to voice their views around incidents whereby they have been reported absent or missing. A broad spectrum of professional workers will also be asked to complete a survey. These include: Residential staff; social workers; third sector support workers and police officers. The survey will aim to explore their understanding of the NPA and their views on how it has impacted the competencies listed in the framework.

Key informants such as senior residential staff, social work department management and police community team managers will also be invited to participate in semi structured interviews. These interviews will aim to further explore themes that are identified through the survey of LAAC and professionals or through analysis of the quantitative data collected.

A paper will be produced and available through the SIPR website once the research has been completed. It is hoped that the findings will assist in continuing to improve this National Partnership Agreement and provide evidenced good practice, as well as contributing to the growing field of academic literature around protecting vulnerable children from harm and helping them attain positive outcomes.

References


Commissioned Research and Knowledge Exchange undertaken by SIPR

SIPR works closely with Police Scotland, the Scottish Police Authority, HM Inspectorate of Constabulary, Scottish Government and other bodies to support the commissioning of research and knowledge exchange. This creates a wide range of opportunities for members of SIPR to engage in new, relevant projects that contribute to innovative and evidence-based policing approaches.

Projects taken forward in 2017/18 included:

- An evaluation of Police and Fire Reform – Year 2 Report
- First Responder Guide for cybercrime and digital forensics: evaluation of a training pilot
- PRcyber: The Policing Response to Cybercrime - An international evidence review and workshop

Reports on these projects are provided in this section.

(Photograph: Police Scotland)
In 2016, the first report on the evaluation of police and fire reform in Scotland reported that there was plausible and credible evidence of progress being made towards achieving the long-term aims of reform and strong evidence of the establishment and functioning of new processes, structures, projects and programmes. But the Year 1 report also highlighted some important evidence gaps. The documentary evidence was largely process rather than outcome focused; oriented to ‘producer’ rather than ‘consumer’ perspectives; focused on strategic rather than operational matters; and offered national rather than local perspectives. It was also noted that senior representatives of Police Scotland frequently invoked the notion of a reform journey that begins with ‘preparing’, moves on to ‘consolidating’ and ‘integrating’, and concludes with ‘transforming’. At that time Police Scotland saw themselves in the consolidation and integration phase of the journey.

Against that backdrop, the four local case studies drawn on in this Year 2 report form a key element of the evaluation, providing the opportunity to hear the voices of those experiencing reform ‘on the ground’, exploring how national changes are playing out at a local level and examining the extent to which different contexts play a part in facilitating (or hindering) the objectives of reform. In each case study area, qualitative interviews and focus groups were used to capture the experiences and perspectives of different stakeholders in the reform process, including local police officers and firefighters, the public, councillors and council staff, and community and third sector organisations. Interviews with police and fire officers were conducted between June and August 2016 and those with other groups took place between June and December 2016.

The case studies were selected to include both urban and rural communities, areas with high and low crime rates, and with levels of greater and lesser deprivation. In each area the focus has been on assessing the perceptions of the impact of reform on delivering a local service, accessing specialist support and national capacity, and on strengthening connections with communities. How people think and feel about reform as an important part of the social reality under investigation: although perceptions should not always be read at face value, they do need to be taken seriously as an essential part of the wider terrain of reform.
In relation to protecting and improving local services, the evidence from across the case study areas shows that since reform, local policing teams have continued to provide a service which is valued by local communities. The capacity to deal with increases in demand driven by major incidents was perceived by officers to have been enhanced, in some of the case study areas, by being able to access national resources. Those who had contact with the police in an emergency are generally positive about the response they received but there are mixed views from the public regarding more routine interaction, depending on the type of area. In more deprived areas, public perceptions of officers tended to be more negative, while in rural and affluent communities views were more positive. For local officers one of the main issues was the cumulative effect of decisions taken at a national level to restructure and refocus the organisation which have had a variety of intended (and unintended) consequences at a local level. This has resulted in concerns among officers, confirmed by the public, councillors and community and third sector organisations, regarding the visible presence of local officers and a perception that local resources available to deal with routine response and community engagement activities are increasingly stretched over larger geographical areas.

In relation to creating more equal access to specialist support and national capacity, evidence from the case study areas indicated that local officers’ experience had improved in some respects since reform. There was also a perception that there had been no change or that the process had become more bureaucratic. When national capacity was deployed it allowed local policing teams to maintain service delivery in times of high demand and specialist teams brought high levels of skills and expertise to apply to specific local policing issues, such as a high risk missing person or murder investigation. However, local officers also expressed concerns about the capacity in some of the specialist teams to respond to local incidents in a timely way. Officers also felt there was still scope for improving internal communication between local and specialist teams and for assessing the longer term implications of this model of service delivery for the distribution of skills across the organisation.

In relation to strengthening the connection between services and communities, in all the case study areas the public and local councillors were generally very positive about their interactions with local policing teams, particularly in rural areas where there was a strong sense of the need to work collaboratively. Nevertheless, local officers, councillors, third sector organisations and the public were aware that community engagement activities and locally based joint initiatives were under pressure from other demands on policing. Dissatisfaction with the use of the 101 non-emergency number was expressed by some members of the public as well as with the closure or limited opening times of some police stations. With respect to partnership working, there was clear evidence that this was viewed positively by police, councillors, council staff and third sector organisations and that it was of strategic importance and was well supported by the attendance of senior officers at partnership meetings. Nevertheless, in all four areas, the evidence suggests that for local police officers their ability to work effectively with partner agencies was under pressure from resource constraints across the public sector and that there was scope for improving information sharing and internal and external communication about the outcomes of partnership initiatives.

Although drawn from four very different areas of Scotland, the local case study evidence presents a remarkably consistent picture of both the progress towards, and perceived challenges remaining with regard to, achieving the long term aims of reform. From the perspective of local police officers there were positive achievements in relation to improvements in accessing national capacity and specialist expertise. There were also strong commitments to partnership working. But the perceptions of those involved in the routine delivery of local services were that they are operating with diminishing resources, that work to strengthen connections with communities was often hampered by other organisational pressures, and the reductions in the budgets of other public services sometimes frustrated attempts to work more collaboratively.

Three wider lessons for public sector reform emerge from the evidence gathered in this phase of the evaluation. First, there needs to be careful modelling of the inter-dependencies and cumulative consequences of decisions taken centrally for local service delivery. Many of the more challenging issues faced locally by policing and fire and rescue are rarely the result of a single change in policy or practice. Rather, they are the unintended consequences of a whole series of individual decisions which come together in specific ways in local environments. Second, there is a need for meaningful, authentic and open communication within an organisation throughout the reform process. There has to be a commitment at a senior level to explaining not just the ‘what’ and ‘how’ of organisational change but also the ‘why’. This should also open up a space for dialogue so that staff at all levels of an organisation feel engaged with the decision-making process and that the scope to influence change is dispersed through the organisation. Third, issues of improved communication also apply to relationships with local service users, partner organisations and communities. Against a background that recognises that collaboration and co-production are vital to the future delivery of sustainable public services, prioritising local consultation, engagement, and communication with service users and partners at a time of rapid and radical reform will all contribute to attempts at achieving the long term aims of transformational change.
First Responder Guide for cybercrime and digital forensics: evaluation of training pilot

Miranda Alcock (SIPR Associate) & Paddy Tomkins QPM (Droman Solutions Ltd)

Cybercrime is a growing and evolving threat, both nationally and internationally. There is an urgent need for relevant and accessible training for non-specialist police who carry out the initial response in dealing with this crime area. In 2015 Droman Solutions began a partnership with Abertay University and the Cyber Operations team of Police Scotland to develop an applied game technology solution to meet this need. The First Responder Guide (FRG) was the result of this collaboration. It was piloted with front line police officers and Droman Solutions asked SIPR to evaluate this trial. The development work was funded by Droman Solutions with support from Scottish Enterprise and Interface (Innovation Scotland).

The First Responder Guide

The First Responder Guide (FRG) was designed as an innovative approach to a number of challenges facing the police in dealing with cybercrime and digital evidence:

- how to train large numbers of people and keep them up-to-date with an evolving operational challenge,
- how to provide front line officers with relevant information as and when they need it, and
- how to reduce the cost and abstractions from duty incurred by traditional classroom training.

The game aspect of the guide is intended to make training more engaging and encourage frequent interaction with the training materials, so that skills are not just learned but practised. The guide was initially developed through a students’ ‘game jam’ organised by Abertay University, and a subsequent prototype trial with police officers in Dundee. This resulted in the development of a game with three scenarios – a reactive patrol call, a pre-planned house search and a spontaneous office call. The game is designed to be used on a tablet or other mobile device, reducing the need for abstractions, but can also be used on corporate desktops.

Following the development of the three scenarios, the partnership organised a more extensive trial with front-line police officers and staff from across Scotland.

Trialling the Guide

Six pilot training events were run in Edinburgh (2), Fife, Glasgow (2) and Irvine. Most participants were front line officers from Police Scotland, but some police staff from a contact centre and officers from British Transport Police also participated. Everyone was asked to complete a short questionnaire anonymously; the first few questions were completed prior to the training and the rest at the end. Participants were allowed to discuss their experiences and responses to the questionnaire during the pilots.

Ninety-eight participants completed questionnaires, 89% of whom said they had received no previous training in cybercrime or digital forensics. Of the people who completed questionnaires, 61% were police constables, 11% were detective constables, 7% were police staff and 3% were sergeants. The remainder didn’t specify their rank.

Respondents were fairly evenly split by age with roughly a third in each of the main age groups (26-35, 36-45 and 46-55). Nearly half of the respondents had less than 10-years service (with 24% having 1-5 years and 23% having 6-10 years); 16% had 11-15 years.

Main findings

More than three quarters of the respondents had little or no confidence in dealing with operational incidents involving cybercrime/digital forensics, prior to completing the training. This was split between 24% being not at all confident and 54% not very confident.

Over half the respondents had some experience of dealing with operational incidents involving cybercrime/digital forensics (56%). Most of the rest had no experience (39%).

Based on the sample participating in this trial training, these findings indicate that many officers may be attending operational incidents involving cybercrime with little or no confidence in how they should be dealing with them. This has implications for how victims and members of the public may experience
police handling of this type of crime (now approaching half of all crime in England and Wales1), creating a reputational risk for the police service and consequent damage to public confidence.

Respondents were generally positive about the training after completing the game:

- 81% agreed or strongly agreed that they found it easy to navigate through the game
- 74% agreed or strongly agreed that they found it an easy way to learn more about cybercrime/digital forensics
- 76% agreed or strongly agreed that they now had more confidence in dealing with operational incidents involving cybercrime/digital forensics

Participants were asked what they thought were the best features of the game and to rank these. About 10% of the respondents didn’t clearly rank their responses to this question. Of those that did (n=86), the feature most often ranked as no. 1 was that it was simple to use (36% of respondents) and length of time to complete was the least liked feature (ranked 7, also by 36% of respondents).

The pilot environment was not typical of how the guide will be used in real life. Normally, officers would access the training in short bursts, at a time convenient to them, and they would have more time to practice navigation. The pressure of time people experienced in the pilot (the least liked feature) would therefore not be the same in real-world use.

The partnership developing this game has a long-term vision for building a suite of training modules in a similar format, which students will be able to access on a device issued to them personally. Participants were therefore asked if they would like to see more training in this format, and if so, in what subjects. Just over half (60%) of respondents said they would like to see more training, and a just over a quarter (27%) said they wouldn’t (15% didn’t answer).

Not all the participants who said they would like more training made suggestions for topics. Of those that did, the commonest response was that it could be applied to all training areas. Other topics suggested were crime scene management, drugs and major incidents, searches of properties for assets related to crime, taking witness statements, search powers for drugs and offensive weapons, etc.

### Conclusion

The findings in this evaluation indicate that there is a widespread need for training in cybercrime and digital forensics; and that an interactive game-based approach using mobile devices could be a cost-effective way of delivering this training. Such an approach has the potential to reduce pressure on training personnel and associated budgets; there is potential to develop this approach to other areas where immersive scenario-based training, of the kind typified by large fixed-site facilities such as Hydra, would be beneficial.

Cybercrime and digital forensics is a fast moving and continually evolving area. Any training approach must therefore be flexible enough to accommodate new threats and technological developments quickly and effectively. This type of immersive learning, using a virtual environment, allows frequent updates as subject matter experts can quickly alter the content to reflect the most recent changes in technology.

### References

PRcyber: The Policing Response to Cybercrime - An international evidence review and workshop

Dr Ian Ferguson (Abertay University)

You can’t turn on the TV these days without someone mentioning cybercrime: be it the latest privacy breach (Facebook, Cambridge Analytica), the introduction of new stringent data privacy laws (GDPR) or cyberbullying. There are few aspects of life which are untouched by technology and when misused the footprints in the digital flowerbed offer investigative possibilities undreamt of only a few years ago. So society has gone online but have the police? The PRCyber project sought to review how different countries have organised their response to cybercrime in terms of legislation, resources committed to combat cybercrime and the organisational structures put in place, be they law-enforcement, private sector or a combination thereof. The motivation for the study was to identify best practice and learn lessons appropriate for Scotland.

This study, awarded to Professor Nick Fyfe, SIPR, and carried out by Abertay University and Strategic Expertise International (SEI), was one of 21 projects funded by the UK Cyber Security Funding Programme 2017/18.

Six countries, Canada, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Poland were selected for the study, partly on a pragmatic basis (availability of relevant and willing contacts) and partly based on broad comparability with Scotland – Northern /Northern European, size, population, economic comparability etc. Cybercrime is, however, trans-jurisdictional i.e. not confined to national borders, so the international response and its implications for individual nations was examined by considering the role/response of Europol.

The study identified that although pockets of good practice exist there is no ‘one-size-fits-all’ solution to cybercrime. Several key issues emerged as being of common concern across the countries under consideration. These include:

- There is a need for greater organisational / managerial buy-in to the scale of the cybercrime problem. There exists within law-enforcement a perception that cybercrime isn’t ‘real’ crime.
- Improvements in reporting and recording require tightening up and adoption of common definitions of cybercrime. Those of the Budapest Convention being recommended as the most appropriate.
- The amount of “cyber-expertise” within law-enforcement could be greater and more widely spread. Evidential opportunities offered by the widespread societal adoption of technology are not being fully capitalised upon due to a lack of sufficient cybercapability within law enforcement.
- There is an urgent need for stronger international cooperation to speedup trans-jurisdictional investigations. The Internet has destroyed the notion of locality of victim and perpetrator. They can be in different jurisdictions and the practical and legal difficulties in cooperation often mean that timely investigation is not feasible.
- Stronger partnerships should be developed with the commercial sector (hardware/software manufacturers and service providers) to help triage cyberincidents. It is not always obvious to technology users whether a problem with their computer (or phone or smart TV etc.) is merely a technical issue or whether they are the victim of a crime and it is unlikely that the police would ever have the resources to run a ‘helpdesk’ type of service. Technology providers must become involved in triaging incidents and elevating the more serious to law-enforcement.
- Cybercriminals do not have the ‘organisational encumbrance’ that law-enforcement do and are thus always ahead in the arms race between those who develop new ways to commit cybercrime and those who develop new ways to stop them. Law-enforcement needs access to a research and development capability to counter the rapid evolution of cybercrime techniques.
- The widespread adoption of technology is an opportunity to law-enforcement as well as a challenge. If a vandal breaks a car window is it a cybercrime? Yes, if they had a mobile phone in their pocket at the time. Computational devices gather information as they operate (by their very nature) and this stored data can be a useful investigative resource outside of what would traditionally be regarded as cybercrime as long as sufficient training in the nature of the evidence has been given to those who respond and investigate.
- Training was identified to be one of the most pressing issues for law enforcement. The overwhelming majority of law enforcement agencies were not providing sufficient levels of training, although all recognised the impact that this has and so were in the process of trying to improve the situation.

The project was undertaken by a cross-disciplinary team from academia and the commercial sector. It comprised experience of academic research into both the technical and societal aspects of cybercrime, as well as operation experience of policing and the inspection and review of law-enforcement in Scotland, the UK and internationally. The team comprised: Dr Ian Ferguson, Jason Johnstone, Dr Stefano De Paoli and Dr Natalie Coull (Abertay University); Paddy Tompkins, Dr Georgina Sinclair, Maureen Brown and Rebecca Martin (Strategic Expertise International).
Personnel at Abertay University have research interests in Digital Forensics, Cybersecurity, Usable Security and Security by Design. Strategic Expertise International (SEI) is a not for profit community interest company (CIC) offering unique expertise drawn from the UK public sector, government and academia and in particular policing, law enforcement and the wider criminal justice sector.

The study comprised three parts, a literature review, a set of structured interviews with key personnel from the six countries studied and a workshop involving stakeholders from Police Scotland and Scottish Government as well as participation by the interviewees.

The literature review was further broken down into two parts. For each country in the list, sources of evidence such as the state’s public audit body, police internal inspectorate reports, crime recording figures and trends (although counting rules are very different between states), public policy documents were examined and analysed. The scholarly literature on policing of cybercrime was also consulted. The literature review resulted in an interim understanding of the themes of ‘Resources’, ‘Approaches’ and ‘Effectiveness’ which was used to refine specific questions for the second stage of evidence gathering: structured interviews with key individuals from (the gov’t/law enforcement/criminal justice systems of) the countries. These questions focused on issues emerging from the literature review to clarify and improve the precision of knowledge.

The two phases of review and meta-analysis had a double comparative focus: comparisons were drawn across countries in order to understand similarities and differences on how cybercrime policing is done covering the three core aspects of Resources, Approaches and Effectiveness. Areas of comparison included things such as definitions of cybercrime, policing structures, procedures, recording standards, what works and what does not. Data on resources committed (where available) was pulled from published sources. Furthermore, a comparison was drawn with the situation in Scotland to highlight a number of key factors: similarities and differences in good practices, opportunities for standardisation / harmonisation, differences and similarities on procedures, etc. Qualitative interviews were performed, transcribed and analysed using thematic analysis.

The workshop (with an insightful keynote address given by ACC Steve Johnson of Police Scotland) was held in Edinburgh (14th March 2018) to facilitate presentation of the study’s main findings and discussion of consequences.

The study deliberately did not cover Police Scotland so as not to conflict with existing work being conducted by HMICS and Police Scotland themselves. It is hoped that a further study can integrate the findings of the various reviews.

Figure 1. – An aide-memoire of cybercrime response issues and causal links.
Policing Research in SIPR Consortium Universities

In addition to reporting on research and knowledge exchange supported directly by SIPR, the Annual Report also provides an opportunity to highlight other policing research and knowledge exchange activity being carried out within universities that comprise the SIPR Consortium.
The Education and Leadership network within SIPR has a clear remit to:
'promote research in police education and leadership development; to support Police Scotland with research in education and leadership towards increased professionalism and capability; and to address issues of professional education and CPD' (SIPR 2018).

The policing pathways project was established to examine different routes into policing, including the potential development of a higher educational routes into Police Scotland. This project has been in operation for a number of years and during this time meetings brought together representatives from Police Scotland and the SIPR Education and Leadership network to examine ways of addressing the above aims. A key part of the work has been the development of opportunities to establish police related degree provisions into Higher Education establishments in Scotland this included Abertay University, Glasgow Caledonian University, Edinburgh Napier University and the University of the West of Scotland (UWS).

**Working towards Higher Education Degrees in Scotland**

HEIs have identified innovative ways to increase educational provision while also meeting Police Scotland knowledge and skill requirements. This was achieved by a mapping exercise where Police Scotland staff involved in the policing pathway project worked with academics from a small number of HEI’s to look at existing modules and identify where synergies and gaps existed in current degree programmes already offered at the Universities.

Following this mapping process and also thinking about the broader goals and needs of policing, a number of HEI’s began to develop potential police-related routes through programmes. For the UWS this meant mapping new police-related content onto the existing undergraduate Criminal Justice degree at levels 9 and 10 (3rd and 4th year). This created a policing pathway programme, which a number of students from existing degree programmes could articulate on to. The modules which will examine core issues like policing communities and crime investigation, are aligned to the challenges faced by police currently and outlined in their 2026 strategy. Students will also have to undertake a police-related dissertation in their final year. Students will graduate with a BA (Hons) Criminal Justice (Policing) award.

At GCU a Policing Pathway has been developed within the existing BA Social Sciences Programme. From year 3 students can opt to complete the policing pathway, with the final award being in ‘Criminology with Policing’. Specialist modules have been developed in years 3 and 4, including ‘Policing and Society’, and ‘Work Placement: Special Constabulary’. The general approach in developing the pathway has been to focus on the need to develop understanding and knowledge of various aspects of the role of the police, the communities they serve, and society more generally, but equally importantly how such knowledge can be operationalised in professional practice.

At Abertay, police related modules are already taught as part of the BA Criminology Degree. There are a number of modules core to the degree at all levels that specifically relate to policing, this includes, Controlling Crime (Year 1), Criminal Justice Processes (Year 2), Police Policing and Police work (Year 3) and Policing and Criminal Justice in the 21st Century (Year 4).

A key feature of these new programmes is that the students will be encouraged to become special constables. This will facilitate their practical skills and knowledge in becoming a police officer, while the degree programmes will provide the critical and academic understanding of policing, alongside broader criminological and legal perspectives. Together these elements will facilitate the student, should they wish, in becoming a police officer. Other career routes, including police staff and other criminal justice roles will also be possible for those graduating from these programme.

**Towards the future: Sustaining Higher Education within Police Scotland**

At present it is unlikely that Scotland will move in a similar direction to their counterparts in England and Wales and adopt a framework similar to the PEQF and make a degree mandatory. While the discussion
of police and education is not a new one in Scotland and there have been links between enhancing Higher Education opportunities in the past for police (Scott 2004), the current developments are a step change in terms of HEIs being involved with police training in Scotland. This highlights a recognition of the need to consider the development of police staff and there has been increased support towards the strengthening of police and academic partnerships in relation to improving Police Scotland through opening up educational routes and in the development of potential continuing Professional Development Opportunities. There is also a clear commitment from the police to further enhance opportunities for staff at all levels across the organisation. Police Scotland have recently launched their ten year strategy, Policing 2026, which emphasises that in order to meet future challenges and operate effectively in the longer term there needs to be a clear plan to enable their workforce:

“We will develop a workforce plan that clearly identifies what capabilities we require and how, we will attract, retain, develop and realise these capabilities. We will support our people to deliver an effective service.”

A day in the life scenario comparing a police officer from 2016 against 2026, also mentions that the officer of the future has a ‘recognised police qualification’, suggesting there is the desire to shift towards embedding education within staff development. A further commitment is made to innovation and making the police a ‘learning organisation’.

Research and Related Activities

This pathways project, as well as produce new police related degree provision, has also assisted a number of academics from the project to develop wider interests in relation to the Police Professionalisation debate. Indeed the theme of the annual SIPR conference in 2017 was Policing and Professionalisation: opportunities and challenges, this included two sessions on the prospects and controversies of developing Higher Education routes for Police Officers, with speakers from Canterbury Christ church University (Emma Williams) and Northumbria University (Professor Mike Rowe).

Dr Denise Martin and Dr Andrew Wooff also contributed to one of these sessions and at the end of August, the panel of speakers outlined above, as well as a colleague from Finland will delivers a panel session entitled, “Police education and professionalisation: Critical international perspectives”. Martin and Wooff have also been asked to submit an article on their experiences of developing their degree programmes to a special edition of the Policing Journal on the relationship between Higher Education and Policing. Martin and Wooff are also currently supervising a PhD candidate, funded by a UWS studentship with additional research funding support by SIPR: Andrew Tatnell is currently undertaking a comparative study on the engagement with Police and Higher Education in Scotland, and two other Scandinavian Countries.

References


Using research to support public protection: preventing and responding to gender-based violence in Higher Education Institutions: #GCUerasethegrey Campaign & First Responder Programme

Professor Lesley McMillan (Glasgow Caledonian University)

Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU), in common with the other Universities within the SIPR Consortium, believes that all members of the university community have a right to study and work without experiencing any form of gender based violence (GBV), abuse or harassment. The university seeks to prevent GBV and provide a consistent, caring and timely response when GBV occurs. In this article, Professor McMillan, who acts as the SIPR Associate Director for the Public Protection Network, reports on a comprehensive programme of work at GCU, drawing on the research strengths of the Justice, Violence and Gender Research Group, and working in collaboration with colleagues across the university in Professional Services, administration and the student body. They are also engaged in cross-sector collaboration with Glasgow University through a Strategic Working Group, including representation from Rape Crisis Scotland and Police Scotland, and which includes a programme of student peer to peer training in collaboration with Rape Crisis Scotland and Glasgow University.

Background

Research by the NUS has highlighted the high rates at which women students experience GBV, with 1 in 7 students experiencing serious physical or sexual assault during their time as a student, and 68% reporting sexual harassment. Many students will also experience GBV within their lifetimes, and may have done so before coming to university. This may impact on their ability to be fully part of the university community and may in turn have implications for their learning experience. Universities also have obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Human Rights Act to respond to GBV in terms of both policy and practice.

GCU has chosen to focus on GBV, rather than solely sexual violence or misconduct, in recognition of the broad range of experiences that students might have, and in line with the Scottish Government’s Equally Safe approach. As such, we recognise GBV as both a cause and consequence of persistent gender inequality in society. The programme of work also supports the ‘Common Good’ ethos of GCU in that it seeks to eradicate and challenge key aspects of gender inequality, access to higher education, and provide appropriate support for students and staff.

Research Base

Research by members of the Justice, Violence and Gender Research Group on institutional responses to gender based violence has identified poorer and better practice and these findings have informed our own approach. Our research on the impact of GBV reaffirms the shorter and longer term consequences for those who experience it, and the capacity of sympathetic handling of disclosure to mitigate the effects of such violence and to promote further disclosure to additional support services. Conversely, negative experience following disclosure, particularly any communication of disbelief, blame or judgment is particularly problematic. Our research findings on experience of GBV, and problematic perceptions of both perpetration and victimisation in wider society have also informed our approach to prevention. Drawing upon this research base, and the experience and expertise of colleagues right across the university. We have adopted a comprehensive whole-institution approach that focuses on primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.

To date this has resulted in a working group, the approval and publication of a GBV prevention and response
policy, peer to peer training of students, staff training using a tiered approach including the formation of a network of First Responders trained to handle disclosures, and a recently launched staff/student co-designed primary prevention campaign #GCUerasethegrey.

First Responders

Drawing on our research knowledge, experience of delivering police training, and professional backgrounds in counselling, psychotherapy and third sector GBV support work, and taking an evidence-based approach, we have designed and delivered a comprehensive programme of training to staff across a range of roles in the university. Staff are trained to receive disclosures from students or staff, respond appropriately, support, listen and sign-post or refer where necessary. Staff are supported within a network of peers. Our primary aim is to provide an environment where if disclosure is desired, it is welcomed and supported, and with due regard to safeguarding responsibilities, supports those making disclosures to achieve the outcome they wish.

#GCUerasethegrey Primary Prevention Campaign

Another significant outcome of the programme of work is the co-production of a primary prevention campaign #GCUerasethegrey comprising posters, motion graphics, pole-banners, postcards and branded stationery. The graphics were designed by GCU final year students on the Design for Change module as part of the BSc Digital Design (Graphics) programme, for which they received the Bronze Scottish Innovative Student Award from the Scottish Institute for Enterprise, and the wide range of messages and hashtag were drawn from the research knowledge and expertise of staff in the Justice, Violence and Gender Research Group. The campaign was recently launched following external consultation with third sector GBV organisations, and seeks to target myths and stereotypes around GBV, as well as drawing attention to First Responder support. It comprises a ‘call to action’ for staff, students and visitors to the campus to ‘erase the grey’ when it comes to GBV.

Prevention of GBV is a community effort and requires significant effort on multiple levels; universities, in collaboration with both public sector institutions and third sector partners, have a key role to play. Our work going forward will include evaluation of our activities, training for a wider staff and student cohort, and continued development of our existing activities. For further information or questions about GBV prevention work, First Responder training or the #GCUerasethegrey campaign, please contact Professor Lesley McMillan (Lesley.McMillan@gcu.ac.uk)

References

13. Anthony Cardle and Natalie Hislop (GCU) and Patrick Frankas (University of Melbourne, Exchange Student)
Improving Identification Evidence by Understanding Eyewitness Decision Processes/Roundup of Research at Queen Margaret University

Dr Jamal K Mansour (Queen Margaret University)

Queen Margaret University is strongly committed to social justice and they strive to ensure their work has practical as well as theoretical impact. Their commitment to helping to improve people's lives locally, nationally, and internationally is exemplified by Dr Jamal Mansour's work on eyewitness identification and the work of other researchers highlighted below.

**Improving Identification Evidence by Understanding Eyewitness Decision Processes**

**Background**

Eyewitnesses are a critical source of evidence. However, eyewitnesses must rely on their memory and research has established that memory is malleable. Indeed, eyewitness misidentification plays a key role in wrongful convictions—implicated in over 70% of approximately 350 exonerations based on DNA evidence through the Innocence Project since 1992—and have been directly implicated in at least one high-profile case in Scotland. Eyewitness identification evidence can be reliable if it is collected using procedures that protect the eyewitness' memory from contamination, a position acknowledged in Scotland by the Post-Corroboration Safeguards Review of 2015. In this review, Lord Bonomy recommended the development of a code of practice for eyewitness identification. Dr Jamal Mansour of the Memory Research Group and the Centre for Applied Social Sciences at QMU is currently involved with the identification code of practice working group led by the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service.

**Eyewitness Identification Decision Processes**

Dr Mansour’s research shows that eyewitnesses use a variety of strategies to make identification decisions1,2 Her work has demonstrated that eyewitnesses may not be aware of the strategies they use3 although their beliefs about their decision are associated with accuracy. The work of Dr Mansour and others has shown that identification decisions are influenced by an eyewitness’ quality of memory for the crime and the identification procedure used4,5 and these factors may do so by influencing the eyewitness’ decision strategies.

**Current Research**

With funding from the American Psychology-Law Society and QMU’s Centre for Applied Social Sciences, Dr Mansour is exploring the decision processes of eyewitnesses during and after an identification decision, given different views of a mock crime (good, moderate, poor) and identification procedures (simultaneous or sequential presentation of lineup members). Data collection is ongoing.

Participants in this experiment witness two men stealing another man’s laptop and are later asked to identify two suspects. The participants think out loud while making their identification decisions and then answer a series of questions about their decision process.

With Swinburne University of Technology, Dr Mansour is developing a psychometric scale for measuring individual eyewitness’ decision strategies. Police, lawyers, and judges may be able to use the scale to estimate the reliability of eyewitness identifications, similar to how forensic assessments are used to evaluate offender risk. An ongoing project funded by QMU’s Centre for Applied Social Sciences focuses on eyewitness confidence. An eyewitness' stated confidence is the most relied on indicator of their accuracy. This research involves testing approaches to confidence in Scotland, the United States, and research in order to determine and refine best practices.

For more information, please contact Dr Mansour (jmansour@qmu.ac.uk).
Other Policing-Relevant Research at QMU

Communication support needs in the criminal justice system
Dr Ann Clark of QMU’s Clinical Audiology, Speech and Language Research Centre has shown there are large, unmet communication support needs in the criminal justice system and that more speech and language therapy provision is needed to address these needs. Her research with young men at HYMOI Polmont showed that they have language difficulties and, for the first time, asked these young men about their needs and how these needs have affected their journey through the criminal justice system. Other research concerns support for children with communication needs in Joint Investigative interviewing and in Children’s Hearings. Dr Clark sits on The Cross Party Group on Children and Young People at Scottish Government. For more information, please contact Dr Clark (aclark@qmu.ac.uk).

Persons who go missing from care
Professor Jan Dewing and Dr Fiona Kelly of QMU’s Centre for Person-centred Practice Research are exploring the care of persons with Dementia and who go missing from care. A literature review on persons who go missing from care is ongoing and previous work has considered topics such as human rights, dementia friendly design, and exploring cultures of care and hearing the views and opinions of people with dementia and those who support them. QMU is developing a partnership with Police Scotland to examine investigative approaches when people go missing from care, with an eye towards the National Missing Persons strategy. For further information, please contact Professor Dewing (idewing@qmu.ac.uk) or Dr Kelly (fkelly1@qmu.ac.uk).

Youth and crime prevention
Dr Emma Wood and Dr Magda Pieczka of QMU’s Institute for Global Health and Development have developed a way to help teenagers collaboratively tackle the challenges posed by alcohol in Scotland’s unhealthy drinking culture. AlcoLOLs involves pupil-led dialogue groups in schools and is supported by a custom-made education film and other tools that stimulate new ways of talking about alcohol, provide different perspectives on the issue, facilitate development of practical knowledge, and model behaviours. The project has had positive outcomes for individuals and groups of young people and has influenced the way policy makers and health communicators think about how young people approach the issue of alcohol. For more information, please contact Dr Wood (ewood@qmu.ac.uk).

Events management and policing
Dr Rebecca Finkel of QMU’s Centre for Applied Social Sciences is exploring perceptions of safety at Edinburgh’s cultural festivals, focusing particularly on gender. At the request of Police Scotland, an initial study ascertained perceptions of safety at Edinburgh’s Christmas festivities. Follow-up research involves face-to-face questionnaires concerning the five main sites of Edinburgh’s Christmas festivities and an online survey. Working with Police Scotland, this research has informed policing policies and procedures during the city’s festivals in order to enhance public perceptions and trust in the police to keep celebratory spaces safe. For more information, please contact Dr Finkel (rfinkel@qmu.ac.uk).

Refugees and asylum seekers
Professor Alastair Ager and Dr Alison Strang of QMU’s Institute for Global Health and Development have been working with police in Scotland to study refugee integration and community cohesion since 2001 when asylum seekers were first dispersed to Glasgow. The ‘Indicators of Integration’ framework, developed from their first study, informed the Scottish Refugee Council in establishing ‘Integration Networks’ across Glasgow to promote social mixing in neighbourhoods with a concentration of housing for asylum seekers or refugees. The ‘New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy’ uses the QMU framework to structure policy working groups. Police Scotland and the Scottish Refugee Council jointly lead the Communities working group. For more information, please contact Dr Strang (astrang@qmu.ac.uk).

Female genital mutilation
Lecturer Oonagh O’Brien of QMU’s Institute for Global Health and Development is working with police and the border agency on My Voice, a participatory action research project concerning Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Police Scotland needs collaboration with FGM-affected communities to protect girls from FGM; however, fears of criminalisation stop community members from directly contacting the police with any concerns. Based on their findings, O’Brien and her team are working closely with the police to build trust, increase mutual understanding, and improve communication flows. Feedback indicates that police and community representatives feel there has been progress in understanding. For more information, please contact Oonagh O’Brien (oobrien@qmu.ac.uk).

References
Police governance and accountability in Scotland after 2012: reforming the Scottish Police Authority

Dr Ali Malik (University of Edinburgh)

This article by Dr Ali Malik is based on doctoral research that examined the role of the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) in managing and delivering police governance and accountability following the centralisation of Scotland’s eight legacy forces in April 2013, under the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The full study is entitled Democracy and epistocracy reconciled? The Scottish Police Authority and police governance in Scotland after 2012. The research was undertaken at the University of Edinburgh, School of Law between 2013 and 2017.

The rationale for the creation of the SPA

One of the stated rationales for the creation of the Scottish Police Authority was that it would provide the “right skills, experience, and expertise to collectively govern the [police] service”1. Under the previous arrangements, the local police authorities, that the SPA replaced, were routinely criticised for lacking independent, professional expertise and a lack of wider governance competencies2. In the post-2012 police governance landscape, the SPA occupies a central position. In addition to its broad maintenance role and powers of budget allocation, it has an explicit legislative duty to hold the chief constable to account for the policing of Scotland. The SPA’s membership, as envisioned by its architects, is also composed of members with professional expertise and competencies rather than elected councillors (as was the case with the previous local police authorities). Although the SPA has continued to evolve and develop, it has faced challenges both in terms of internal organisation, and in its ability to effectively hold the police to account. This research3 has identified a range of factors that have arguably impeded the role of the SPA in its first five years. These include gaps in terms of knowledge and skills, differing interpretations of the SPA’s role, purpose and statutory powers, and external pressures and impositions that have undermined its autonomy raising question marks about the SPA’s independence from both the Scottish Government and Police Scotland. In order that the SPA can implement robust mechanisms of police governance and accountability, it is imperative that the weaknesses in relation to its composition, role and purpose, and its status as an arms-length body are addressed.

Strengthening the SPA

The study developed an original conceptual and analytical framework outlining the key areas where the SPA needs to be strengthened in order to establish effective and robust mechanisms of police governance and accountability. These are explained below:

Broad Composition

The SPA is composed of members appointed on the basis of specific skills and competencies. In this respect, it represents a dimension of epistocracy or knowledge-based governance4. In the absence of direct electoral legitimacy, as is the case with Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales, a knowledge-based governance arrangement lays claim to legitimacy not only through the knowledge credentials of its membership but also through their ability to objectively recognise the validity of knowledge. The latter is crucial as claims to knowledge and expertise in police governance do not necessarily mean specialisation in a specific field but rather the ability to gain insights into specific areas of concern, and a general awareness of related social problems.

Knowledge and evidence is particularly important in the context of police governance, as the police also lay strong claims to professionalism and occupational expertise, which often serves a shield against external oversight and scrutiny. For example, this may be manifested in the way the police control the information that is presented to external scrutiny bodies, often setting the agenda for what is to be discussed and debated at a public meeting5. Under the previous arrangements, local police authority members routinely relied on the local police forces to provide information that was crucial for the analysis of police performance. In order to establish robust mechanisms for police governance and accountability, it is important that the SPA can objectively assess and scrutinise the information provided by the police and provide assurances to local and central democratic bodies that policing policies are not based on self-referential expertise. Since there is no objective knowledge that serves as a pre-requisite for police governance, it is important that members reflect a broad range of skills and competencies. The knowledge credentials of the SPA’s composition can be further enhanced by enabling its members to draw on external knowledge, research and evidence. With limited resources this may often require proactive interaction with external stakeholders and academics on an issue by issue basis.


**Power**

The SPA derives its authority from statutory powers enshrined in the 2012 Act (s.2(1)). However, both Police Scotland and the SPA are separate corporate organisations with complex lines of responsibility and accountability. While the SPA has formal powers to hold the chief constable to account, there has been a lack of clarity over how those powers are implemented in practice. Police Scotland have been instrumental in developing their own performance framework and have taken a leading role in the development of the 10-year policing strategy, *Policing 2026*. The SPA on the other hand has focused on establishing its relationship with Police Scotland as a ‘critical friend’. In order to ensure that the SPA can effectively govern Police Scotland and maintain robust oversight over the delivery of Policing 2026, it is crucial that the boundaries of power are negotiated to ensure that the SPA has sufficient influence to:

a) request information from the police,

b) debate and challenge that information, drawing on its own, and external expertise, and

c) decide consequences or sanctions or provide redress which may even be a reversal of contentious policies

In the absence of formal powers of sanctions, powers to allocate funding and resources could potentially be used as a bargaining tool for changes in policing policy and practice. The risk of negative publicity can also mean that the SPA can establish an effective accountability relationship and set out its expectations in a transparent manner.

**Autonomy**

The SPA was created as an arms-length governance body to provide “clear separation” between the Scottish Ministers and the police. However, in the five years since its inception, there have been growing concerns of undue Ministerial and Scottish Government interference, particularly from within the SPA. Previous tripartite arrangements were routinely criticised for being lop-sided in favour of central government and chief constables, with local police authorities often providing the rubberstamp on key issues. The effectiveness and legitimacy of a knowledge-based governance arrangement rests on sufficient autonomy within the confines of its delegated powers. The notion of autonomy can manifest in impartiality, objectivity, and distance from the police, and political actors. In addition to being non-partisan, the SPA also needs to be sufficiently independent of the police itself. There is an established concept of regulatory capture in corporate governance that highlights how organisations often ‘capture’ regulatory agencies to serve the interests of those being regulated, rather than the interests of the general public. The SPA is ideally situated to act as a buffer between the central government, local government and the police. If it is perceived to be too close to the police, or serving central government interests at the expense of local government, or the public, then its legitimacy and purpose may come into question.

**References**

## SIPR supported Post-Doctoral Research Assistants and PhD studentships

### PDRAs

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<th>HEIs</th>
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<td>Dr Catriona Havard</td>
<td>Evidence &amp; Investigation</td>
<td>Aberdeen, Abertay, (London)</td>
<td>Memon Gabbert, Clifford Finn</td>
<td>October 07</td>
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<td><strong>Obtaining best evidence from young eyewitnesses</strong></td>
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<td>Dr Elizabeth Aston</td>
<td>Police Organization</td>
<td>West of Scotland</td>
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<td>November 08</td>
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<td><strong>Local policing in Scotland</strong></td>
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<td>Dr Leda Blackwood</td>
<td>Police-Community Relations</td>
<td>St Andrews, Abertay</td>
<td>Eller, Reicher, Hopkins</td>
<td>January 09</td>
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<td><strong>Collective radicalization and police-community encounters</strong></td>
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### PhDs

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<td>Julie Gawrylowicz</td>
<td>Evidence &amp; Investigation</td>
<td>Abertay</td>
<td>Carson Gabbert</td>
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<td><strong>People with a learning disability and the construction of facial composites</strong></td>
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<td>Neil Davidson</td>
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<td>Dundee</td>
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<td><strong>Policing the night-time economy in Scotland</strong></td>
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<td>Anika Ludwig</td>
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<td><strong>The integration of investigation and forensic science in volume crime</strong></td>
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<td>Fiona McGrath</td>
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<td>Aitchison</td>
<td>September 08</td>
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<td><strong>Good Enough Policing: A case study of police-community relations in Govanhill, Glasgow</strong></td>
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<td>Omair Uthmani</td>
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<td>Robert Gordon</td>
<td>Alexander Klein</td>
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<td>Maureen Egan</td>
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Recent and current PhD Studentships on policing related topics supported by HEIs, research councils and other sources

(projects beginning in 2017 in bold)

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<td>Zbigniew Kwecka &lt;br&gt;<em>Policing of e-fraud</em></td>
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<td>Ali Malik &lt;br&gt;<em>Exploring the landscape of police governance and accountability in Scotland</em></td>
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**SIPR Small Grant and Tender Awards 2017**

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<td>Strategic Expertise International</td>
<td>Ferguson Coull. Johnstone De Paoli Tomkins Sinclair Brown Martin</td>
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### External research and knowledge exchange grants awarded in 2017

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<td>Designing Collaborative Educational Resources for Assets-Based Community Participation across Europe</td>
<td>Erasmus+</td>
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<td>Carnegie Trust</td>
<td>£70,185</td>
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<td>QMU, KE Funding / American Psychology-Law Society</td>
<td>£7,500</td>
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<td>Police visibility: a strategic level analysis of local policing in Scotland</td>
<td>Edinburgh Napier Research Fund</td>
<td>£5,778</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Aston Hail</td>
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<td>Scoping research on the impact of missing children publicity appeals</td>
<td>Missing Children Europe</td>
<td>£4,102</td>
<td>Abertay</td>
<td>Shalev-Greene Woolnough</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course fees</td>
<td>College of Policing</td>
<td>£4,052</td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Dennison-Wilkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overseas Institutional Visit Funding - Norwegian Police University College, KRIPOS and Oslo Police District</td>
<td>ESRC (Scottish Graduate School of Social Sciences)</td>
<td>£1,855</td>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>Humphrey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experiential Avoidance and Missing Person Behaviour</td>
<td>Carnegie Trust for Scotland</td>
<td>£1,500</td>
<td>Abertay</td>
<td>Moir Woolnough</td>
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<tr>
<td>An assessment of lumicyano fuming for the detection of latent fingermarks</td>
<td>Carnegie Trust for Scotland</td>
<td>£1,500</td>
<td>Abertay</td>
<td>Hunter Farrugia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Publications and Conference Presentations 2017

This section includes publications submitted as being relevant to policing by researchers within the consortia of 14 Universities.

Articles in Refereed Journals


masculinities, sexual health and wellbeing across areas of high deprivation in Scotland: the depth of the challenge to improve understandings and practices. *Health and Place* 50, 27-4.


newly emerging benzodiazepines. *Science & Justice*
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scijus.2017.12.004


**Books**


**Book chapters**


Conferences and Meetings


ALEXANDER, D.A. (2017). The challenges and dilemmas created by the “Marauding/Active” shooter*. The 5th Teeside Trauma Services Conference, James Cook University, Middlesbrough, England.


ALSHEHHI, S., McCALLUM, N. & HADDRLR, P.R. (2017). Quantification of RNA degradation of blood-specific markers to indicate the age of bloodstains. SIPR/Police Scotland Postgraduate Symposium, Edinburgh, UK, December 15th.


McMILLAN, L. & WHITE, D. (2017). Positioning the victim: a comparative study of police officers’ perceptions of, and attitudes towards, victims in the sexual assault evidentiary process, attitudes of criminal justice professionals to the survivors and...
perpetrators of sexual violence: an international comparative approach. Newcastle, University of Newcastle, 28th July.


Other contributions


ALEXANDER, D.A. (2017). Armed police on the streets of Britain does not mean that we are in a state of martial law. May, “Scotsman” newspaper.


DEUCHAR, R. (2017). Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at Florida Atlantic University’s School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, spring semester 2016-17: As the very first Scholar-in-Residence at FAU, Deuchar was based within the School of Criminology & Criminal Justice teaching an UG and PG module on Youth, Culture and Violence.


GRAHAM, W. (2017). ‘I have seen children as young as 12 carrying knives... Dundee needs a wake-up call.’ The Evening Telegraph, 17 October. https://www.eveningtelegraph.co.uk/fp/seen-children-young-12-carrying-knives-dundee-needs-wake-up-call/


GRAHAM, W. (2017). Summer school on criminal justice in Scotland, for staff and students from University of Cincinnati at Abertay and Glasgow. Visits took place to Perth Prison, the police museum and Glasgow Sheriff Court, including inputs on policing and the forensic science labs at Abertay.

HALES, G. & SHEPHERD, L. (2017). SICSA Cybersecurity Christmas Lectures for Schools. Presentations to over 600 school children in Aberdeen and Dundee as part of this annual event.


JACKSON, L.A. (2017). Consultant on a 3-month contract research project for Her Majesty’s Prisons and Probation Service, to undertake a review of the infrastructure of child protection within the juvenile secure estate between 1960 and 2016. The review is intended to inform the response made by HMPPS to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, to enhance HMPPS’s own institutional memory, and to suggest avenues for improved practice of child safeguarding.


JONES B. (2017). Collaborative work with West Technology, Crime scene Technology and Global Forensics in relation to fingerprint recovery from difficult substrates, such as fabrics.


JONES, B. (2017). Tay FM Fingerprints can move on surfaces (March 22 2017) (Forensic Science Division)


JONES, B. (2017). Wave 102 Fingerprints can move on surfaces (March 23 2017) (Forensic Science Division)

MANSOUR, J. K. (2017). Eyewitness can often get it wrong. The Scotsman, April 11.

MANSOUR, J.K. (2017). Moving beyond dichotomous approaches to eyewitness identification decision making. Invited presentation at the Applied Face Recognition Works, Stirling University, Stirling, June.


WAITON S. (2017). Civil court has been abused to brand a man rapist. The Times, 14th April.


SIPR On-line Publications

The following SIPR Briefings (short expert reviews on a range of subjects) and Research Summaries, published since 2007, can be downloaded from the SIPR website at http://www.sipr.ac.uk/publications/Researchpapers.php. The most recent publications are shown first.

SIPR Briefings

Identifying the challenges, lessons learned and good practices for effective policing with communities in fragile and conflict-affected states Georgina Sinclair & Maureen Brown, SIPR Associates / SEI; Supt Alan Gibson, Police Scotland


Stop and search Fife Division pilot evaluation Megan O'Neill (Dundee) and Liz Aston (Edinburgh Napier)

Human trafficking and online networks Dr Jonathan Mendel, University of Dundee & Dr Kiril Sharapov, Glasgow Caledonian University

International police assistance: democracy, politics and culture Andy Aitchison, University of Edinburgh; Jarrett Blaustein, Aberystwyth University; Benjamin Himmler, Centre for International Peace Operations, Berlin & Liam O'Shea, University of St Andrews

Developing an evidence-base for local policing in Scotland Dr Elizabeth Aston, Edinburgh Napier University & Professor Kenneth Scott, University of the West of Scotland

Reforming Police Structures: A Review of UK and International Evidence Jonathan Mendel & Nicholas Fyfe, University of Dundee

Police and Community Perceptions of the Operation and Impact of the Community Engagement Model in Fife [SUMMARY] Janine Hunter & Nicholas Fyfe, University of Dundee

Scottish policing and policy transfer: developing a sustainable model of community policing in Sri Lanka Bruce Milne and Gordon Thomson, Scottish Police College, discuss a three-year training programme.

Developing the role of the police Early Intervention Officer Rob Smith, Aberdeen Business School, discusses how the new role fits into the community policing portfolio alongside other specialisms, many of which are under threat in the current economic climate.

An evaluation of the Priority Crime Unit in Central Scotland Police An independent Report on "Mixed Economy Policing" by Dr Kenneth Scott and Dr Peter Sproat, University of the West of Scotland

Capitalising on 'Lean' methodology as a management tool in the Scottish Police Service Nick Parker (Management Consultant to the Criminal Justice Sector) and Rob Smith (Aberdeen Business School) discuss the concept of 'Lean' as a means of eliminating waste, and providing a quality service through continuous improvement.

User satisfaction with police services Hayley Kelly, Research Officer with the Grampian Police Research Unit, proposes a new approach to how we consider and carry out engagement with our communities

Humble leadership in the police service Rob Smith, Aberdeen Business School, continues his series examining different forms of leadership.

Adopting 'agile leadership' in the police service Rob Smith, Aberdeen Business School, makes a proposal for the adoption of an enhanced level of team working within the service facilitated via a form of visionary leadership known as 'Agile Leadership'.

Assessing the quality of interviews with children alleging sexual abuse in Scotland David La Rooy, University of Abertay, argues that the key to successful prosecution of child sexual abuse lies in the quality of victim interviews.

Exploring the policing-entrepreneurship nexus Robert Smith, Robert Gordon University, discusses how aspects of entrepreneurship theory can be applied in a practical context to policing as a transformational practice.

Policing in a European Context Maria O'Neill, Abertay University, reviews an EU framework for cross border crime investigation and enforcement.

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SIPR Research Summaries

Steering from the centre: The Scottish Police Authority and police governance in Scotland Dr Ali Malik, University of Edinburgh

Measuring risk and efficiency in Police Scotland custody settings: a pilot study Dr Andy Wooff, Edinburgh Napier University & Dr Martin Elvins, University of Dundee

Local policing in transition: examining the impacts and implications of police reform in Scotland Dr Yvonne Hail, Edinburgh Napier University

Creating a proficiency scale for scene examination in Scotland Dr Amanda Marindale & Gala Morozova, University of Edinburgh; Prof Dave Collins, University of Central Lancashire


Evaluating trends in fire fatalities for Scotland Professor Niamh Nic Daeid, University of Dundee

An 'epistocratic' approach to police governance Ali Malik, University of Edinburgh

Local policing in transition: examining the impacts and implications of police reform in Scotland Dr Yvonne Hail, Edinburgh Napier University

Creating a proficiency scale for scene examination in Scotland Dr Amanda Marindale & Gala Morozova, University of Edinburgh; Prof Dave Collins, University of Central Lancashire


Evaluating trends in fire fatalities for Scotland Professor Niamh Nic Daeid, University of Dundee

An 'epistocratic' approach to police governance Ali Malik, University of Edinburgh

Landscape Review on Stop and Search in Scotland Dr Kath Murray, University of Edinburgh.

Dual reports of domestic abuse made to the police in Scotland: a summary of findings from a pilot research study Dr Oona Brooks & Deborah Kyle, University of Glasgow

Accelerating professional judgement & decision making expertise: Feedback and scenario-based training in crime scene examination Dr Amanda Martindale, University of Edinburgh & Prof Dave Collins, University of Central Lancashire

South Asian women's experience of family abuse: exploring the police response Nughmana Mirza, University of Edinburgh

The impact of assets-based community integration initiatives in Scottish and Danish locations Professor Ross Deuchar, UWS & Tony Bone, Police Scotland

Interagency adult support and protection practice of police and health and social care professionals: a realistic evaluation approach. Lead author: Dr Sundari Joseph, Robert Gordon University and University of Aberdeen.

Local policing in Scotland: three pre-reform case-studies Dr Elizabeth Aston, Edinburgh Napier University & Professor Kenneth Scott, University of the West of Scotland

Police-Public Consultation Forums in Edinburgh Diarmaid Harkin, University of Edinburgh

Resilience and well-being in a Scottish Police Force Midj Falconer, David Alexander & Susan Klein, Robert Gordon University

PCSOs as the Paraprofessionals of Policing: findings and recommendations from a research project Dr Megan O’Neill, SIPR, University of Dundee

Detection of mephedrone and other 'legal high' drugs in biological fluids Alanna De Korompay, Karen Anne Kerr & Sunella Lakshmi Brahma, Scottish Police Authority

Managing Offenders - Doing things differently. An evaluation of Glasgow Community & Safety Services: Offender Management Programme Dr Liz Frondigoun (GCU) with John Neilson

Tackling the illicit commercial exploitation of children off campus - A case study Dr Robert Smith and Dr Liz Frondigoun (GCU)

Listening to alternative perspectives on rural crime and criminality Robert Smith & Audrey Laing, RGU

The Scottish Campus Officer - Past, Present and Future Dr Liz Frondigoun (GCU) and Dr Robert Smith and Dr Iain MacLeod (RGU)

Geographies of Missing People Olivia Stevenson and Hester Parr (Glasgow University); Nick Fyfe (Dundee University); and Penny Woolnough (Police Scotland)

Tackling Youth Crime, Violence & Disorder: A Partnership Approach DCI John Paterson, Fulbright Scottish Police Research Fellow

Provision of healthcare and forensic medical services in Tayside police custody settings Martin Elvins, Chuan Gao, John Hurley, Martyn Jones, Paul Linsley and Dennis Petrie

Police liaison with protest groups Craig Menzies, Robert Gordon University / Scottish Police College.

An evaluation of a pilot project on 'Intelligence-orientated Neighbourhood Security Interviews' (i-NSI) Alexis Cran, Niall Hamilton-Smith & Simon Mackenzie (Strathclyde Police, Stirling and Glasgow Universities

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Evaluation of the Strathclyde Extended Deployment of Taser Pilot
Professor Kenneth Scott, University of the West of Scotland

An evaluation of the ‘Positive Futures Programme
Dr Neil Davidson & Dr Liz Frondigoun, Glasgow Caledonian University

Police and Community Perceptions of the Operation and Impact of the Community Engagement Model in Fife
Nicholas Fyfe and Janine Hunter, University of Dundee (Full Report. Summary also available as a SIPR Briefing)

Tackling youth gang issues on campus - a case study
Robert Smith, RGU & Liz Frondigoun, Glasgow Caledonian University

Take control - a road safety education evaluation
Hayley Kelly et al, Grampian Police

Rural policing: understanding police knowledge and practice in rural communities
Professor Tara Fenwick, Dr. Richard Dockrell, Dr. Bonnie Slade & Ian Roberts, University of Stirling; Professor Nicholas Fyfe, University of Dundee

Exploring the relationship between performance management and community policing
Diarmaid Harkin, University of Edinburgh

Scottish Police Leadership Development
Janette McCrae, Senior Careers Development Service & Angela Wilson, Tayside Police

A public health approach to the evaluation of the Glasgow Community Initiative to Reduce Violence
Laura Burns, Damien Williams & Peter Donnelly, University of St Andrews

Hostage and crisis incidents: an evidence-based analysis to inform police negotiator training provision
Professor David Alexander, The Robert Gordon University

Policing vulnerability? The impacts and implications of no cold calling zones in Angus
Andrew Wooff, University of Dundee & Brian Smith, Senior Trading Standards Officer, Angus Council

An Analysis of Independent Custody Visiting in Scotland
Janine Hunter, Nicholas Fyfe & Martin Elvins

A comparative study of Scottish Police Boards
Philip Etherson, University of Strathclyde

Policing the night-time economy in Scottish towns and cities
Neil Davidson, University of Dundee

People with a mild learning disability and the construction of facial composites
Julie Gawrylowicz, University of Abertay

Obtaining best evidence from young eyewitnesses: investigating changes in practice following the Vulnerable Witness (Scotland) Bill
Dr Catriona Havard, University of Aberdeen

An evaluation of a pilot project on ‘Intelligence-orientated Neighbourhood Security Interviews' (i-NSI).
Alexis Cran (Strathclyde Police), Niall Hamilton-Smith (University of Stirling) & Simon Mackenzie (University of Glasgow)

Evaluation of the Strathclyde Extended Deployment of Taser Pilot
Kenneth Scott, University of the West of Scotland
Programme of Network Seminars and Events

Further details of these events, with PowerPoint slides and podcast where available, can be found on the SIPR website at http://sipr.ac.uk/events

Crime Harm Index Workshop

19th April 2017, University of Edinburgh

The East Midlands Police Academic Collaboration (EMPAC) and SIPR jointly hosted a thematic Workshop on the Crime Harm Index (CHI), which has stimulated much professional interest in its attempt to quantify the impact caused to victims and society. The CHI is a "menu of harm" that measures crime according to the price of damage inflicted on victims - rather than counting crimes as if they are all of equal seriousness. The CHI aims to improve the current situation where the police can focus on minor yet high-volume offences that cause less harm than rarer but more serious crimes.

Cambridge criminologists say that this simple, cost-neutral ratio of harmful crime, based on sentencing guidelines and numbers of 'imprisonable' days, will dramatically improve identification and policing of areas where the most damaging crime occurs, so-called 'harm spots', as well as the most dangerous repeat offenders - who can be missed in overview analyses. The adoption of the CHI would help make optimal use of scarce resources through more targeted policing, which could, in turn, reduce prison populations.

The CHI is being trialled by a number of UK forces, including Leicestershire, whose Assistant Chief Constable, Phil Kay, explained how his force has used it to identify crime 'harm spots' and the offenders who cause most harm, and have re-allocated resources, patrol patterns and offender management approaches accordingly. He was joined by Deputy Chief Constable Gary Knighton, of Lincolnshire Police, who is leading further work to explore the application of a 'victim harm index', as well as Analysts from Northampton and Leicester.

(l to r) ACC Phil Kay, Luke Wilkins (Northamptonshire Police) and Jon Whyte (Leicestershire Police)
SIPR-Sweden Joint Meeting
Knowledge-Based Policing and Academic-Police Collaboration

3rd May 2017, University of Edinburgh

A series of talks from academics and practitioner stakeholders was arranged for a senior Swedish Delegation, led by Peter Lindstrom, Malmö University, with the aim of furthering opportunities for collaboration around research and knowledge exchange. Discussions were Chaired by Paddy Tomkins.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIPR: Origins, structure and impact</td>
<td>Professor Nick Fyfe</td>
<td>Director, SIPR</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIPR: Knowledge exchange and brokering</td>
<td>Alistair Henry</td>
<td>University of Edinburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIPR: universities and police education</td>
<td>Andrew Wooff</td>
<td>Edinburgh Napier University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stakeholder perspectives: Police Scotland</td>
<td>Mandy Paterson</td>
<td>Police Scotland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stakeholder perspectives: Scottish Government and HMICS</td>
<td>Euan Dick, Derek Penman</td>
<td>Scottish Government, HMICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden and Knowledge-Based Policing: police and university perspectives</td>
<td>Peter Lindstrom and members of the Swedish delegation</td>
<td>Malmö University</td>
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Public confidence and partnership in policing: a Police Community Relations sandpit

9th May 2017, University of Edinburgh

Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority are moving ahead with the development of a Policing 2026 strategy to focus activities and priorities over the next decade. Two themes have emerged as of key importance to the Police Community Relations network. Firstly, public confidence in the police, how it is built or eroded, and the particular challenges in cultivating it in the 21st century. Secondly, partnership between the Police and local stakeholders, with specific reference to the replacement of local Single Outcome Agreements with Local Outcome Improvement Plans, and how Police Scotland, Local Authorities and Community Planning Partnerships will negotiate their implementation. This “sandpit” at which academics and police practitioners were invited to discuss their interests, was aligned to a Call for Projects for funding from SIPR.
Policing Organised and Cyber Crime: research and practitioner perspectives

6th and 7th June 2018, Scottish Crime Campus, Gartcosh; and Scottish Police College, Tulliallan

This first of two joint SIPR- Norwegian Police University College visits during 2017 was held across two days at Gartcosh and Tulliallan, as part of the ‘New Trends in Modern Policing Project’ funded by the Norwegian Research Council. The Norwegian delegation was led by Helene Gundhus, University of Oslo.

**Scottish Crime Campus, Gartcosh**

| Welcome and introduction to campus | Professor Nick Fyfe  
DCS Gerry McLean | Director, SIPR  
Police Scotland |
|---|---|---|

**Policing Organised Crime**

| Serious Organised Crime Mapping in Scotland | Niall Hamilton Smith  
Colin Atkinson | University of Stirling  
University of the West of Scotland |
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<tr>
<td>Migration security and intelligence</td>
<td>Helene I.O. Gundhus</td>
<td>University of Oslo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious organised crime in Scotland: The role of communications in reducing demand, victimisation and fear</td>
<td>Iain Campbell</td>
<td>Scottish Government</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policing itinerant criminal groups</td>
<td>Johanne Yttri Dahl</td>
<td>Norwegian Police University College</td>
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</table>
| Facilitated discussion with representatives of Scottish Crime Campus (SCC) agencies/embeds on policing organised crime and the role of the SCC | Mandy Haeburn Little  
Angela Bell  
Zoe White  
Ben Cavanagh  
Liam Murphy | Scottish Business Resilience Centre  
HMRC  
SCC  
Scottish Government  
CoPFS |

**Policing cyber crime**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policing cyber in Scotland: preventative and diversionary initiatives</th>
<th>Eamonn Keane</th>
<th>Police Scotland</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crossing the line from investigating to instigating crime? The policing of on-line grooming</td>
<td>Heidi Mork Lomell</td>
<td>University of Oslo</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Cybercrime and First responders | Paddy Tomkins  
Natalie Coull | Droman Solutions and SIPR  
Abertay University |
| Scotland’s unique model – law enforcement and business | Mandy Haeburn-Little;  
Natalie Coull | Scottish Business Resilience Centre  
Abertay University |
**Scottish Police College, Tulliallan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RIO - technology for monitoring the online activities of offenders in the community</td>
<td>Ian Ferguson</td>
<td>Abertay University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security networks - understanding the perception of collaboration amongst policing actors</td>
<td>Martin Nøkleberg</td>
<td>University of Oslo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online presentation of identity across the digital lifespan</td>
<td>Wendy Moncur</td>
<td>University of Dundee</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Extremist Web to Darknet: Automating content classification</td>
<td>George Weir</td>
<td>University of Strathclyde</td>
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<tr>
<td>On the hunt: Aspects of the use of communication control in Norway</td>
<td>Paul Larsson</td>
<td>Norwegian University College</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Three Way Handshake for Police, Academia and Industry</td>
<td>Anja Amundsen and Omair Uthmani</td>
<td>Glasgow Caledonian University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policing human trafficking in Norway</td>
<td>Heidi Fischer</td>
<td>Norwegian University College</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAPESTRY: trust, authentication, and privacy online</td>
<td>Helen Jones</td>
<td>University of Dundee</td>
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**SIPR / Norwegian Police University College Visit**

16th – 17th October 2017, University of Edinburgh, Scottish Government and Scottish Police College, Tulliallan

This second, high-level visit from the Norwegian Police University College, was led by their Director, Nina Skarpened, who was accompanied by their Deputy Director and Heads of the BodO, Stavern and Oslo Campuses, and Heads of Post Graduate Studies and Research, along with other senior representatives.

**University of Edinburgh**

An Introduction to SIPR

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Origins and Aims</td>
<td>Nick Fyfe</td>
<td>Dundee</td>
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<td>Police-Community Relations</td>
<td>Alistair Henry</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence and investigation</td>
<td>Jen Murray &amp; Penny Haddrill</td>
<td>Edinburgh Napier / Strathclyde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education and Leadership</td>
<td>Denise Martin &amp; Andy Tatnell</td>
<td>University of the West of Scotland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Protection</td>
<td>Lesley McMillan &amp; Scott Grant</td>
<td>Glasgow Caledonian</td>
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**Scottish Government**

Policing Research and the Policy Environment in Scotland

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<tr>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Derek Penman</td>
<td>HMICS</td>
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<td>Euan Dick</td>
<td>Justice Analytical Service</td>
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**Scottish Police College**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Welcome</th>
<th>Gordon Thomson</th>
<th>Police Scotland</th>
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<tr>
<td>Policing 2026</td>
<td>ACC Malcolm Graham</td>
<td>Police Scotland</td>
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<td>Probationer Training</td>
<td>CI Murdo McLeod</td>
<td>Police Scotland</td>
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<td>Spectrum of Training</td>
<td>PS Thomas Gorman</td>
<td>Police Scotland</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Policing 2026 Project and impact on training</td>
<td>PI Katrina Cameron</td>
<td>Police Scotland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round table discussion. Theme - Leadership Training and Future Collaboration</td>
<td>Gordon Thomson, Professor Nick Fyfe</td>
<td>Police Scotland, Director, SIPR</td>
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**Enhancing Police Scotland’s and Partners’ Responses to Disability Hate Crime**

October 19th 2017, Scottish Institute for Policing Research/University of Dundee

This half-day Symposium was organised by Dr Ed Hall in collaboration with SIPR to report on the findings from a SIPR, Small Grant Award for the project: Enhancing Police Scotland’s Response to Disability Hate Crime: the Dundee Safe Places Initiative, a collaboration between academics, Police Scotland Tayside Division (Dundee) and Advocating Together, a learning disability charity based in Dundee. The addition of presentations from Police Scotland, academics at Glasgow University, and partner agencies, provided an opportunity to enhance best practice on multi-agency responses to disability and other hate crimes.

*Welcome and Introduction* – Professor Nick Fyfe, Director, SIPR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Police Scotland 2026 Strategy</th>
<th>Supt Jacqueline McIlwraith</th>
<th>Police Scotland</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police Scotland’s approach to disability hate crime</td>
<td>PC Stephanie Rose</td>
<td>Police Scotland</td>
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**Latest research on disability hate crime**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prof. Nicholas Watson &amp; Dr Philippa Wiseman</th>
<th>University of Glasgow</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Ed Hall</td>
<td>University of Dundee</td>
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**Examples of best practice from across Scotland**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>'Support to Report'</th>
<th>Ann Lafferty</th>
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<tr>
<td>‘Fairway Fife Toolkit’</td>
<td>Jaqui Dow</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Advocating Together Dundee’</td>
<td>Karen McAulay</td>
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Local Policing: perspectives on public confidence, local governance and community engagement

7th December 2018, University of Edinburgh

We were pleased to welcome a delegation from the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brottsförebyggande rådet or Brå for short). This knowledge centre for the Swedish criminal justice system was founded in 1974. Brå’s mandate includes “…developing national support and coordination for local crime prevention work … the need for high quality entails close contacts with universities and other institutions of higher learning, and the obligation to respond to the criminal justice system’s need for methodology development and knowledge development requires a close and trusting collaboration.” SIPR and Brå had much to learn from each other!

Setting the Scottish context: the evaluation and local experience of police reform
Professor Nick Fyfe
Director, SIPR

Swedish policing research: current projects and perspectives
Stina Holmberg
Brå

Policing 2026: local approaches and public confidence in Scotland
Karen Blyth and Jon Harris
Police Scotland

The local governance of policing: the practices of local scrutiny in Scotland
Alistair Henry
University of Edinburgh

Community policing in Europe: findings from the UNITY project
Liz Aston and Yvonne Hail
Edinburgh Napier University

The Citizen Promise: a Swedish innovation in local policing
Anna Horgby and Emma Patel
Brå

SIPR International Policing Conference 2017 : Policing and Professionalisation: opportunities and challenges

14th December 2017, John McIntyre Centre, University of Edinburgh

Police Services globally are currently facing a complex set of challenges with declining resources and a changing environment. In order to deal with this shifting terrain, a strong and competent workforce is required. This has been recognised by police forces across the UK and elsewhere including Australia, Canada, the US and also developing nations. The need to ‘professionalise’ the police service in order to face multiple demands has never been more critical. However the drive towards professionalisation and ensuring strong leadership remain multifaceted and there are numerous debates about the best ways in which this can be fully achieved. The aim of the SIPR conference this year was to draw attention to some of these debates. Key themes centred on engaging with evidence-based practice and how best to enhance knowledge and skills with people entering and remaining in the service in order to deal with the new operating environment in which they find themselves; values and ethics; and staff health and well-being.

Chair: Paddy Tomkins QPM, Droman Ltd

Michael Matheson MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Justice

Susan Deacon CBE
Chair of the Scottish Police Authority

Introduction to the 45th James Smart Memorial Lecture
DCC Iain Livingstone QPM
Police Scotland

The 45th James Smart Memorial Lecture: The success of failure: Can we really build learning organisations in policing?
Dr Victoria Herrington
Director of Research and Learning, Australian Institute of Police Management
## WORKSHOPS I

### POLICE AND HIGHER EDUCATION: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES

**Chair:** Dr Steve Tong (Director, Canterbury Policing Research Centre)
- Emma Williams (Deputy Director, Canterbury Policing Research Centre)
- Dr Denise Martin (UWS) and Dr Andrew Wooff (Edinburgh Napier University)
- Professor Mike Rowe (Northumbria University)

### VALUES AND ETHICS

**Chair:** Richard Whetton (Police Scotland)
- Supt. Richie Adams (Police Scotland)
- Supt. Andrew Freeburn (Police Service of Northern Ireland)
- Professor Jonathan Jacobs (Director, Institute for Criminal Justice Ethics, John Jay College)

### STAFF HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

**Chair:** Inga Heyman (Edinburgh Napier University)
- Dr Nicola Marchant (SPA Board Member) and policing representatives
- Dr Ian Hesketh (College of Policing) Research into practice, Oscar Kilo and the Blue Light Wellbeing Framework
- Dr Karen Lumsden (Loughborough University) Austerity policing, emotional labour and staff wellbeing: findings from an ethnography of a police force control room
## Workshops II

### Police and Higher Education: Prospects and Challenges II

**Chair:** Dr Denise Martin (UWS)

This second Workshop on Police and Higher Education will explore different views of what role (if any) higher education should play in the education and training of officers from initial recruits through to senior levels. The panel of discussants will be:

- **Dr Steve Tong** (Director, Canterbury Policing Research Centre)
- **Chief Supt. Ivor Marshall** (President ASPS, Police Scotland)
- **David Hamilton** (Vice Chair, Scottish Police Federation)
- **Per-Ludvik Kjendie** (Head of Bachelor Stavern Campus, Norwegian Police University College)

### Developing Police Practice through Evidence: Success Stories and Barriers

**Chair:** Dr Liz Aston (Edinburgh Napier University)

- **Stop and Search:** Dr Megan O'Neill (University of Dundee) & Supt Ian Thomson (Police Scotland)
- **What Works:** Prof Mike Hough (Institute for Criminal Policy Research, Birkbeck) & *Suzette Davenport QPM* (Former CC, Gloucestershire Police)
- **Discussants:** Derek Penman (HMICS) & Dr Kath Murray (University of Edinburgh)

### Professionalisation in a Comparative Context

**Chair:** Professor Nick Fyfe (SIPR)

- **Dr Georgina Sinclair** (SIPR Associate / SEI CIC) *Building Police Professionalism: the exchange of capacity between international and domestic policing forums*
- **Inga Heyman, Alison Smart & Michelle O’Reilly** (Edinburgh Napier University) *Do we really care? Professionalisation of nursing within higher education*
- **Kate Hudson** (Scottish Prison Service) *The Professionalisation of Prison Officers Programme*

### Posters

- Communication between the police and the public via social media in Scotland: summary of interim findings (Liam Ralph, Edinburgh Napier University)
- Vulnerable witnesses and the police: how to develop evidence based practice to support witnesses on the autistic spectrum (ASD) when giving evidence (Dionysia Lali, Open University)
- The role of police officer’s professional identification in procedural justice and community policing (Ritma Kursite, Daugavpils University, Latvia / UCL)
- Community policing: training for the future (Yvonne Hail, Edinburgh Napier University)
- A Scottish model of the ‘resilient police officer’ (Dr Midj Falconer, RGU)
- The Police Treatment Centres: an evaluation of the physiotherapy service (Lyndsay Alexander, RGU)
- Vocational rehabilitation for emergency services personnel: a scoping review (Lyndsay Alexander, RGU)
- Policing responses to cybercrime: an international evidence review (Ian Ferguson, Abertay University)
- Looked after and accommodated children who are reported missing: evaluating the implementation of a National Partnership Agreement in Dundee (Richard Grieve, Police Scotland)
- Transforming training through technology (Droman Solutions / Abertay University / Police Scotland)
- Headtorch: Creating Positive Mental Health at Work (Angus Robinson and Amy McDonald, Headtorch)
- Strategy, Insight and Innovation (Judith Northin & Neil Broadbent, Police Scotland)
The Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SIPR) and Police Scotland Postgraduate Student Award was introduced in 2015 to encourage those who had completed, or who were working towards, a masters or doctoral award in a topic that is related to policing, to present their research in a supportive environment.

The awards for 2017 were announced as:

**Award for Best Presentation:**
Robert Skinner, Heriot-Watt University

**Award for Best Poster:**
Najla Etaha, University of Strathclyde

The prize has also provided the winners with the opportunity to collaborate with SIPR and Police Scotland to consider how their research can be further developed and how it might inform policing practice in Scotland. This level of access to established researchers and police practitioners has afforded the winners a unique opportunity to contribute to the body of knowledge that informs policing and the potential for their research to have a direct impact on police practice in Scotland.

*Winners of the Best Poster Award (Najla Etaha) and Best Presentation (Robert Skinner) with ACC Gillian MacDonald (Police Scotland).*
Welcome and Introduction: Professor Nicholas Fyfe (Director, SIPR) and Dr Denise Martin (SIPR Education & Leadership Network)

**Student Platform Presentations** Chair: Amy Humphrey (University of Dundee)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<td>Body-worn video cameras and police-public interventions, early insights in research co-production</td>
<td>Declan Falconer</td>
<td>Leeds</td>
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<td>Event driven control room practices: a jigsaw puzzle of the unclear</td>
<td>Jenny Lundgaard</td>
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<td>The faction of femininity: a counter-narrative</td>
<td>Emily Mann</td>
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<td>Volunteering and Policing: Police Occupational Culture in the Special Constabulary</td>
<td>Graeme Dickson</td>
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<td>Quantification of RNA degradation of blood-specific markers to indicate the age of bloodstains</td>
<td>Suaad (Sue) Alshehhi</td>
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<td>Waste, crime and environmental harm: exploring the Scottish waste management sector and its vulnerabilities to organised crime</td>
<td>Fergus Kelly</td>
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<td>(In)visibility and missing harm</td>
<td>Joe Apps</td>
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<td>Staying safe 'Going out'</td>
<td>Katie Gambier-Ross</td>
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<td>Have Police Scotland demonstrated effective leadership when responding to hate incidents in the period leading up to and in the aftermath of the vote to leave the EU?</td>
<td>Matthew Richardson</td>
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<td>Police and emergency health practitioner experiences in the care of people in mental health distress - a 'grey area' of practice</td>
<td>Inga Heyman</td>
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<td>Proximity interpreting: Day to day policing and delivering access for deaf citizens</td>
<td>Robert Skinner</td>
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**Specialist Panel Discussion**

Vicki Herrington (Director of Research and Learning at the Australian Institute of Police Management); Derek Penman (Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary, Scotland); ACC Gillian MacDonald (Police Scotland); Kenny MacAskill (Former Cabinet Secretary for Justice)

**Student Poster Presentations**

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<td>Ellie Harding</td>
<td>Edinburgh Napier</td>
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<td>Liam Ralph</td>
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<td>How can we measure the likely effectiveness of information security policies?</td>
<td>Yazeed Alkhurayyif</td>
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<td>Pausing Mid-Sentence: Young offenders’ perspectives on their language and communication needs</td>
<td>Dermot Fitzsimons</td>
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<td>Influence of gender on risky behaviour in use of smartphones</td>
<td>Najla Etaher</td>
<td>University of Strathclyde</td>
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Alignment between recent and current policing research and knowledge exchange projects and Police Scotland Priorities 2017/18

(See also recent and current PhD projects)

POLICE SCOTLAND PRIORITIES 2017/18

- Protecting people at risk of harm ["PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE"]
- Road safety and road crime ["ROADS POLICING"]
- Serious organised crime and counter-terrorism ["SOG & CT"]
- Violence, disorder and antisocial behaviour ["VIOLENCE & DISORDER"]
- Acquisitive Crime ["ACQUISITIVE"]

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Police Scotland Priority</th>
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<td>Mixed economy policing and workforce modernisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE</td>
<td>Developing a mobile App to support child interviewers</td>
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<td>Abertay</td>
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<td>Interpreting in legal settings across Europe</td>
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<td>Heriot-Watt</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE</td>
<td>Improve the quality of inter-personal encounters between police and citizens</td>
<td>Robertson McMillan Godwin Deuchar</td>
<td>Glasgow Caledonian</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE</td>
<td>Collective radicalization and police-community encounters</td>
<td>Blackwood</td>
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<td>Interagency adult support and protection practice of police and health and social care professionals: a realistic evaluation approach</td>
<td>Joseph Klein Heyman Diack</td>
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<td>Partners in scrutiny: investigating local policing arrangements in Scotland</td>
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<td>Involving communities in designing local solutions to local problems: A trial of a deliberative approach to police-community engagement</td>
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<td>Fyfe Hamilton-Smith Mackenzie</td>
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<td>Policing young people in the contemporary urban realm: Dundee's Community Warden Scheme</td>
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<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>Domestic abuse and police victim interaction</td>
<td>MacQueen Norris McVie</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Research Project (SIPR funded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Police Scotland Priority</strong></td>
<td><strong>Project or Workshop Title</strong></td>
<td><strong>Researcher/Collaborator</strong></td>
<td><strong>Institutional affiliation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Research Type</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>Processes of collective identity formation and their relationship to enactments of violence</td>
<td>Murer</td>
<td>St Andrews</td>
<td>SIPR Research Lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>Policing, communities, and youth crime and violence in the east end of Glasgow</td>
<td>Nicholson Frondigoun</td>
<td>Glasgow Caledonian</td>
<td>SIPR Research Lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>Evaluation of a Dispersal Zone in the east end of Glasgow</td>
<td>Robertson McMillan</td>
<td>Glasgow Caledonian</td>
<td>Research Project (external award)</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>Tackling youth gang issues on campus - a case study</td>
<td>Smith Frondigoun</td>
<td>RGU Glasgow Caledonian</td>
<td>Research Project (SIPR funded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>Youth Gang Culture and Working collaboratively within partnerships</td>
<td>Ross Deuchar, UWS / SIPR / Scottish Police College</td>
<td>UWS</td>
<td>Research and SEMINAR</td>
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<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>The impact of the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act</td>
<td>Hamilton-Smith Simpson Haynes Morrow Goodall McArdle Batchelor</td>
<td>Stirling Glasgow</td>
<td>Research Project (external award)</td>
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<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Scottish Government’s ‘Whole System Approach’ to dealing with offending by young people.</td>
<td>Murray</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>Research Project (external award)</td>
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<td>VIOLENCE &amp; DISORDER</td>
<td>RIO (Remote Internet Observation)</td>
<td>Coull Ferguson MacLeod</td>
<td>Abertay</td>
<td>Research Project (SIPR funded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACQUISITIVE</td>
<td>Determining the factors that link crime occurrence to the characteristics of the local environment in which the crime has been committed.</td>
<td>Illian Jones-Todd Borchers</td>
<td>St Andrews</td>
<td>Research Project (external award)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACQUISITIVE</td>
<td>Evaluating the value of Crimestoppers to Police Scotland</td>
<td>NicDaeid</td>
<td>Strathclyde</td>
<td>Research Project (SIPR funded)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SIPR Committee Membership

Executive Committee

**SIPR Director**
Dr Liz Aston, Edinburgh Napier University  
(w.e.f. June 2018)

**SIPR Associate Directors**
**Police-Community Relations Network:**
Dr Megan O’Neill, University of Dundee

**Evidence & Investigation Network:**
Dr Penny Woolnough, Abertay University

**Education & Leadership Network:**
Dr Denise Martin, University of the West of Scotland

**Public Protection**
Professor Lesley McMillan, Glasgow Caledonian University

**SIPR Business and Knowledge Transfer Manager**
Tim Heilbronn, Edinburgh Napier University

**Police Scotland and Scottish Police Authority representatives**
Malcolm Graham, Deputy Chief Constable, Police Service of Scotland
David Page, Deputy Chief Officer, Police Service of Scotland
Tom Nelson, Scottish Police Authority
Kenneth Hogg, Scottish Police Authority

**Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research representative**
Dr Sarah Armstrong, University of Glasgow

International Advisory Group

Chair: Paddy Tomkins, Droman Ltd
Professor Nick Bland, What Works Scotland
Professor Martin Innes, Cardiff University
Professor Cynthia Lum, George Mason University, USA
Professor Tim Newburn, London School of Economics
Professor Haavard M Reksten, Norwegian Police University College
Professor Nick Tilley, University College London
Rachel Tuffin OBE, College of Policing
**SIPR Contact details**

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**Business & KT Manager and Annual Report Editor**: Tim Heilbronn (t.heilbronn@napier.ac.uk)  
**Associate Director – Police-Community Relations**: Dr Megan O’Neill (m.oneill@dundee.ac.uk) (from Aug 2018)  
**Associate Director – Evidence & Investigation**: Dr Penny Woolnough (p.woolnough@abertay.ac.uk)  
**Associate Director – Education & Leadership**: Dr Denise Martin (denise.martin@uws.ac.uk)  
**Associate Director – Public Protection**: Professor Lesley McMillan (Lesley.McMillan@gcu.ac.uk)