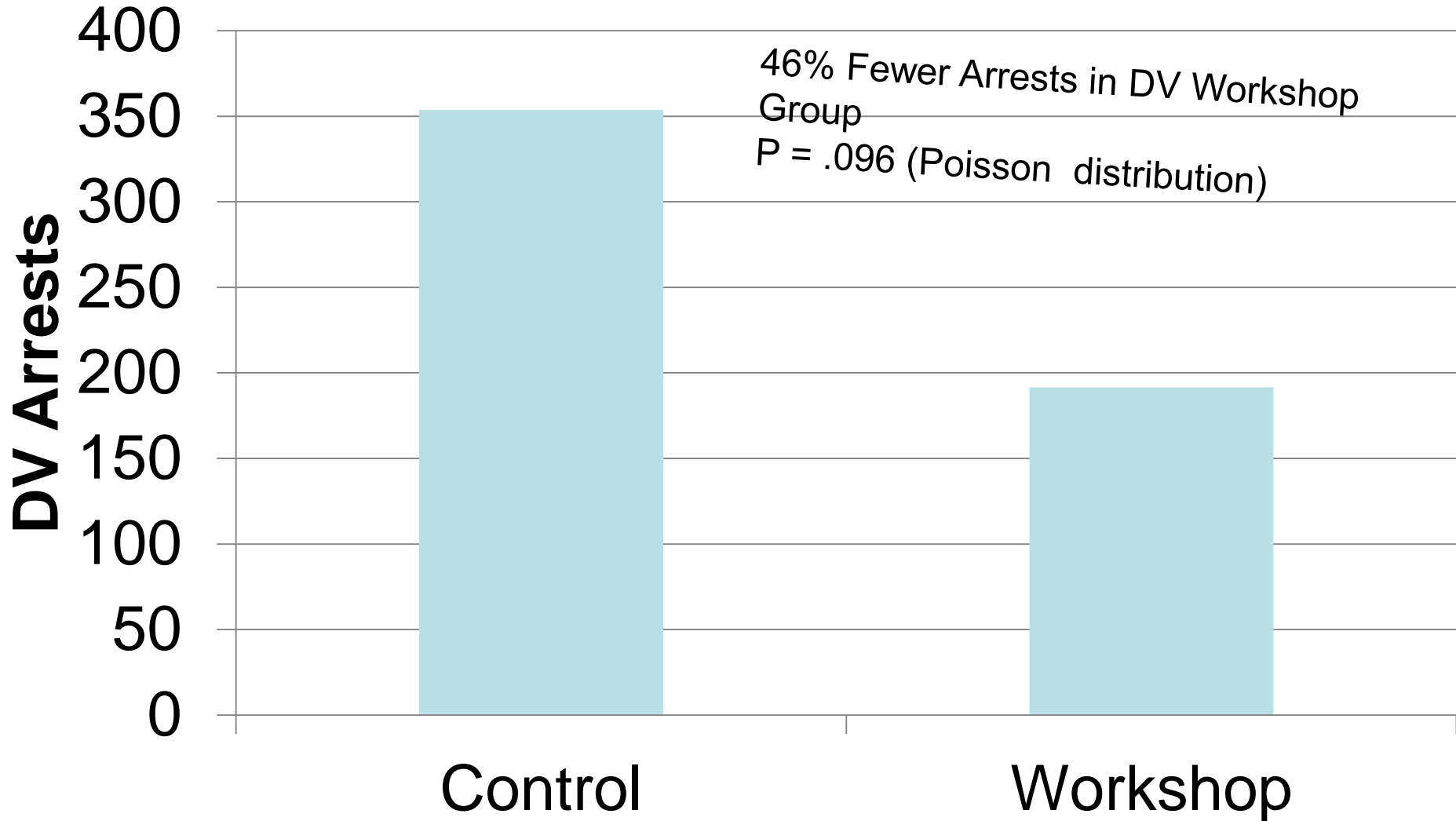


Project **CARA**
Conditional Cautioning and Relationship Abuse



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DV Offences Per 1,000 Offenders 12 Months Post Random Assignment



Cost-Effectiveness Analysis— based on Frequency of Re-Arrests

- Cost of 1,000 Workshop Cases @ £90 each =
£90,000
- N of DV arrests prevented = 76 arrests in one year
- Cost per arrest = 12 police hours X £45 = £540
+ £490 for each custodial detention
= £1030 per arrest
- Costs of arrests saved = £1030 X 76 = £78,280
- 24 month Projection with .25% of first-year effect = .2175
= £1.09 saved from police budget for each pound spent
- Other savings from CPS etc.



Project CARA

- CARA is designed to test the hypothesis that DA offenders subject to diversionary workshops are less likely to commit further DA offences than those who do not receive this intervention
- Eligible individuals randomly assigned to treatment or control group
- Conditional Caution is applied to both
- Commenced August 2012



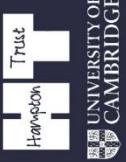
Project CARA: Eligibility

- Project CARA deals with standard & medium risk offending, perpetrators with little or no previous offending history
- Eligible cases are those which are not appropriate to warrant charge, but require police action
- The project aims to provide a timely intervention to prevent further DA offending



Eligibility Criteria

- **Adult male**
- **No previous convictions or cautions for violence in the previous two years**
- **Relationship between parties:** Present or past intimate partners only
- **Eligible Offences:** minor assaults categorised by law as common assault and battery, criminal damage, harassment, threatening behaviour, domestic theft related offences
- **Admission and/or CPS agree overwhelming evidence is present:**
- **Past minor convictions permitted unless offender is currently serving a community based sentence or order**
- **DASH risk assessment assesses risk to victim as standard or medium**
- **Victim contacted and identifies no specific risk for the conditional caution to be issued**



The Intervention

- Workshop Provider: Hampton Trust
 - Specialist domestic abuse charity with over 18 years experience
 - Endorsed/Accredited by Respect
 - National voice with regard to the effective treatment of DA offenders



Capacity & Timing

- A workshop is held for new cases once every 5 weeks
- The second workshop is held 4 weeks later
- Maximum of 14 participants
- Non police location
- No police involved



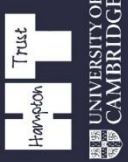
Workshops: Aims

- To understand the nature of physical violence and its purpose when used in intimate relationships
- To gain an understanding of the concept of emotional abuse and identify different types of abusive behaviours
- To recognise physical symptoms of anger and the feelings which lead to anger and then violence
- To understand the effects of domestic abuse on victims
- To increase understanding of children's basic needs and to recognise the damaging effects of domestic abuse
- To establish personal time out strategies and safe conflict within an intimate relationship
- To identify future strategies for sustaining change
- To provide signposts to other relevant agencies/organisations (e.g. relate, alcoholics anonymous)



What do offenders say to Workshop provider?

- 82% report that workshop has improved attitude to partner
- 84% report that workshop has prompted reflection of their own behaviour
- 91% report that workshop has assisted with issues within the relationship



What do offenders say to Workshop provider? What they say they learned

- *'I learned the risks with domestic violence and how communication and honesty with ourselves and our partners are important for a happy and successful partnership'*
- *'I have learnt to recognise risky situations and deal with them effectively'*
- *'Learning the short and long term affects of domestic violence has made me aware how my partner would have been feeling at the time'*



What do offenders say to Workshop provider? How they changed

- *‘Not getting angry over things I can't control’*
- *‘Talking calmly and honestly’*
- *‘Listening more and talking more constructively, less arguing’*
- *‘To listen, to loosen up and not control my wife and family’*
- *‘To listen to my partner and think before I speak to them’*

Summary

- Workshops delivered by independent professionals
- Intervention not counselling
- Feedback from offenders and victims positive
- Cost effective

And the victims...?



DA – the victims' view

- 216 victims interviewed (81% response rate).
- All female victims of spousal abuse, but no cases prosecuted.
- All offenders had been arrested at time of incident or shortly after.
- Four disposals for this sample:
 - Conditional caution (14%)
 - Conditional caution + diversionary workshop (15%)
 - No further action (28%)
 - Simple caution (43%)



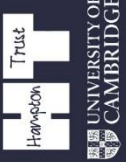
Survey outcomes - police response to DA in Hampshire

- 60% had called police themselves (neighbours called in 11%)
- 76% satisfied or very satisfied
- 8% dissatisfied
- 78% said more likely to report future offending
- These results independent of type of disposal: victims more concerned with how police treated them than legal outcome.



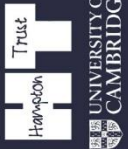
Predictor of future reporting

- Single most important predictor of reporting future abuse is **satisfaction with police response**, namely:
 - Polite, respectful treatment
 - Police doing all expected of them
 - Keeping victim informed of final outcome
 - NOT dependent on victim's preference for arrest/not arrest



'Reasons for 'Dissatisfaction'

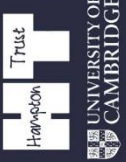
- 9% dissatisfied – 2 categories
 - Victims did not consider an offence has been committed, did not want police to attend, did not agree with the sanction.
 - Victims felt sanction too lenient, police rude, unsympathetic, did not keep victim informed.



‘What did you want the police to do?’

(more than one response allowed)

- Calm the situation (39%)
- Warn the offender (37%)
- Get offender to leave (31%)
- Arrest offender (28%) (though arrested in 100%)
- Prosecute offender (23%)
- **Get help for offender (drugs, alcohol, anger etc) (57%)**
- Apparent shift in expectations from traditional law enforcement to support.



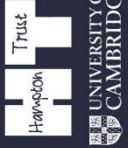
Victims' views

- 81.3% victims involved in offences which resulted in the offender attending the workshop reported that subsequent behaviour improved in comparison with the control sample (44.8%)
- 6.3% of victims reported worsening behaviour (workshop) compared to 24.1% (control)



Victims' Feedback

- *'The workshop helped him recognise the drinking was triggering his violence. They were a wake up call for him. He had to say what he did in front of others'*
- *'Workshop has led to him applying to an ADAPT programme. He starts tonight. I am delighted with the police response'*
- *'The workshops made him think and he now leaves when he gets angry'*
- *'He is more open about himself and now talks about how he feels. The course scared him a little because he saw men that were really violent and he didn't want to become like them'*



Could domestic abuse incidents be dealt with other than by arrest..or arrest alone?

- Victim satisfaction found to be much more about how they are treated than about outcome.
- The majority (57%) of victims wanted help with their relationships and with the offender's 'problems' rather than arrest
- A danger exists in relying entirely on victims' wishes in deciding what happens next (even though victims' evidence relied on for successful prosecution).
- Is the present Criminal Justice response appropriate?....

What happens to domestic abuse cases after arrest?

A prospective longitudinal study of over 2000 cases in Western Hampshire



The Data Sample

- The sample consists of every arrest made between 12th March 2012 and 11th March 2013 that related to Domestic Abuse.
- Domestic Abuse is defined using the current Home Office definition:-
“Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. “

This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

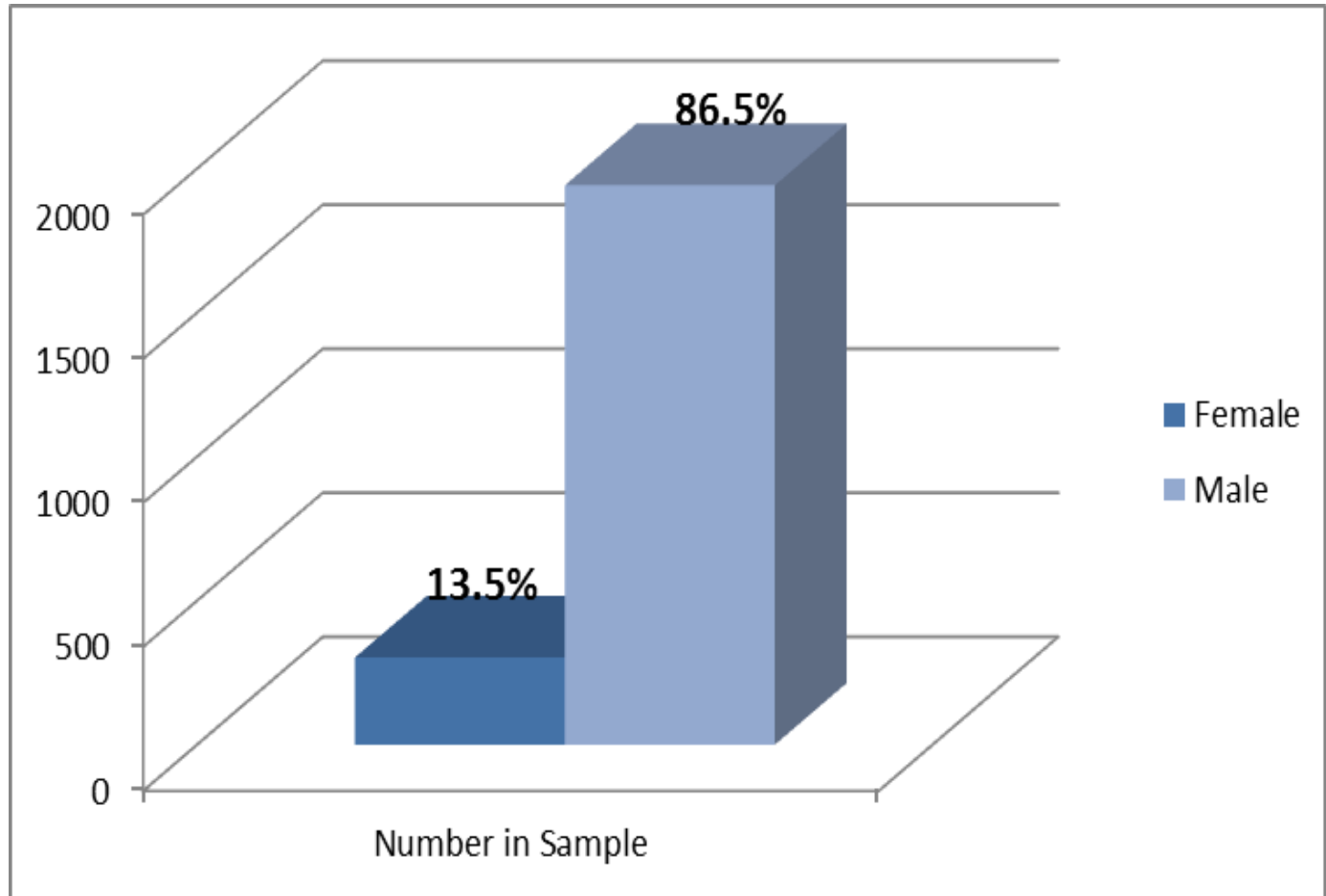
- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional



The Research Method

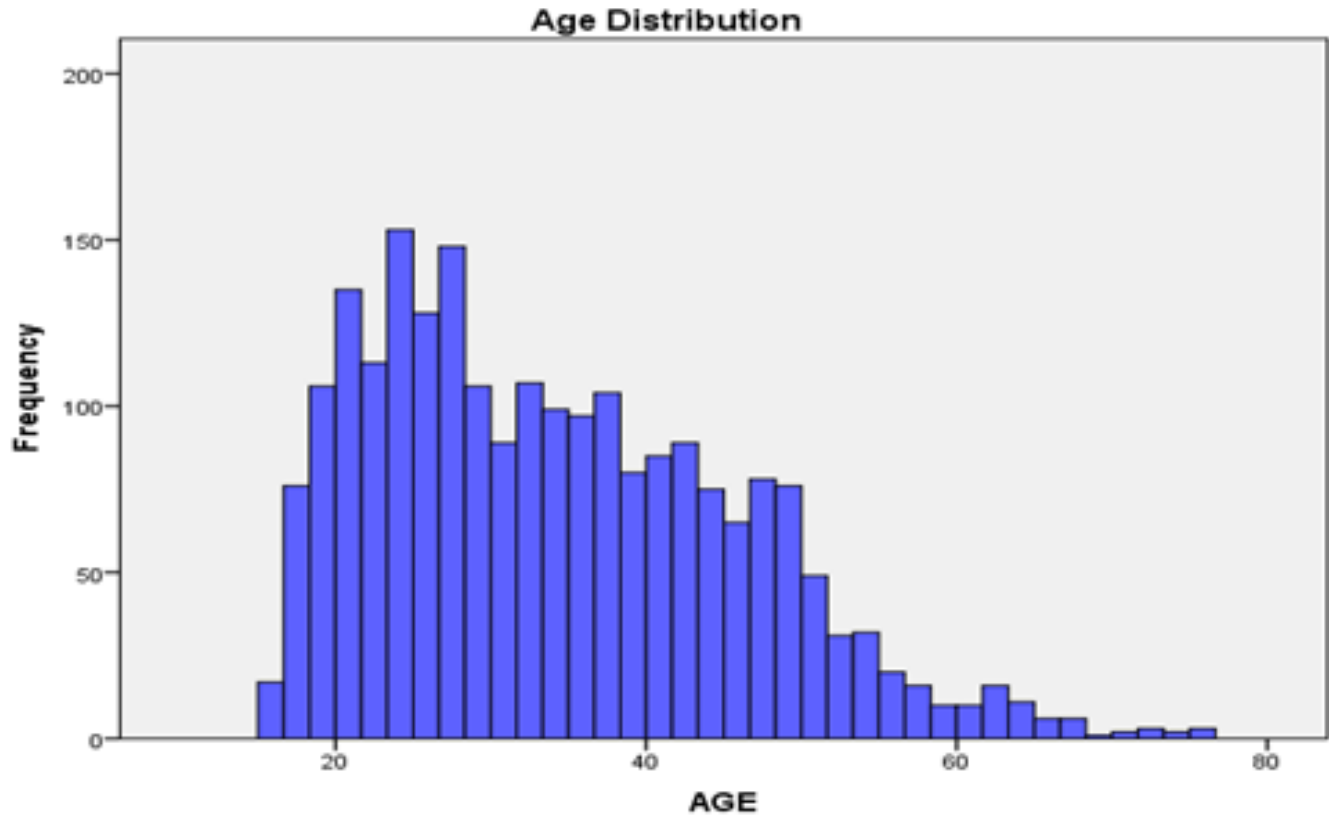
- Descriptive study of 2244 cases which represented all DA arrests within Western Hampshire over a period of a year.
- Research details an initial basic frequency analysis of the whole sample and bivariate analysis cross-tabulating variables e.g Gender and Court Verdict

Findings: Who is in the sample: gender

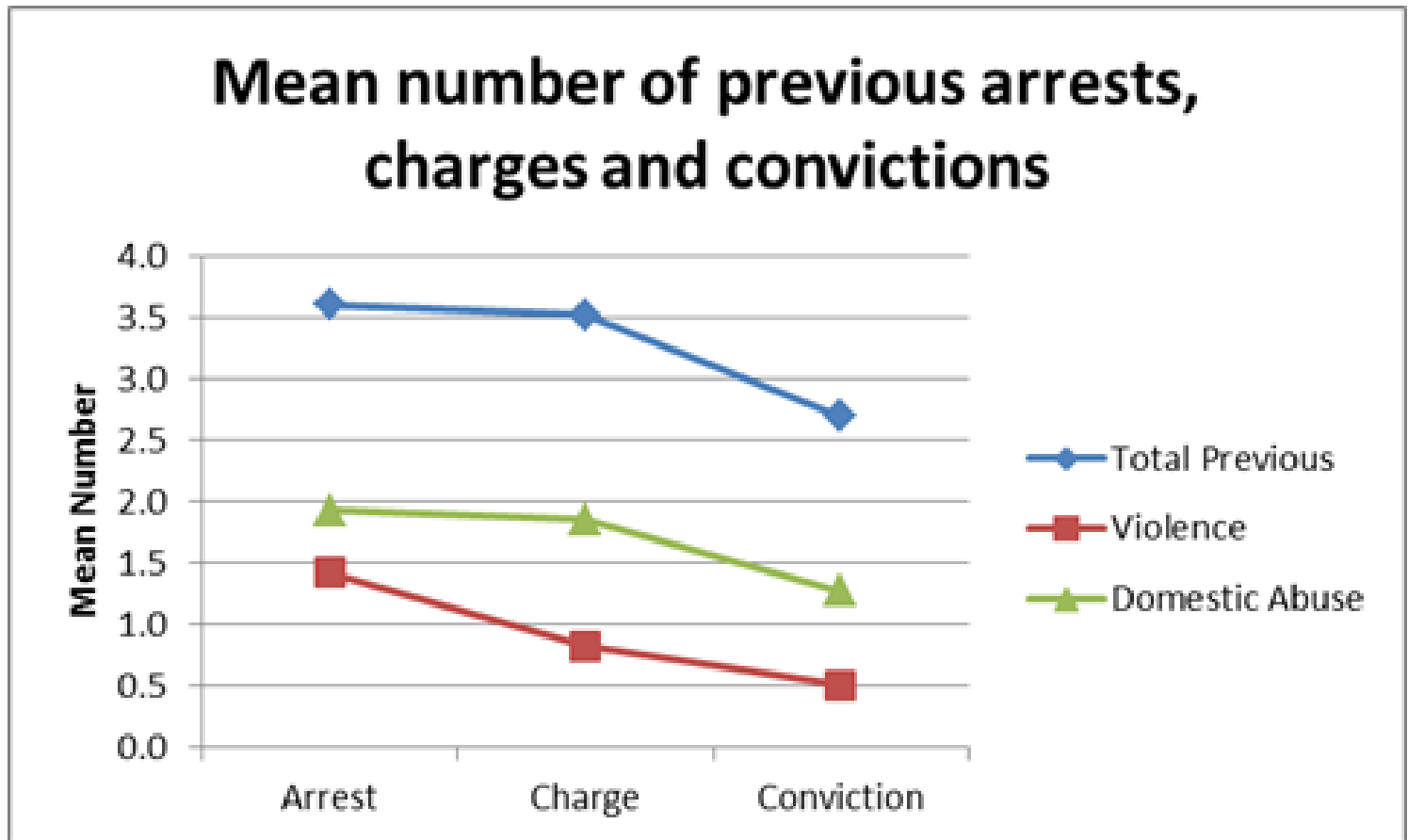


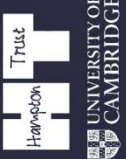


Who is in the sample? Age



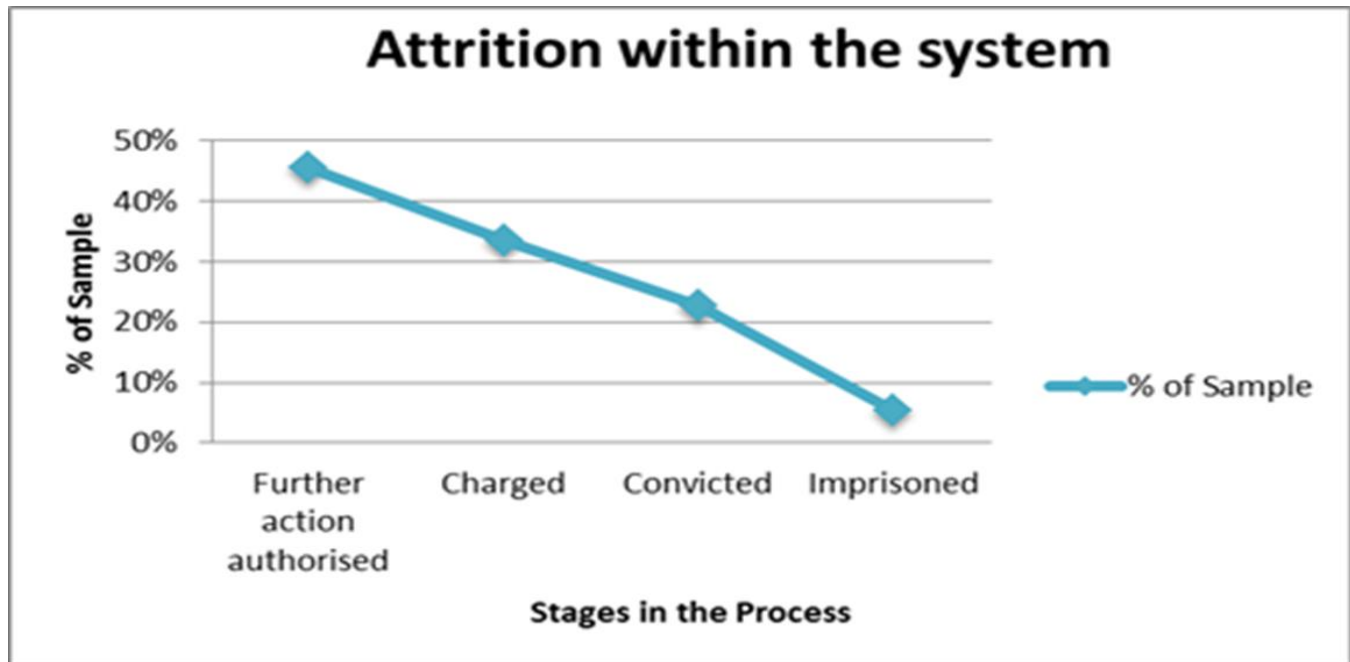
Who is in the Sample? Previous Offences

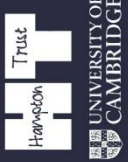




What happens after arrest?

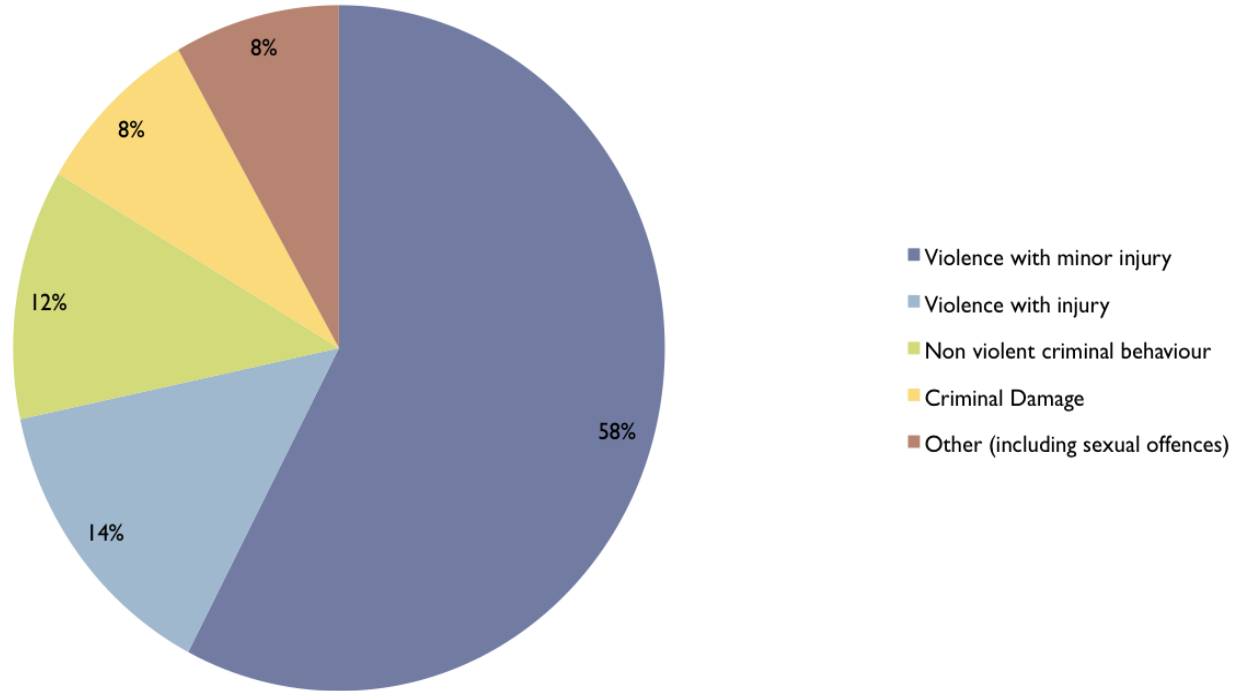
- 54% of cases are no further action
- 33% of arrests result in a charge of which 23% convicted
- 5% out of court disposal
- 7% to CARA (conditional caution)





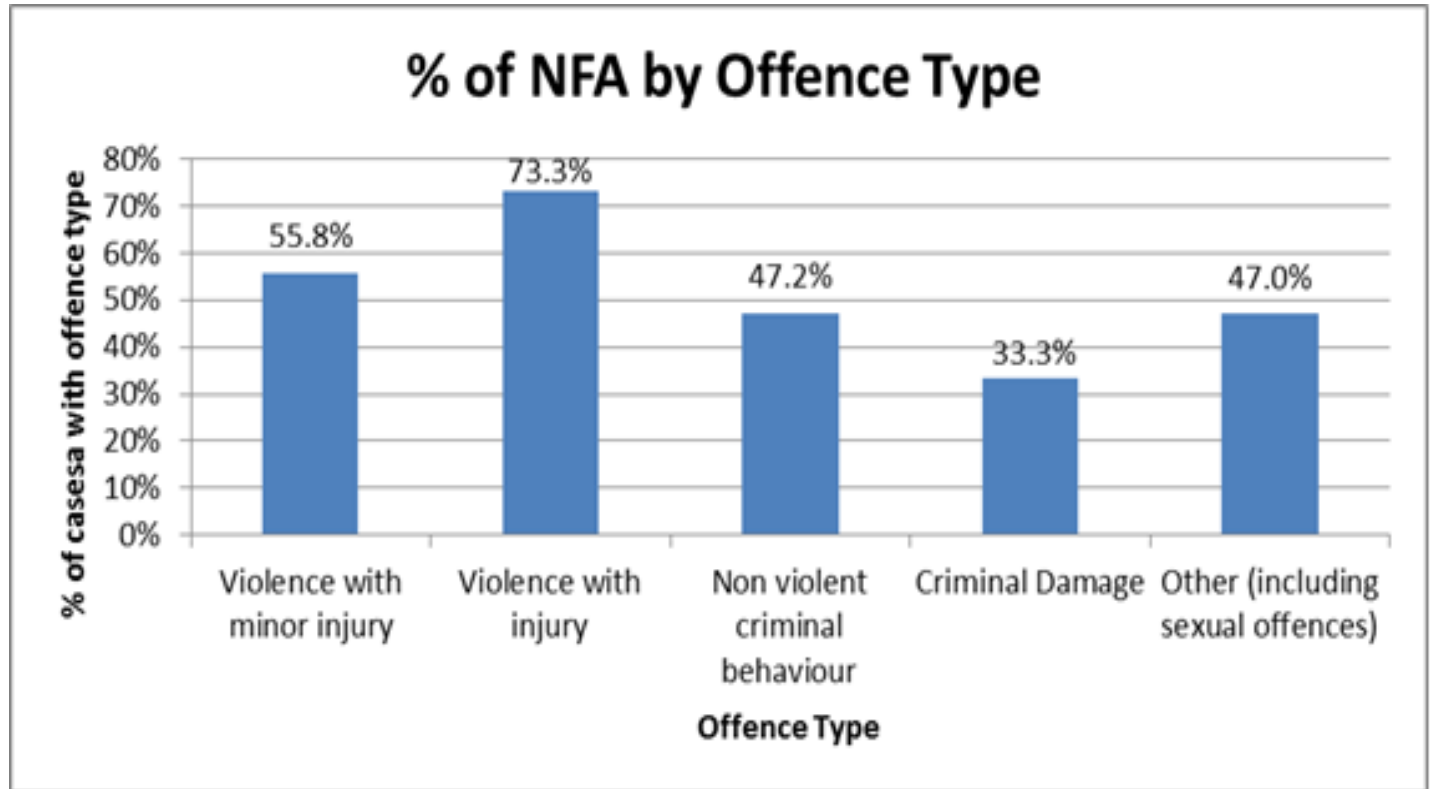
What offences are in the sample?

% of Population by offence category

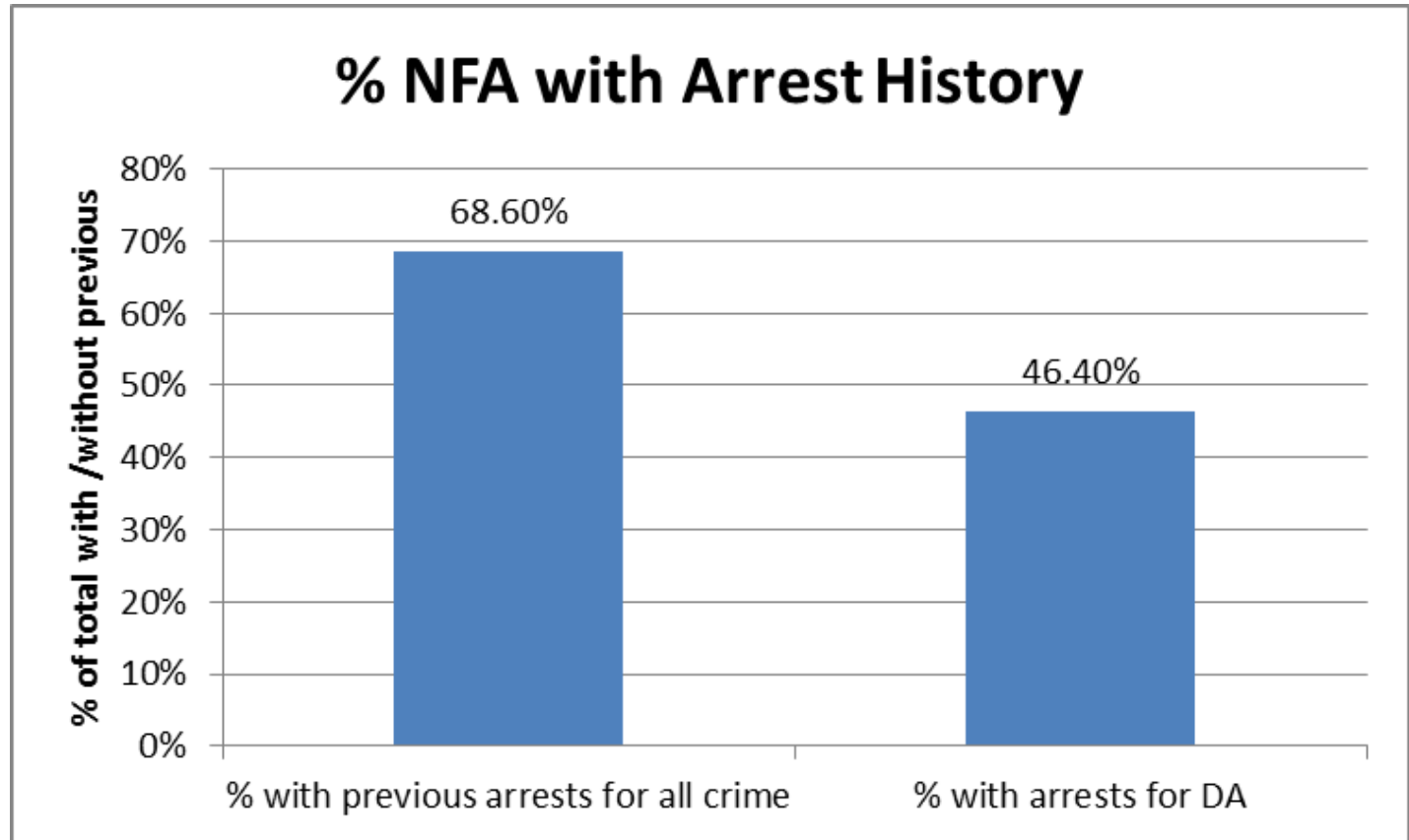




NFA by offence type

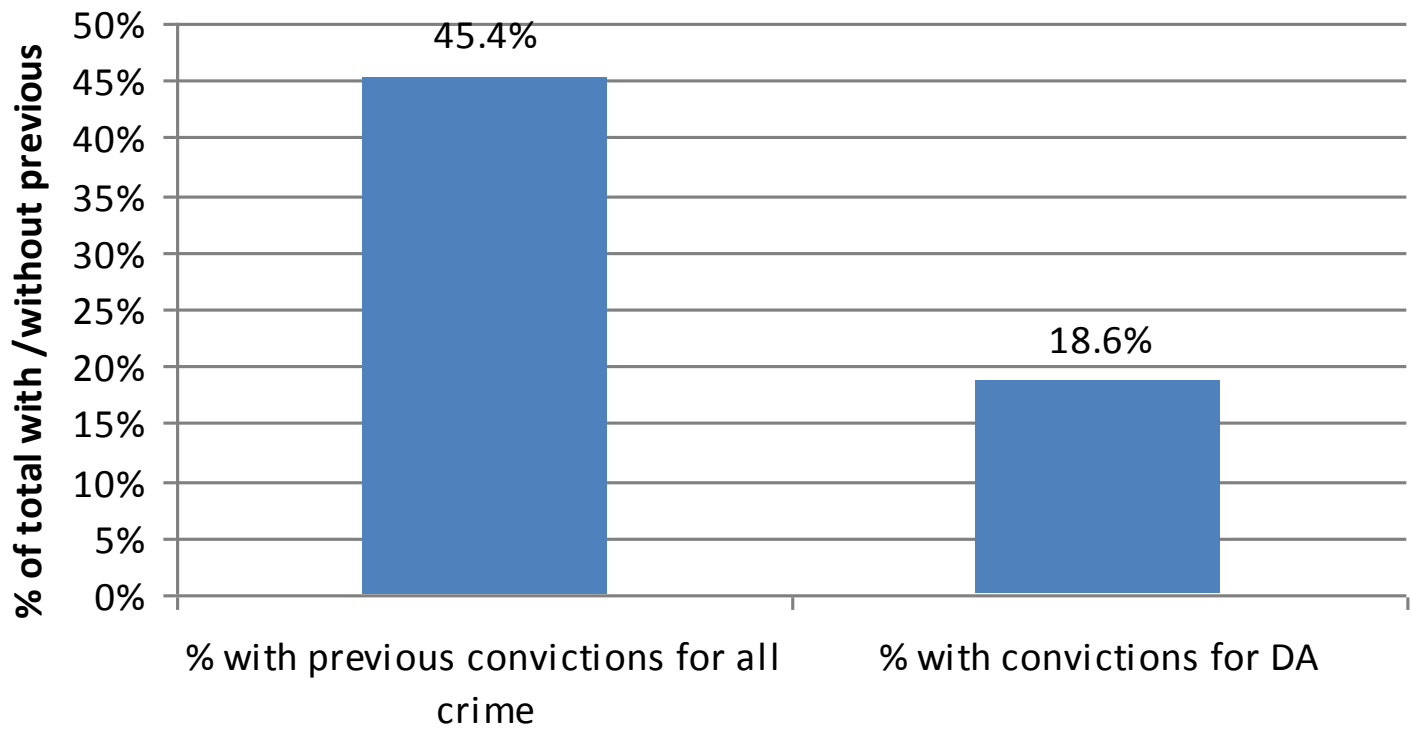


Do previous arrests impact the outcome?



Do previous convictions impact the outcome?

% NFA with Conviction History





Policy Implications

- No Further Action is the majority outcome especially for the most serious violence.
- Charges brought in 33.3% of cases- only 22.7% successful.
- Leaves a total of 65.1% of cases not getting a successful outcome at all.
- Reoffending is higher for those charged than those NFA'd.
- Without a conviction on the record, DA is less likely to be prosecuted.



Policy Implications

- 65.1% of cases are getting no outcome.
- In regular crime, restorative solutions are showing to be positive alternatives (or additions) to traditional court conviction.
- Use of restorative OOCs could be a way in which those cases, falling below the standards of criminal evidence, can still get a positive outcome.
- But RJ or restorative outcomes are disallowed by policy as an outcome for Domestic Abuse cases.

Key Decision

- Keep Trial Going or Not?
- Not enough clarity to adopt policy
- Too much promise to stop now
- Replication?
- We recommend continuation in Hampshire
- What do you think?