

SIPR Research Tools Seminar and Workshop, 30 May 2008

**University of Dundee
Tower Building, Baxter Room 1.36**

Provisional Programme

9.30-10.00 Registration and coffee

10.00-10.15 Welcome and introductions; Aims and objectives: opening a conversation about research tools and policing

Nick Fyfe (University of Dundee, SIPR)

10.15-11.15 Session I: Issues in research design and evaluation

Niall Hamilton-Smith (University of Stirling, SCCJR)
'Taxing issues in evaluation research'

Hayley Kelly and Penny Woolnough (Research Unit, Grampian Police)
'The realities of developing and conducting research within the police environment'

Michael Bomby (Glasgow Caledonian University)
'Ethical scrutiny of research proposals'

Susan Batchelor (University of Glasgow, SCCJR)
'Researching sensitive subjects'

Discussion 1: Issues in research design and evaluation (facilitated by Alistair Henry, University of Edinburgh)

11.15-11.30 Coffee

11.30-12.30 Session II: Research tools and analysis

Anna Souhami (University of Edinburgh, SCCJR)
'Ethnographic and qualitative research methods'

Maria O'Neill (University of Abertay)
'European legal research skills'

Susan McVie and Paul Norris (University of Edinburgh, SCCJR)
'Quantitative approaches to policing research'

Louise Jackson (University of Edinburgh)
'The long term perspective'

Discussion 2: Research tools and analysis

12.30-13.30 **Buffet lunch and networking**

13.30-14.30 **Session III: Policing and research**

Inspector Gavin Phillip (Lothian and Borders Police Service)
'The National Intelligence Model and Community Policing'

Mik Wisniewski (University of Strathclyde)
'Hard and soft approaches to performance measurement'

Pat Cronin (University of Abertay)
'Psychological research and policing'

Alistair Geddes (University of Dundee)
'The use of GIS in policing'

Xanthe Mallet (University of Dundee)
'Development of investigative practice'

Discussion 3: Policing and research (facilitated by Bill Buchanan, Napier University)

14.30-15.15 **Session IV: The needs of the analysts**

Workshop: An opportunity for the Police Analysts to provide feedback on the presentations given, and to outline their additional needs

15.15-15.30 **Overview, conclusions and thanks**

15.30 **Coffee and networking**

Objectives and outcomes

Objectives

1. To begin a dialogue about the challenges of conducting different kinds of research and evaluation within the Police Service.
2. To outline different research methodologies and their strengths, weaknesses and possible applications.
3. To emphasise the importance of research design and the complex practical, political and ethical issues involved in conducting research.
4. To increase mutual awareness of the pressures facing police officers seeking to formulate research questions and evaluations on the one hand, and academic researchers working within the constraints of University commitments and research council funding cycles on the other.
5. To open up discussion about some of the practical applications of research and how it may be used to inform and shape practice.

Outcomes

1. Networking and making contact with people.
2. Identifying areas in which future sessions would be helpful.