The Hampshire Experiment



Chief Constable Alex Marshall
Robin Jarman
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Role of Chief Officers in EBP

- Minimise crime levels and protect the public through 'evidencebased' practices
- More effective use of resources, cost effective strategies
- Evidence of success reassures the public



Role of Chief Officers in EBP

- Hampshire 'generations' of MSt students delivering evidence to better inform policing
- EBP should be an integral part of policing in the future
- Challenges in both funding and appetite for risk



Domestic Abuse in the UK

- Estimated that UK police receive a DA call every minute
- Estimated social cost = £23 billion per annum
- Between 1 and 2 women are murdered by their male partners every week
- Approx 23% of all reported crime BUT considerable

Scale & Reporting

concerns...



CJS & DA Today

- Positive Action Policy
- Prosecution now seen as holy grail
- Victim Withdrawals : 2009 = 10,176
- Increasing use of Simple Police Cautions
- Lenient sentences
- No early intervention
- Victim dissatisfaction



Conditional Cautions

- Introduced in 2007
- Divert minor cases away from court
- Conditions such as reparation, rehabilitative treatment or restrictions must be complied with.
- Flexible tailoring of conditions
- ...but DA offences specifically NOT included
- Letter to DPP January 2011



DPP Approved This Question:

Could Conditional Cautions be used as a suitable intervention for certain cases of Domestic Abuse?



DPP Approval

"...the objective of the pilot should be to improve justice outcomes for victims by addressing offender behaviour...! would also seek assurance that the pilot seeks to achieve a reduction in the use of simple cautions rather than in the number of prosecutions..."

8th July 2011



What is Project CARA?

- Randomised Controlled Trial
- Domestic Abuse cases involving Conditional Caution
- Comparison of reoffending between offenders subject to offending workshops and those not subject to this condition



Concept to Reality – The Implementation of a RCT

- The concept: utilisation of the existing conditional caution scheme for Domestic Abuse cases
- Providing an enhanced service that could reduce repeat victimization
- Hypothesis:
 - "Offenders subject to additional conditions in the form of workshops will be less likely to reoffend compared with those without this condition"

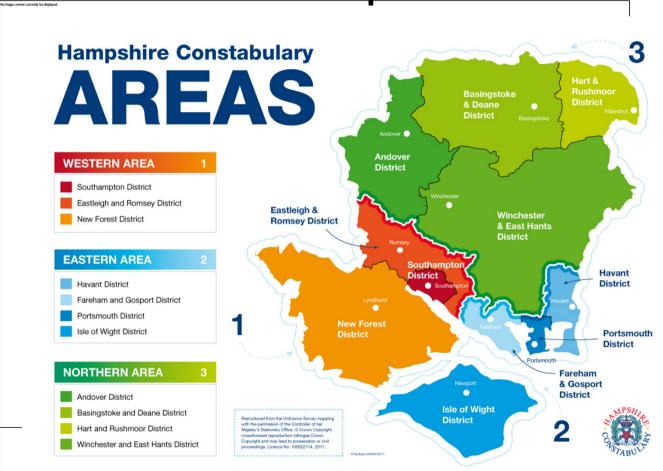


Engaging Partner Organisations

- Home Office
- Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)
- Ministry of Justice (MoJ)
- Women's Aid, RESPECT, CAADA
- Communications



Project Area: Western Hampshire





Building a Team

- Research Manager
- Custody Investigation Team (CIT)
- Corporate Communications
- Public Protection & Safeguarding
- Field Researcher



Defining Research Methodology

- Caseflow
- Criminal Justice Processes (CPS, Courts)
- Safeguarding
- Cambridge Randomizer (Gateway)
- Eligibility Criteria
- Data collection



Offending Workshops

- Selection of Provider
- Workshop Content
- Funding
- Males/Females (victims or offenders?)
- Management of Public Perceptions



Phase 1- Development

- Training of relevant staff
- Production of user guide
- Feedback Research Manager
- Weekly data collection



Workshops

- 35 offenders have currently completed at least 1 workshop
- Only 6 offenders have failed to attend without good reason (17%)



Where are we now?

- Phase 2 presently being adopted
 - Randomisation to both control and experimental groups
 - Randomisation to take place after/during contact with CPS
 - Breaches
 - Project governance/lead



Future Work

- Strategic engagement with partner agencies & 3rd Sector organisations
- Governance LCJB
- Peer Review Panels
- Service Provision
- Communications
- Succession Plan
- Consideration of project area and timescales



Analysis

Treatment Outcome Analysis (RCT):

 Rates of Reoffending between control and experimental groups in terms of total offending and DA-specific offending

All-Population Analysis (all cases)

- Demographic investigation (age, gender and ethnicity)
- Investigation into other Criminal Justice outcomes (charge/NFA)
- Pipeline study and victim feedback



Summary – RCTs within Police Organisations

- RCT is possible within police organisations
- Low-cost
- Requires key staff
- Strategic support
- Long-term commitment