Engaging with evidence
June 2014

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Director, Knowledge, Research and Education
Ambition

To establish a world-class professional body, equipping our members with the skills and knowledge to prevent crime, protect the public and inspire public trust

1. Set standards
2. Promote evidence-based good practice
3. Support professional development
4. Support partnership working
5. Promote ethics and integrity
Doing it for themselves

Surveys show officers rely on and prefer professional experience rather than research

BUT

The more they know about research the less they believe the police alone have enough information about crime and what to do about it

AND

The more they are exposed to research the more likely they are to be willing to do experiments

SO

When research is part of their professional experience - they will be much more likely to use it!

Palmer (2011) Survey of inspectors and chief inspectors in Greater Manchester Police
Lum et al (2012) Receptivity to research in Policing
Next steps

Perhaps the most exciting aspect of the College of Policing is the opportunity it creates to link research evidence directly to professional standards.

Working with other WW centres
Cross sector development
Evidence Base Camp
Pilot ran October & November 2013 and February 2014

60 delegates from across the service – 5 priority areas mapped

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Abstracts returned</th>
<th>Available for synthesis</th>
<th>Useful Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acute Mental Health Crisis</td>
<td>1,408</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barriers to career progression</td>
<td>1,205</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing theft from the person</td>
<td>844</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting mental well-being</td>
<td>1,229</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responding to prostitution</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>5,665</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>107</td>
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</table>
Get involved in evidence-based policing

The College is developing a series of events and opportunities for practitioners and decision-makers embedding an evidence-based approach in their police force.

Evidence-based policing support network
This network enables forces to discuss approaches to embedding evidence-based policing, and to learn from each other. Contact Nicky Miller to find out more.

Share information about your research
If you’re carrying out or have completed research at Masters level or above that’s relevant to policing or crime reduction, we’d like to share it on our Research Map or our list of randomised control trials.

Evidence base camp
A five-day event to help develop critical thinking, appraisal skills and experience of searching the evidence base and identifying what works. It is fully booked, but you can read summaries of the sessions to date.

Run a research fair
These events are marketplaces for police forces and local universities to consider identified knowledge gaps, and to make offers to collaborate on relevant local research. Contact Nicky Miller to find out more.

POLKA
Collaborate, share and find information on POLKA. Join relevant communities to network, share documents, discuss practice, ask questions, and learn from others.

Police and academic collaboration
Ideas and examples to inspire you, including slides from our recent “Growing Police and Academic Partnerships” event. Details of successful applications to our Innovation Capacity Building fund will appear here in due course.

## RCT ‘register’…..10 trials to date

### Shared RCTs

The trials below, relevant to policing and crime reduction, have been shared and are grouped by policing region. We have included both completed and ongoing RCTs.

You can share your RCT by completing our online submission form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RCT</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Greater Manchester Police Procedural Justice Training Experiment</strong>  &lt;br&gt; Greater Manchester Police/College of Policing</td>
<td>The trial aimed to test the impact of communication skills training on officer attitudes, officer behaviour and victim satisfaction. The trial also provides useful insights on approaches to training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operation SAVVY</strong>  &lt;br&gt; West Midlands Police/Cambridge University</td>
<td>Placing a PCSO at the epicentre of a hotspot is likely to deter prospective offenders as well as cooling down potentially volatile situations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Turning-Point Project</strong>  &lt;br&gt; West Midlands Police/Cambridge University</td>
<td>Offenders who have not been previously been convicted at court, but whom the police would otherwise charge for prosecution, can be more cost-effectively dealt with by police-led offender management than by prosecution, subject to a condition of the certainty of prosecution in the event of reoffending or breaking an agreed “contract” about their conduct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The impact of body-worn video (BWV) cameras on criminal justice outcomes in domestic abuse incidents</strong>  &lt;br&gt; College of Policing in collaboration with Essex Police</td>
<td>Testing whether the use of BWV by officers attending domestic abuse incidents has any impact on related arrest, charge and convictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The impact of response officers wearing body-worn video in the Metropolitan Police</strong>  &lt;br&gt; College of Policing in collaboration with the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and the Metropolitan Police</td>
<td>Examining the impact of BWV on complaints, stop and search and criminal justice outcomes, along with officer attitudes, across 10 London boroughs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Do offenders discover the harm of their offences?</strong>  &lt;br&gt; Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge</td>
<td>The Sycamore Tree victim awareness programme causes less recidivism than no treatment (control) up to 24 months from the release of prisoners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A randomised control trial of hotspot policing on the London bus network (Operation Menas)</strong>  &lt;br&gt; Metropolitan Police Service, Transport for London, Cambridge University</td>
<td>Patrolling the most chronic hotspot on the London bus network for 15 minutes at a time will reduce crime.</td>
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What works in policing to reduce crime

A brief overview of the most effective ways the police can fight crime, based on the best research evidence.

The evidence in this overview was gathered and quality-assured by leading international experts in the field of criminology, and addresses the following questions:

- What is the best thing the police can do to reduce crime?
- Shouldn't we just have more bobbies on the beat?
- What about zero-tolerance - isn't that how they reduced crime in New York?
- How should the police get a grip on performance?

The key information on each page is presented in a few succinct lines, based on robust research which you can explore by downloading supplementary documents.

The specific focus is on the police contribution to crime reduction - not on what might cause crime to rise or fall more generally, or broader long-term approaches such as cross-agency intervention with families at risk, or the wider criminal justice system.

It is important to emphasise how this material should be used. There is reasonably strong evidence identifying which general policing strategies are likely to be effective. However, there is currently more limited evidence on which specific tactics are likely to be successful in dealing with a particular problem in a particular situation.
Behind the scenes
Authorised Professional Practice
Curriculum, learning and development
Recruitment, selection & promotion
Organisational development

Evidence at right time in right place
Online, email, phone, peers

Tackling Domestic Burglary – what the evidence tells us

Burglary of Domestic Dwellings - Guide
This guide addresses the problem of burglary of domestic dwellings. It begins by describing the problem and reviewing what we know about the risk factors. It identifies support available for identifying and analysing your local problem. Finally, it reviews the evidence on what works in reducing/preventing burglary and on investigating burglary.

Contents
Executive Summary
Domestic burglary

Burglary – what we know

The Burglar
Usually male and aged between 16-24
A small number of offenders commit a disproportionate number of crimes
Likely to live close to where they burgle

Where do they burgle?
Burglars tend to target houses on through routes
Neighbourhoods that lack stability and social cohesion are at risk
Neighbourhoods that are ethnically heterogenic are of higher risk
Burglars often return to the same property or to properties that are close/similar to the initial burglary
Properties within 400m of a burglary - particularly on the same street - are at increased risk of burglary for up to 2 months after the crime

Target selection
Easy rear access increases the risk
Thick vegetation around a house increases the risk
Burglars prefer unoccupied houses
| **What we’re aiming for** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feedback | £ £ £ £ | ★★★★☆ | +8 months |
| Peer tutoring | £ £ £ £ | ★★★★☆ | +6 months |
| Early years intervention | £ £ £ £ | ★★★★☆ | +6 months |
| Teaching assistants | £ £ £ £ | ★★★★☆ | 0 months |
| Performance pay | £ £ £ £ | ★★★★☆ | 0 months |
| Ability grouping | £ £ £ £ | ★★★★☆ | -1 month |
Contact us

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