

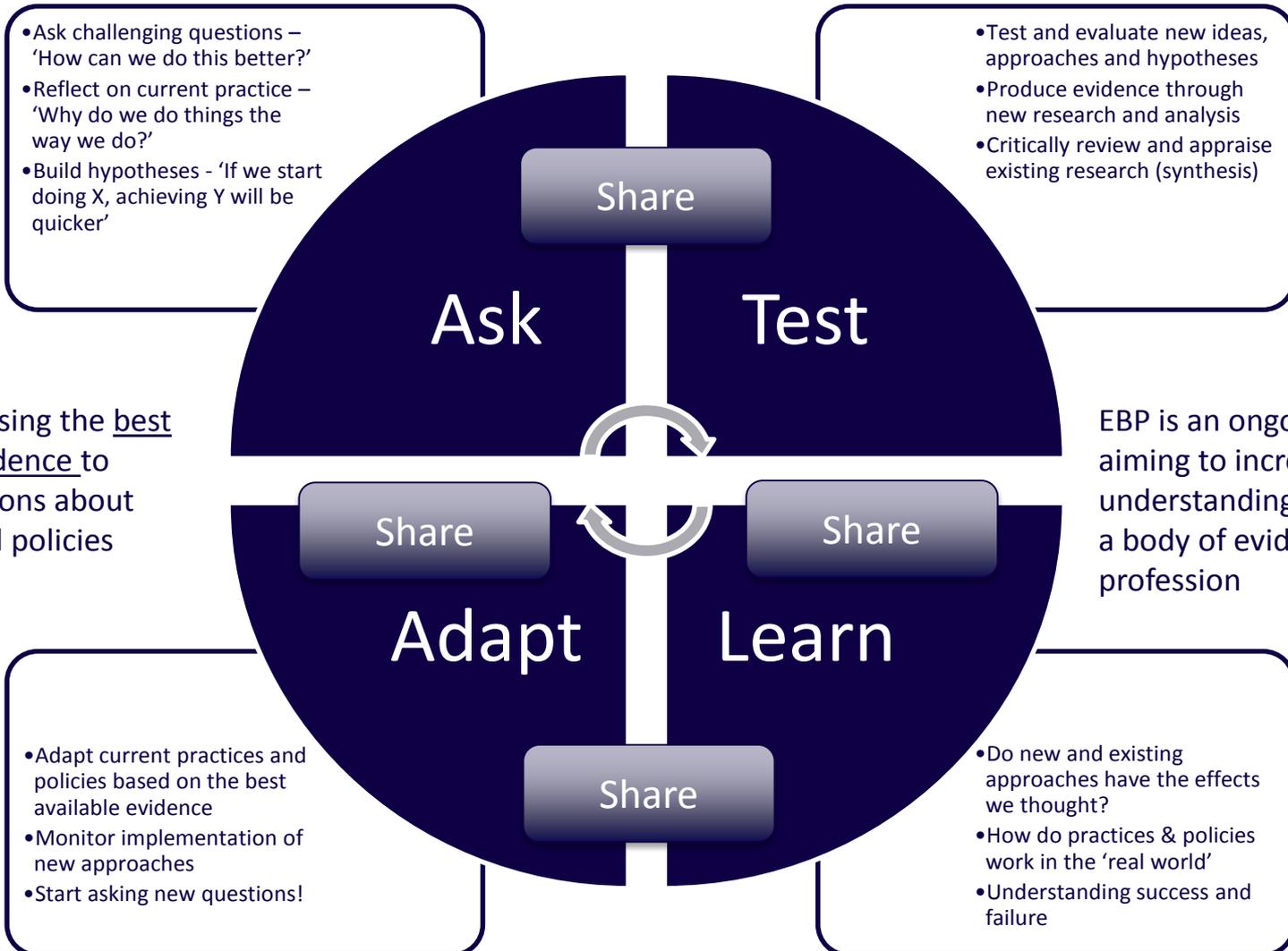


College of
Policing

BetterEvidence
for BetterPolicing™

Evidence Matters

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EBP means using the best available evidence to inform decisions about practices and policies

EBP is an ongoing, process aiming to increase our understanding by building a body of evidence for the profession

'Best available evidence...'

What works... establishing causal links

- Typically associated with impact evaluations – 'does it work?' / 'how effective is it?'
- Methods include randomised controlled trials (RCTs) and quasi-experiments
- Findings can be collated into systematic reviews and meta-analyses

Why... advancing understanding

- Focussed on understanding a specific problem and its causes
- Can involve existing (secondary) or new (primary) data
- Methods include surveys, administrative data, observations, interviews, focus groups

How... practice-based expertise

- Typically associated with sharing practitioner knowledge and experience
- Methods include Delphi, focus groups, consultation events
- Findings should be systematically distilled into checklists, guidance, training or lessons learned

Transparency and peer review are common to all approaches



Why is EBP important to Policing?

Policing deals with the most vulnerable people in society on a daily basis

What are the risks if we don't have any robust evidence about what works?

Ongoing efficiencies requested from policing and the wider public sector

How do we deal with change if we don't have a proper evidence base?

The Home Office is asking forces to focus on collaboration and innovation

How do we know if these new activities are effective?

Some well-meaning interventions may have zero impact or worse... they may cause harm

EBP is relevant to all

REA evidence highlights the positive impact of transformational and situational leadership

Leaders at all ranks

Senior Officers and Staff, PCCs

REA evidence has identified key success factors for organisational change

Senior Leaders
Response officers
Police Trainers

Meta-analysis helps identify the common principles of successful crime reduction

All officers and staff

RCT evidence shows scenario-based training on procedural justice improves officer attitudes & behaviour, and victim satisfaction

RCTs have measured the impact of Body Worn Video on stop and search, complaints and CJ outcomes

PCCs Budget holders
Response officers

Big gaps in the evidence base

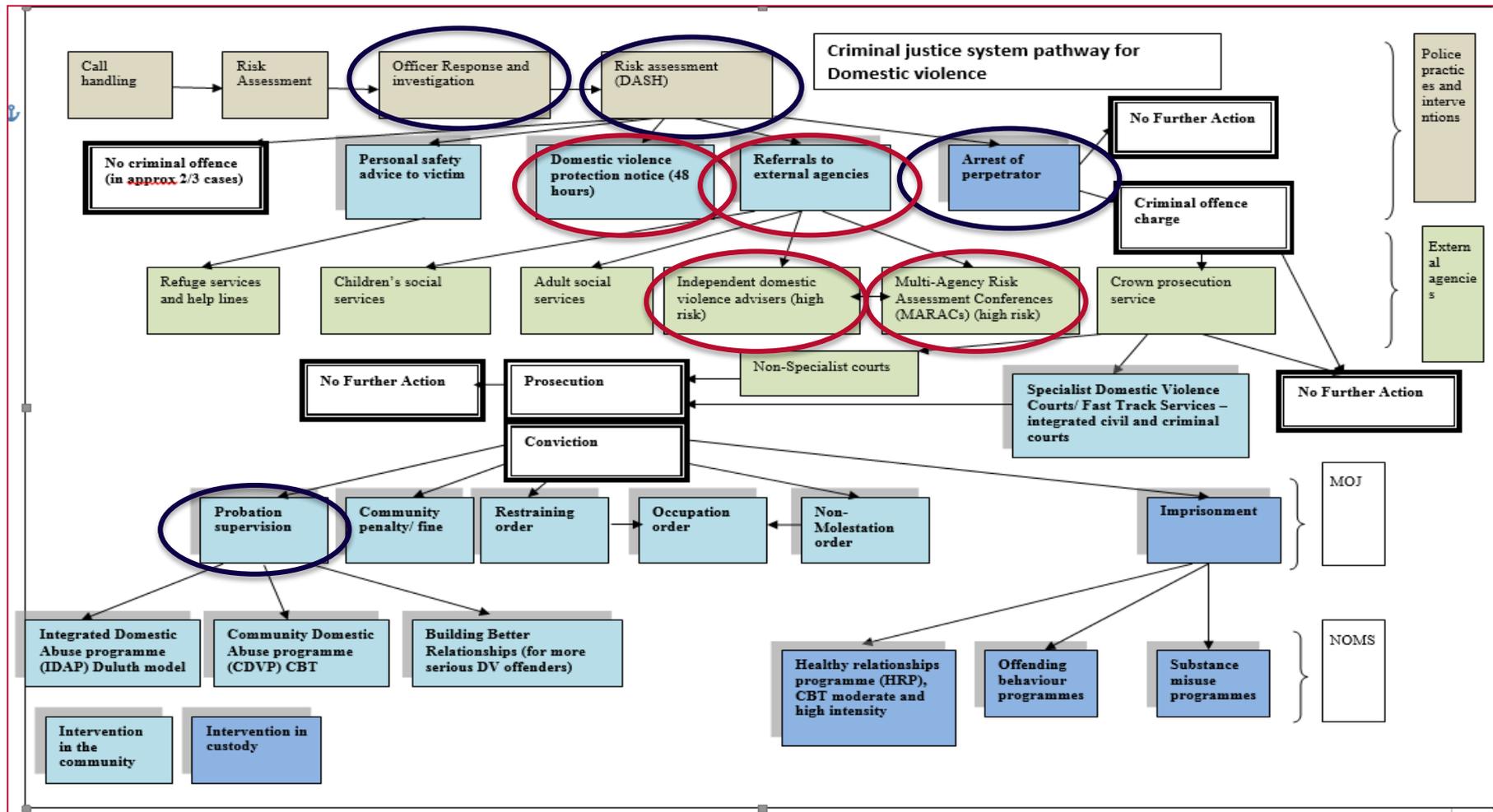


Figure 1. Criminal Justice Pathway for Domestic Violence

How can you find out what interventions work?

Does street lighting work on reducing crime?

Does transferring youths accused of serious crimes from the youth justice system to the adult justice system reduce their offending?

Do military style boot camps involving drills, ceremonies and physical training reduce re-offending?

Best available what works evidence

Home / Crime Reduction Toolkit

About the Crime Reduction Toolkit

Our effect scale

Our quality scale

Method Statement

Key



Filters

Impact on Crime
(select a range using the markers below)



Search term...

Violent Crime On

Property Crime On

Offender Based On

Victim Based On

Location Based On

Reset filters

Clear pins

Crime Reduction Toolkit

Intervention	Impact on crime	How it works	Where it works	How to do it	What it costs
	Effect	Mechanism	Moderator	Implementation	Economic cost
Alcohol ignition interlock	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
CCTV	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
CPTED (robbery)	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Drink driving (DWI) courts	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Electronic monitoring	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Increased police patrols to reduce drink driving	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Mass media campaigns to reduce drink driving	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Multisystemic therapy	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Music making interventions	—	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Neighbourhood watch	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
"Scared Straight" programmes	XX	⚙️	📍	❓	£
School-based programmes to reduce drink driving	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Sobriety checkpoints	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£
Street lighting	✓	⚙️	📍	❓	£

Home / Crime Reduction Toolkit / Intervention

About the Crime Reduction Toolkit

Our effect scale

Our quality scale

Method Statement

"Scared Straight" programmes

Impact on crime	How it works	Where it works	How to do it	What it costs
Effect	Mechanism	Moderator	Implementation	Economic cost
XX	⚙️	📍	❓	£

+ This is based on the strongest of a number of reviews

What is the focus of the intervention?

Scared Straight involves organised visits to prison facilities by juvenile delinquents or children at risk of becoming delinquent. Programmes include confrontational 'rap' sessions in which adult inmates share graphic stories about prison life with the juveniles. Other less confrontational methods and more educational sessions include inmates sharing life stories and describing the choices they made that led to imprisonment. The aim of these is to deter those at risk by showing them the reality of incarceration. This review focuses on both types of delivery methods.

This narrative summary is mainly based on two systematic reviews, review 1 (9 studies) and review 2 (12 studies), with additional information on economic costs from a separate paper (10 studies).

EFFECT

How effective is it?

Overall, the evidence suggests that the intervention has increased crime.

After accounting for bias, review 1 estimated that reoffending was 68% higher amongst those juveniles who participated in the programme, as compared to those who did not. Participant reoffending was higher compared to offenders who did not receive the intervention in 7 of the 9 studies.

How strong is the evidence?

The overall evidence is taken from review 1 (covering 9 studies). The review was sufficiently systematic that most forms of bias that could influence the study outcomes could be ruled out.

The review did not quantify an overall effect for unanticipated outcomes caused by the intervention.

MECHANISM

How does it work?

The reviews provide a general statement of the assumed theory of the possible mechanisms through which Scared Straight might reduce crime.

Both reviews state that Scared Straight might reduce crime by giving programme participants realistic depictions of life in prison and access to offenders' experiences. This may deter juvenile offenders or children at risk of becoming delinquent from further involvement with crime. This is based on deterrence theory and the hypothesis is that if punishment is swift, severe, and certain, it will deter criminal or delinquent behaviour.

MODERATORS

In which contexts does it work best?

There was no subgroup moderator analysis and both reviews noted that there was insufficient data in the primary evaluations to examine under what conditions or for what populations Scared Straight might work best.

All trials within both reviews were conducted in the US, and none of the individual studies were conducted after 1992.

IMPLEMENTATION

What can be said about implementing this initiative?

The reviews provide ad hoc information on implementation. Sessions varied in the amount of time they took, ranging from two hours to a whole day. The session content also varied considerably, with some programmes including confrontational 'rap' sessions

Partnership work is crucial

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!

Building Partnerships through....

Police Knowledge Fund

To support the development of sustainable education & research collaborations between police forces & academic institutions.

1

Build sustained capability amongst officers and staff to understand, critique and use research

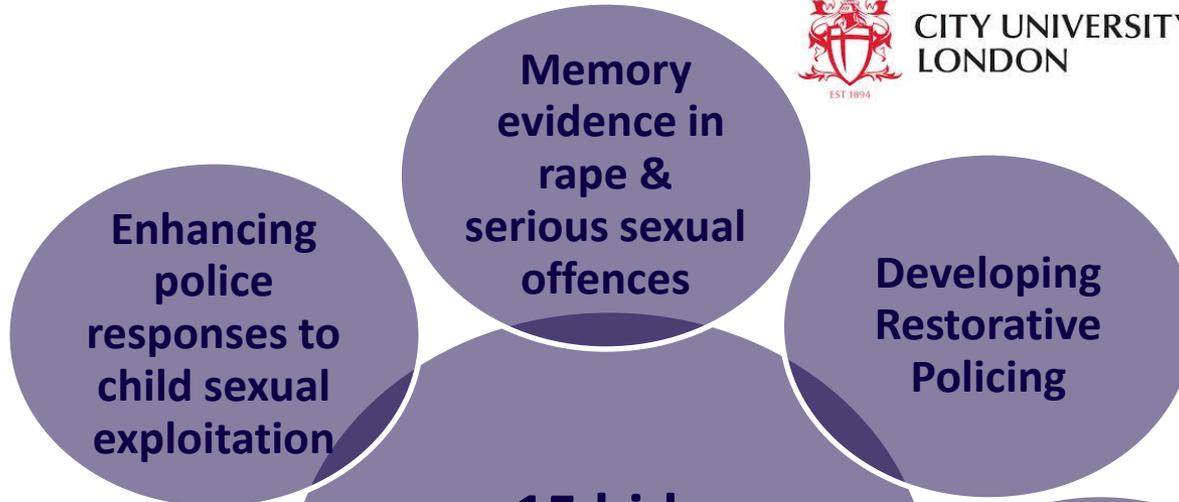
2

Embed or accelerate understanding of crime and policing issues, and evidence based problem-solving approaches

3

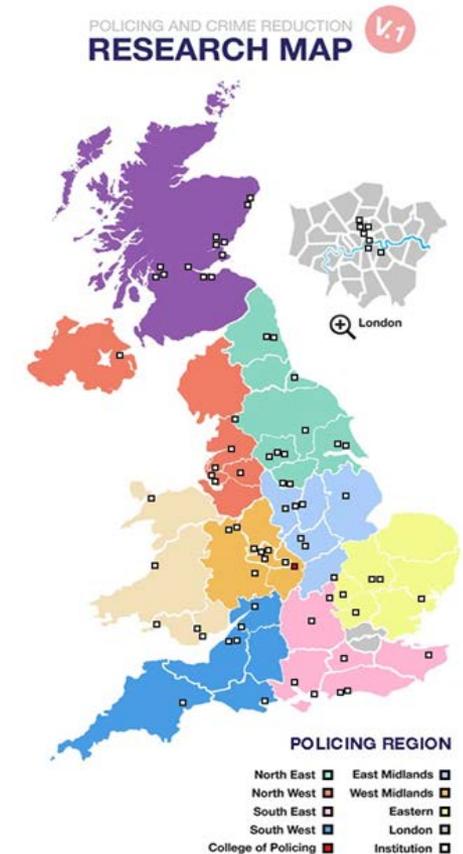
Demonstrate innovation in building the research evidence base and applying it through knowledge exchange and translation across all levels of policing.





Building Partnerships through....

- What Works Centre
- Research Map
- Research Cafes
- Development of Force Index
- Research templates/protocols
- College Bursary Fund
- National Research Programme



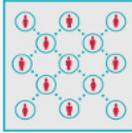
Building Partnerships through....

Evidence-based Policing Support

Share this page:



Bringing together police forces and facilitating their efforts to develop and embed evidence into everyday policing.

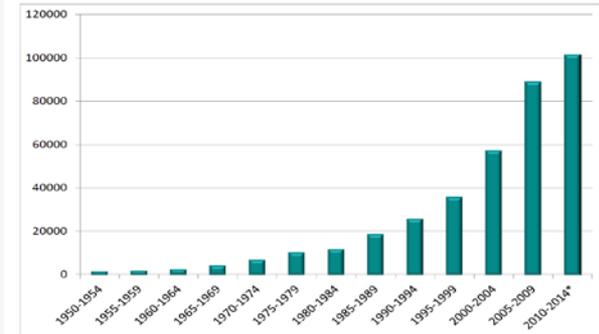


The What Works Centre for Crime Reduction has developed this network to promote

What does the network do?

The Evidence-Based Policing Support Network promotes evidence-based policing by:

Holding face-to-face meetings	For discussing progress, identifying challenges with promoting and generating EBP and potential solutions.
Contributing to the network's POLKA community	This community (see below) is an online space for ongoing knowledge dissemination and cooperation outside meetings, providing virtual support for members.
Seeking funding opportunities	Identifying and sharing potential funding opportunities to support EBP initiatives.
Expanding the policing evidence base	Supporting and working to facilitate the College's aim to establish regional EBP networks of police professionals and academic institutions.
Raising awareness	Working together to organise networking opportunities such as research fairs and evidence-based practice events.



*Includes Jan-Jun 2014 data only (systematic search conducted Jul-Aug 2014)

Global Policing Database
College, MOPAC,
Queensland University



SEBP
Society of Evidence Based Policing

THE BEHAVIOURAL INSIGHTS TEAM



EAST
Four simple ways to apply behavioural insights

Dean Service, Michael Halfon, David Higgins, Felicity Algate, Rory Cunningham, Sam Agnew, Simon Raine, Michael Sanders with Marcell Pinterov, Alex Opatov, Hugo Margot, Joanne Rosemond & Elizabeth Kirkman.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  Cabinet Office  Nesta

How can you get involved?

- Go and speak to your Evidence Champions about what is going on in your force
- Join the POLKA Evidence Support network to ask questions and share learning
- Identify and consider interventions you may want to test - use research surgeries for help
- Use the Crime Reduction Online toolkit to identify what interventions have a research base
- Sign up to a Challenge Panel
- Help to shape the maturity model for what characterises an evidence based organisation
- Use the research map to find out who is doing what on topics of interest
- Keep up to date with existing research publications through the NPL's 'What's New'

Any Questions?

Contact: Nicky.Miller@College.pnn.police.uk