New Zealand Evidence Based Policing Centre

Conference: Online 2021

13 May | 9:00am–5:00pm
Foreword

Welcome to the 2021 New Zealand Police Evidence Based Policing Centre (EBPC) and University of Waikato conference. Following the success of our inaugural conference in 2020, we are very proud to be able to bring you a bigger and more comprehensive conference this year.

We are pleased to be able to use this forum to deliver on our NZ Police Strategic Research Agenda/Te Rautaki Kaupapa Rangahau o Ngā Piriwhāna o Aotearoa commitment to shape and share our research findings within New Zealand Police, with our partners, government agencies, policy makers, international policing jurisdictions, and most importantly the New Zealand public. It is also an opportunity for other agencies and researchers to share their research findings with us.

Today you will hear from academic and student researchers from our EBPC partners the University of Waikato, and ESR, as well as other government agencies, academics and NZ Police staff presenting interesting and innovative research relating to police priorities. EBPC team members will also present a selection of completed or inflight research, their findings, and how evidence may improve police practice.

You will see a range of research topics covered in the presentations today, which are able to inform, or be translated to, the policing context and align with one of the four New Zealand Police Strategic Research Agenda themes:

- Forecasting and preventing crime and harm
- Enhancing our organisational capability
- Connecting with communities
- Strengthening our sector partnerships

This year our keynote presentations are focussed on one of our Strategic Research Agenda drivers of success Multidisciplinary partnerships: Approaching problems through a multidisciplinary lens to produce meaningful research outputs. These presentations show how EBPC collaborate to increase our ability to build and enrich an evidence base that enables Police to deliver the best service to New Zealanders to feel safe and be safe in their homes, on the roads and within their communities.

We hope you find the presentations enlightening and enjoyable, and you are able to take what you learn to have impact in your space of interest.

Mā te kimi ka kite, mā te kite ka mōhio
Seek and discover, from discovery comes knowledge

Evidence Based Policing Centre and University of Waikato Conference Organising Committee

Evidence Based Policing Centre (EBPC) and University of Waikato Conference Organising Committee:

Dr Jessica Dent
Acting Manager Performance and Research Insights, EBPC, New Zealand Police

Kate Mora
Acting Team Manager, Research Insights, EBPC, New Zealand Police

Erin Williams
Research Co-ordinator, EBPC, New Zealand Police

Simon Williams
Director, EBPC, New Zealand Police

Professor Devon Polaschek
Director, Te Puna Haumaru New Zealand Institute of Security and Crime Science (NZISCS), University of Waikato
## Conference proceedings

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### 9:35–10:05am  Understanding Policing Delivery

**Key-note presentation** – **Professor Devon Polaschek**, and **Assistant Commissioner Bruce O’Brien**

**Authors:** Professor Devon Polaschek¹, Assistant Commissioner Insights and Deployment Bruce O’Brien, New Zealand Police²  
**Affiliation:** ¹University of Waikato, ²New Zealand Police

Understanding Policing Delivery is a research project that will provide an evidence-based approach to identifying and understanding if and where bias might exist, or be exacerbated by, key policy or practice settings within Police’s operating environment. To ensure the results are seen to be reliable and rigorous both internally to Police, and externally in our communities, New Zealand Police have partnered with Lead Researchers at the University of Waikato to provide independence and expertise. In order to align with our commitments within the Strategic Research Agenda, New Zealand Police are ensuring the research questions are approached with a multidisciplinary lens – this presentation will discuss the various structures that have been put in place to ensure we meet this commitment. Finally, we will discuss the development of this project to date, and the key areas of initial focus that will drive the direction of the research programme into the future. In partnership, we aim to produce meaningful research outputs that highlight areas for organisational learning and implementation for change.
### New Zealand Police Strategic Research Agenda Theme: Forecasting and Preventing Crime and Harm

#### 10:05–10:15am Youth Justice Pathways: wellbeing indicators and outcomes for young people involved with youth Justice

**Sarah Richardson**

**Authors:** Sarah Richardson¹ and Dr Duncan McCann¹  
**Affiliation:** ¹Oranga Tamariki

**Research Abstract:** Discussions around the outcomes of people who are involved in youth justice often focus on whether people flow from the youth justice system onto the adult justice system.

This presentation focusses on a piece of analysis carried out on a cohort of New Zealanders born between 1993–2002, following them through the care and protection, youth justice, and adult justice systems. The analysis divides the cohort into four groups: those with involvement in both youth justice and care and protection, those with experience in youth justice only, those with experience in care and protection only, and those with no statutory involvement in either.

This presentation explores the pathways young people take to the youth justice system; provides information around what their wellbeing indicators and outcomes look like before, during and after youth justice involvement; and discusses how they compare with people who had no youth justice involvement.

The results show that those with both care and protection and youth justice experience are the most vulnerable, followed by those with experience in youth justice only. Young people involved in youth justice deal with a range of complex factors and often have contact with many government agencies years before entering youth justice. This suggests there is an opportunity for early cross-agency support. Young people involved in youth justice also experience higher rates of imprisonment and community sentences than other groups.

The analysis also shows that interaction with care and protection does not place children on the path to offending. Over half of those involved with care and protection do not offend as adults, and the vast majority do not end up in the care of corrections.

#### 10:15–10:30am Exploring the validity of male control theory of intimate partner aggression and its relationship to approval of violence

**Ryan Jones**

**Authors:** Ryan Jones¹, Associate Professor Louise Dixon², Matt Hammond²  
**Affiliation:** ¹New Zealand Police, ²Victoria University of Wellington

**Research Abstract:** The male control theory has arguably had the most influence in shaping the understanding of heterosexual intimate partner aggression (IPA). Male control theory assumes that IPA is caused by patriarchal societal beliefs which encourage men to be dominant over women including encouraging aggression as a legitimate means to assert dominance. Michael Johnson argued that IPA could be separated into four types:

1. Coercive controlling violence which is physical violence characterised by a systematic pattern of power and control (predominantly perpetrated by men).
2. Situational couple violence which was conceptualised as violence enacted as a response to ordinary, and occasional relationship conflicts (perpetrated equally by men and women).
3. Violent resistant (VR) where violence is not controlling, and is enacted in response to a partner who is violent and controlling (predominantly perpetrated by women).
4. Mutual violent control which was believed to occur when both partners perpetrate violence with the desire to control the other.

This paper aimed to explore the validity of male control theory and Johnson’s typology in a New Zealand student dating sample (N = 515). Students completed an online questionnaire about their use and experience of aggression and controlling behaviours, and their beliefs about dating violence. The majority of the sample were classified as “situational couple violence”, however, an equal number of men and women were classified as “coercive controlling violent” and “violent resistant”. Additionally, no evidence emerged that individuals classified into different aggression groups approved of IPA perpetrated by men and women differently. Overall, these findings do not support the male control theory of IPA.
A National Study of Childhood Non-Offending contact with Police and later offending in adolescence

Kelly Foster

Authors: Kelly Foster¹, Dr Myron Friesen² and Dr Darren Walton¹ ²
Affiliation: ¹New Zealand Police, ²The University of Canterbury

Research Abstract: Objectives: A large number of children in Aotearoa New Zealand come into contact with police in a non-offending capacity (e.g. victim, witness, ‘subject of’). This study examined if this non-offending police contact in childhood (0–13 years) was associated with later adolescent offending (14–16 years).

Design: Employing national Police administrative data and a longitudinal design, the childhood sample consisted of children born between 1999 and 2001 who had contact with New Zealand Police between the time of birth and thirteen years of age. Data on adolescent offending included all adolescents who were fourteen to sixteen years of age between the years of 2013 and 2015.

Methods: The analyses were completed in three stages. Stage one explored the descriptive statistics of the childhood dataset to build a descriptive profile of children in contact with police. Stage two examined how individual predictors from the childhood non-offending dataset were associated with later offending in youth (univariate analyses). Stage three examined how the significant predictors from the univariate analyses were collectively associated with later offending in adolescence (multivariate analyses), and specifically if any police administrative factors remained significant predictors after controlling for the sociodemographic variables.

Results: Regardless of childhood exposure to offences (e.g., violence, sexual etc) or Incidents (e.g., family harm, child protection, truancy, etc.), the results showed six variables were consistently associated with later offending in adolescence. Demographic characteristics included ethnicity, male gender, and age at first contact. Police administrative variables included frequency of police contact, juvenile complaint incidents and exposure to violent offences. Against expectations, role categories (e.g., victim or witness) were not associated with later offending in the multivariate analyses.

Conclusion: The results from this study suggest that when children are exposed to an offence or an incident, there are several sources of administrative data that police regularly collect that are predictive of a child’s later offending in adolescence, even after controlling for a range of sociodemographic factors. This points to the potential for such data to be used in collaboration with social service providers to further increase the scope of a developmental prevention approach to policing. However, further research is required to examine more closely the cumulative effect of police contact in non-offending contexts and changes in later offending as risk factors accumulate.

Is there an association between controlling behaviour and intimate partner violence revictimization

Apriel Jolliffe Simpson

Authors: Apriel D. Jolliffe Simpson¹, Jordan Tomkins¹, Samantha S. Taaka¹ and Professor Devon Polaschek¹
Affiliation: ¹University of Waikato

Research Abstract: It is becoming increasingly recognized that controlling behaviours are a widespread form of harm experienced by victims of intimate partner violence; and in some countries ‘coercive control’ – the repetitive and systematic use of controlling behaviours over time – has become a criminal offence. However, the extent to which controlling behaviours are detected by law enforcement, and the utility of this information for predicting revictimization, remains unclear. Therefore, in this study we recorded the presence of five types of controlling behaviours in a sample of police reports for 629 medium- and high-risk cases from the Integrated Safety Response (ISR). We examined the relationship between these controlling behaviours and two measures of revictimization over the following six months: physical harm and injuries. We found that controlling behaviours in these initial reports could be used to predict physical harm to the victim during the follow-up period, with economic and threatening control being the strongest predictors. Controlling behaviours did not predict subsequent injuries. Our ability to predict both types of revictimization outcomes became stronger with the addition of information about the presence of physical harm in the index episode and police’s SAFVR and DYRA risk categorisations, indicating that information about controlling behaviour could complement police’s
existing family violence risk assessment practices, rather than being used in place of them.

11:15–11:25am Lessons Learnt and Just Culture

Rob Neil

Authors: Rob Neil
Affiliation: 'Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: The lessons learnt function provides a “foundational” form of basic evidence to not only inform research, but also to identify what works and what does not. It allows operational staff to see “evidence-based policing” as relevant and practical, and not just an academic exercise.

In attempting to learn from experience, an organisation cannot become a learning culture without a reporting culture underpinned by a just culture.

A just culture is one in which trust, learning, and accountability coexist constructively; it recognises that all humans make mistakes, but that when genuine mistakes occur, accountability is about each person in the chain owning their part in making things right—not apportioning blame. It is about identifying issues, not individuals, and facts, not faults.

Support at the highest levels of an organisation is critical for a just culture to succeed because it opens the doors to willingness to be honest and transparent at each successive level below them. The New Zealand Police Commissioner and his Executive are committed to a just culture.

With this support, Police's Lessons Learnt function has established a clear governance structure to progress identified issues through to resolution. This includes embracing informal submissions from the IPCA as opportunities to improve.

By documenting each step of the process in the LL database, and following the governance structure, we can assess the numbers of issues resolved by changes in policy or training, and continue to provide basic building blocks of “evidence” to inform research opportunities.

11:25–11:35am Offenders are more likely to commit crime near some activity locations than others

Sophie Curtis-Ham

Authors: Sophie Curtis-Ham, Wim Bernasco, Oleg Medvedev, Professor Devon Polaschek
Affiliation: 'University of Waikato

Research Abstract: Given the importance of understanding offenders’ crime location choices for crime prediction, investigation and prevention, this study builds on previous empirical tests of crime pattern theory focused on the link between individual offenders’ pre-offence activity locations and their crime locations. Specifically, we examined whether offenders are more likely to commit crime near some types of pre-crime activity locations than others. This study included a wider range of crimes and activity locations than previous research and was the first of its kind in New Zealand, using data from the New Zealand Police National Intelligence Application (NIA). The activity locations included offenders’ homes, family members’ homes, schools, prior crimes, prior victimisations and other police interactions. The offences included 17,054 residential burglaries, 10,353 non-residential burglaries, 1,977 commercial robberies, 4,315 personal robberies and 4,421 extra-familial sex offences. We used discrete spatial choice models to examine the relationships between the locations of these offences and the offenders’ pre-offence activity locations. We found that offenders were generally more likely to commit crime closer to their activity locations than farther away, and closer to those visited more frequently (e.g., home versus family homes) or more likely to impart relevant knowledge about crime opportunities (e.g., prior crimes versus prior victim or witness locations). This presentation discusses the patterns found for different activity locations and crime types, and how these patterns could inform policing practice with particular reference to geographic profiling in criminal investigations.
Understanding regional illicit drug harm – a data driven approach

Marisa Cliff

Authors: Marisa Cliff
Affiliation: National Drug Intelligence Bureau (NDIB), New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: This project aims to provide New Zealand Police with a data-driven method to inform a targeted approach to reducing harm caused by illicit drugs, while accounting for population size and the multifaceted nature of drug harm. It achieves this by comparing drug harm experienced in each Police Area.

Most methods used to understand illicit drug harm do not consider harm relative to the scale of the population. Large cities often record the most illicit drug related harm by volume, when considering indicators of drug harm such as prevalence and acute harm. However, smaller towns where a larger proportion of the population may be affected, have the potential to feel the impact more widely.

For this project, illicit drug harm is measured by indicators of prevalence and acute harm resulting from illicit drug use. These indicators include data from drug related offences, Police drug seizures, wastewater testing, illicit drug related hospitalisations and illicit drug related deaths.

By combining and weighting data from several illicit drug related indicators and assessing the scale in proportion to population, this methodology accounts for population size, provides a clear view of illicit drug harm and provides a comparison tool for relative harm across Police Areas. The results have been mapped using ArcGIS Pro to provide a platform for interpretation as well as a base to overlay further data. This will enable additional insight into drug related harm, such as crime attributable to drug use or addiction, or the locations of drug harm initiatives already in place.

Exploring trust, confidence and reporting rates for the New Zealand Police: Results from the New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey

Dr Tadhg Daly and Kate Preston

Authors: Dr Tadhg Daly, Kate Preston, Dr Michael Slyuzberg, Tianying Chu
Affiliation: Ministry of Justice

Research Abstract: When the public have trust and confidence in the criminal justice system, those affected by crime are more likely to report it and to participate in justice processes. This enables criminal justice agencies to support individuals, families, and whānau affected by crime and to promote safer communities for all New Zealanders.

We present results from the New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey (NZCVS) on public trust and confidence in the Police and other parts of the criminal justice system. We then present actual reporting rates of victimisation, and reasons victims did not contact the Police. Results revealed that most adults had high levels of trust and confidence in the Police. The majority (77%) said they would be very likely to call the Police to report an incident they witnessed. However, only a quarter (25%) of victimisations recorded in the survey were reported to the Police. For almost half (48%) of those incidents that were not reported, victims said they did not contact Police because it was too trivial, there was no loss or damage, or it was not worth reporting. We investigate how these reporting rates and reasons for not reporting change by offence type, demographics and perceptions of the offence. We also discuss how these insights might be used to improve reporting rates and trust and confidence in the Police.
CHAIR – Dr Jessica Dent, Acting Manager Performance and Research Insights, Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

New Zealand Police Strategic Research Agenda Theme: Strengthening our Sector Partnerships

1:00–1:30pm Fleeing Driver Research Programme

Key-note – Kate Mora, Dr Jacinta Cording, Acting Inspector Kelly Larsen

Authors: Kate Mora¹, Dr Jacinta Cording², Acting Inspector Kelly Larsen³
Affiliation: ¹Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police, ²University of Canterbury, ³New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: The Fleeing Driver Research Programme commenced in 2019, in response to one of eight recommendations from the Independent Police Conduct Authority and NZ Police Thematic Review of Fleeing Driver Events for Police to commission research to understand the motivations of fleeing drivers. Fleeing driver events present one of the most high-risk and complex situations frontline police officers regularly face, and while multiple studies across jurisdictions have examined the characteristics of pursuit events, very few studies have investigated the reasons drivers fail to stop for police. The review recommendation highlighted key target areas of youth, mental health and substance use. Six research questions were developed and delivered in tranches across an 18-month period through a collaborative effort between the Evidence Based Policing Centre (EBPC) and the University of Canterbury. To inform the research and develop collaborative solutions, a research advisory group was established with representatives from across government and non-government agencies. The input of the research advisory group ensured a broader view and a cross-sector approach to understanding this complex problem. This presentation will discuss the development and operation of the programme, as well as successes and challenges faced. The Fleeing Driver Research Programme successfully delivered world-leading insights into an understudied field, as well as having practical application to frontline decision making as part of the wider Fleeing Driver Action Plan work undertaken by NZ Police.

1:30–1:40pm National Road Safety Dashboard

Prenika Mistry

Authors: Prenika Mistry¹
Affiliation: ¹National Road Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: The National Road Safety Dashboard was created in response and to supplement the strategic priority of reducing road deaths by 5% every year. This includes a number of factors such as crashes, infringements issues by Police, calls for service relating to traffic offending and crashes and prevention activities by Police. A visual of this data was not previously used and there was no product across district that collated all this information in a meaningful way. Therefore, we created a dashboard to show where harm and prevention occurs, hot spot analysis, dashboards of indicators and aggregates of prevention and harm. This was created to enable decision makers in headquarters as well as road policing managers who could then easily task their staff and/or assess the short scale and large scale trends and changes. We incorporated other indicators such as weather, NZTA Waka Kotahi megamaps to show other ways harm can be measured – such as the strategy – Road to Zero which is a joint initiative to reduce harm by fixing unsafe roads or improve them to meet a safer threshold. Managers, staff and DCCs can use this to inform demand and harm along with their local knowledge or roads, crime and environments. The dashboard has been used by districts for over two years and are often used for a number of different reasons including informing staff of changes, situational awareness and training of identifying risk.
Whariki Haumaru – Partnering with Maori Wardens to clear Warrants to arrest

Matthew Davies

**Authors:** Matthew Davies, Mahinarangi Hakaraia, Kaori Takenaka, Caitlin Spence, Lance Tebbutt and Dr Claire Phipps.

**Affiliation:** Ministry of Justice, Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

**Research Abstract:** This presentation outlines innovative work undertaken by Eastern District Police Māori Responsiveness Team to reduce Warrants to Arrest. Based on a similar successful initiative by an officer in Hawkes Bay, Whariki Haumaru partners with Ahuriri Māori Wardens to make phone calls to people who have Warrants to Arrest.

EBPC and Behavioural Science Aotearoa (BSA), a Ministry of Justice team dedicated to applying behavioural science across the justice sector, have supported the development of the intervention via a principles-based script for the Wardens. BSA and EBPC are also evaluating the pilot, using voluntary court appearances as the primary outcome measure.

Information is collected by Wardens using bespoke data collection sheets, including whether defendants had been successfully contacted or if the number provided was incorrect. Starting on March 9 2021, Whariki Haumaru is anticipated to run for six months. Regular monthly hui across the project partners, ensures Whariki Haumaru is well supported and allows for any issues to be resolved, with minimal disruption to the trial.

At the end of the evaluation, the evaluation team will also engage with the Wardens to learn about successful/unsuccessful strategies to engage with defendants. Qualitative feedback from the trial already indicates that this intervention is being well received by defendants.

Te Pae Oranga Evaluation

Samantha Taaka

**Authors:** Samantha Taaka, Professor Devon Polaschek

**Affiliation:** University of Waikato, Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police (Intern)

**Research Abstract:** Community restorative justice approaches have been considered effective alternatives to the justice system to reduce negative outcomes for offenders of low-level crimes (Taylor, 2019; Walton, Martin & Li, 2019). These negative outcomes include number of offences committed after intervention, how much harm an offender commits toward the community after intervention, and how long it takes to reoffend after intervention. Te Pae Oranga is a community-based restorative justice process, of which previous evaluations have found it reduces negative outcomes for attendees. However, it is important to consistently evaluate whether Te Pae Oranga continues to work in new regions and with different cohorts of participants. Therefore, we analysed a cohort of 1678 Te Pae Oranga attendees between July 2018 to June 2019, and evaluated how well they performed within one year of participating in Te Pae Oranga. We found that Te Pae Oranga attendees reoffended significantly less, committed a smaller number of offences, and committed less harm compared to matched controls with similar eligibility for Te Pae Oranga but were not referred to attend. These findings suggest that Te Pae Oranga is associated with attendees committing less offences and less harm after intervention, which indicates that this restorative justice approach is effective for participants who take part.

Police Bail Notice Trial

Lance Tebbutt

**Authors:** Nathan Chapple, Simon Williams, Lance Tebbutt

**Affiliation:** Behavioural Insights Team, Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

**Research Abstract:** Historically, around 14% of defendants released on police bail failed to attend court. As a result, a warrant to arrest is issued, which uses Police resources, increases the number of people in custody, and worsens defendants’ experiences of the justice system.
There are many drivers of court non-attendance, but research by The Behavioural Insights Team (BIT) and Police identified police bail notices as an area to improve attendance, as the current notice assumes a high reading age and does not emphasise the key information.

In an attempt to increase court attendance, a new version of the police bail notice was created. This new version uses behavioural science principles to encourage attendance.

In six (6) Police Custody Units throughout the country, half of the custody staff used the existing Police Bail Notice, whilst the remaining officers used the new version, with a measure of attendance being if a Warrant To Arrest was issued for non-appearance.

The trial ran for six (6) months from June to November 2020 with analysis of the data that was obtained as well as qualitative feedback from the first those being bailed and the custody officers using both versions of the Bail Notice.

2:15–2:25pm BREAK

CHAIR – Simon Williams, Director Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

New Zealand Police Strategic Research Agenda Theme: Enhancing our Organisational Capability

2:25–2:40pm Understanding the motivations of Fleeing Drivers

Dr Jacinta Cording

Authors: Dr Jacinta Cording¹, Amy Gore¹, Anneliese Westerman¹, Hector Kaiwai²
Affiliation: ¹University of Canterbury, ²Awa Associates

Research Abstract: Fleeing driver events are becoming increasingly frequent in New Zealand, with a reported 3,796 events occurring in 2017 (IPCA, 2019). This is of concern to both New Zealand Police and the wider New Zealand community due to the dangerous and potentially fatal nature of these events; in 2017, fleeing driver events were associated with 626 crashes, 158 injuries, and 12 fatalities (IPCA, 2019). Understanding the factors that motivate drivers’ decisions to flee from police is essential for developing effective and appropriate interventions and policies that might reduce the number of fleeing driver events, however previous research in this area is scarce. Through a partnership between New Zealand Police and UC, the current research addressed this knowledge gap. Interviews were conducted with 40 individuals who had been previously involved in a police pursuit, either as a driver or a passenger. These interviews focussed on exploring the thoughts, feelings and behaviours of participants before, during and after the pursuit. We also discussed how prior life experiences, drug use, and experiences with police might have influenced these events. Using thematic analysis, a number of key themes were identified in the experiences of participants. Most participants reported a general willingness to flee from police if they deemed this ‘worth the risk’ in terms of avoiding punishment for other offending, but very few participants reported actively seeking out pursuits. Motivations and emotions appeared to be similar across age and ethnicity, with some notable exceptions. Potential implications and applications for interventions and policy will also be discussed.
Improving our Understanding to reduce Family Harm: Phase Two

Renee Looc

Authors: Renee Looc
Affiliation: Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: In April 2020, Evidence Based Policing Centre (EBPC) was tasked to lead and produce a framework aiming to better understand and inform decision-making about responding to and reducing family harm.

The first phase of work included three objectives:
- Refresh the New Zealand Crime Harm Index and identify where the CHI can add value to decision-making – this has been completed
- Develop a non-crime harm index – this is in progress
- Understand family harm from a CHI perspective – this has been completed for phase one, and is being expanded for phase two

The scope included a focus on police demand at an individual and location level, and from the perspective of crime (victim and offender) and non-crime occurrences. The phase one analysis was presented in October 2020, using a test data set, and showed that using the NZ CHI to analyse family harm offers insights to help prioritise resources to offenders perpetrating, and victims experiencing, the most harm.

The second phase of work is focussed on assessing the current state with a more complete data set; developing decision-support tools; developing metrics for monitoring effectiveness; and investigating the potential to develop methods for forecasting and prediction.

Phase two is being conducted in a parallel approach, in which a dashboard is being developed in SAS Viya at the same time as the analysis is being conducted. This means that when the phase two analysis is released, the SAS dashboard will already be available for the business to immediately make use of.

Evaluating New Zealand Polices’ Threat Exposure Necessity Response (TEN-R) decision-making model

Dr Robbie Taylor

Authors: Dr Robbie Taylor, Dr Lauren Hewitt, Georgina Murphy
Affiliation: New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: The TEN-R decision-making model guides police to consider: any threat encountered; exposure to the threat; and the necessity to respond; to determine an appropriate response. TEN-R describes how police should make decisions but is inconsistent with literature on how people actually make decisions. Consequently, outcomes depend on whether staff can be trained to use TEN-R instead of intuitive decision-making processes, or to integrate TEN-R with intuitive decision-making processes. Systematically using TEN-R instead of intuitive thinking is likely to slow down decision-making, potentially compromising performance and safety during critical incidents. In contrast, relying solely on intuitive processes may lead to inconsistency and biased outcomes. We surveyed staff about TEN-R. Approximately 90% of respondents reported using TEN-R automatically rather than consciously evaluating each element. A similar percentage reported that their initial gut reactions align with decisions made using TEN-R. Differences in responses seemed to be driven by what staff believed TEN-R encompassed, rather than different decision-making processes: Some respondents thought reacting intuitively under pressure was consistent with TEN-R, and other respondents thought the opposite. The results suggest that clarity is needed so that staff understand what TEN-R is and how it should be conceptualised—perhaps as part of training. Further experimental research is needed to understand how using TEN-R under pressure compares to unstructured intuitive decision-making. Currently, there is no empirical evidence that using TEN-R is superior to using intuitive decision-making. This research might also help us to better understand some of the underlying drivers of biases in decision-making.
**ESR Integrated Drug Surveillance System**

**Cameron Johnson**

**Authors:** Cameron Johnson¹, Diana Kappatos¹, Wendy Popplewell¹, Raewyn Campbell¹, Alan Anscombe¹, Franco Andrews¹, Dawen Li¹, Thomas Metz¹

**Affiliation:** ¹ESR

**Research Abstract:** ESR has embarked on a novel approach to collate and coordinate information captured from the full spectrum of drug testing carried out at ESR. The ESR Drug Chemistry, Clandestine Laboratory and Toxicology teams, faced with the challenge of detecting hundreds of new designer drugs, some of which were causing considerable harm in New Zealand communities, began development of a framework for rapid identification of new drugs across the continuum of ESR drug testing activities. The resulting outcome is the integrated Drug Surveillance System (iDSS), which combines data from “the border, the street and the grave”, encompassing the screening of border seizures, Police drug submissions, toxicology analysis and coronial casework.

The major benefit of the iDSS is a centralized database of ESR drug testing results, that can be interrogated for geographical and temporal information of drug detections in New Zealand. A central platform allows for wider access and greater transparency to drug testing data and knowledge. The iDSS has the recognized potential to feed into the multi-agency national Drug Alert and Information early warning system (DIANZ), thereby supporting data-driven alerts and notifications for emerging and harmful drug trends. There is also the possibility for up-scaling this platform to include data from other sources, enabling a more holistic picture of drug seizures, use and harm in New Zealand.

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**Making every contact count at Auckland City District front Counters**

**Susan Campbell**

**Authors:** Susan Campbell¹, Judy Paulin¹, Vicky Jimmieson¹, Pamela Cronin¹, Helen Fletcher¹

**Affiliation:** ¹New Zealand Police

**Research Abstract:** Police staff at Auckland City District (ACD) front counters are focused on delivering a service experience that people expect and deserve. The Service Strategy Group (PNHQ) and ACD are currently undertaking a phased programme to support front counter staff and strengthen overall service culture, station by station. The focus is on making the service experiences of people visiting ACD front counters the best it can be.

The programme consists of four phases, with each phase designed to build on the findings and developments of the previous phase. The phases are:

1. Enhancing our Understanding of Service Experience
2. Leading Service Excellence (Gen2)
3. Implementation and Follow-up
4. Evaluation and Reporting.

In Phase 1 we wanted to learn more about what works well for our customers and whether there are opportunities for improvement. In March 2021 we sought feedback from a small sample of customers to a Police front counter as they were leaving one of four Police stations in the District. We analysed the feedback and presented it in summary form for dissemination among District and Station leaders.

During Phase 2 we delivered a Leading Service Excellence (Gen2) workshop with front counter leaders focussed on enhancing a service culture and developing a plan for the future. The workshop also provided a forum for leaders to examine the insights gathered from Phase 1.

Phase 3 Implementation is currently underway through the work with front counter leaders and the research. It will involve everyone working at ACD front counters.

We will share the findings and insights from our experience with implementing the programme so far.
3:20–3:35pm  Lumi Drug Scan Service
Sarah Czarnomski

Authors: Sarah Czarnomski, Simon Welsh, Dion Sheppard, Annice Haverland
Affiliation: 1Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police, 2ESR

Research Abstract: The Lumi Mobile Drug Scan Pilot commenced on 27th July 2020 for a period of 6 months with 5 participating Districts; Counties Manukau, Auckland Central, Waitemata, Bay of Plenty & Canterbury. Evidence Based Policing Centre & Police are currently undertaking an evaluation of the Pilot. A total of 884 scans relating to 368 events were recorded during this time. Methamphetamine was overwhelmingly the highest substance scanned followed by MDMA & Cocaine. This Pilot involved a combination of workgroups testing the device out in the field under various conditions. This is a formative evaluation which aims to measure how Lumi can facilitate decision-making, assess the accuracy of the device & assess the impact on alternative resolution/health based referrals. The final report is due to be signed off at the end of May.

3:35–3:45pm  BREAK

CHAIR – Professor Devon Polaschek, University of Waikato

New Zealand Police Strategic Research Agenda Theme: Connecting with Communities

3:45–4:00pm  The disenfranchised warrior – the spoils of identity
Paula Ormsby

Authors: Paula Ormsby
Affiliation: 1Combined Education Services

Research Abstract: A review of historical factors and socio-political structures that significantly influenced the establishment of Indigenous gangs of New Zealand. The disparities, disadvantage and marginalisation that gang members face is a continual battle of survival. The scars of these modern day warriors are often prominent with the tattoos of identity that adorn their skin, reflective of the scars on their souls from epigenetics, individual, historical and collective trauma. These are the spoils of identity within the gang as a cultural collective. The challenges gang members face within classism, systematic racism, hegemonic discourse, epistemic and hermeneutical injustice, testimonial silencing, quieting and smothering, further dislodges them from engaging within societal norms and indigenous identification. Shared will be the stories of counter narratives of political and public perceptions of gangs. The transformative action within certain chapters of the gangs, considering their shift in paradigm and the process of engagement within communities. The methodology within the framed principles of identification, de-colonisation, healing, education, health, employment and overall better life conditions for gang members and their families. Rewriting stories, removing deficit models, providing a platform for cultural humility for engaging the disengaged therefore installing an ethos of hope.
4:00–4:10pm  Understanding Truancy: A research project into understanding truancy in New Zealand

Senior Constable Ross Humphrey

Authors: Senior Constable Ross Humphrey
Affiliation: New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: While most of our young people are achieving at levels comparable to the best in the world, more of our 14 to 18-year-olds have disengaged from the education system than in many other comparable countries. This alienation from the education system can lead to significantly diminished opportunities and has been found to be a strong indicator of violence later in life, and anticipatory of delinquency, substance abuse, suicidal risk, unemployment and early parenting.

This isn't simply a matter of truancy or skipping school. In fact, many of these absences, especially among our youngest students, are excused by parents or caregivers, whether justified or not. Often absences are tied to health problems, such as asthma, diabetes, and oral and mental health issues. Some are connected to a lack of parental control or apathy towards education due to their own negative experiences. Other barriers including lack of a nearby school bus, a safe route to school or food insecurity make it difficult to go to school every day.

The aim of this research is to develop an understanding around truancy, what it actually is, what drives it, and what can be done to counter it. The research identifies six critical components to an effective program; Collaboration, Family Involvement, Comprehensive Approach, Use Incentives and Sanctions, Develop a Supportive Context, and Evaluate the Program.

From there the research has supported the development and implementation of a truancy reduction program targeted at preventing truancy and the long-term harm caused by it.

4:10–4:20pm  Communities and Sex Offender Release: Perceptions of Community Leaders on State Actors

Jordan Anderson

Authors: Jordan Anderson
Affiliation: Institute of Criminology, Victoria University of Wellington

Research Abstract: The release of people convicted of sex offences into communities is a fraught and delicate issue in New Zealand, and one that is not always well managed by representatives of government organisations, communities, or the media. My doctoral research has explored the experiences of New Zealand communities in which high profile release of convicted sex offender/s has occurred. In particular, this research examines community notification and its effects on communities. Throughout the three case studies conducted for this research (Whanganui, Napier, and Ōtāhuhu), community leaders reflected on the role of the Police and the Department of Corrections in sex offender management in the community. This presentation presents a snapshot of the findings of this qualitative research, with particular reference to the experiences and views of community leaders on the organisations they view as holding responsibility for the success of sex offender reintegration: the Police and the Department of Corrections.

4:20–4:30pm  Crossroads project

Michael Wall and Craig Heslop

Authors: Michael Wall, Craig Heslop
Affiliation: Evidence Based Policing Centre, New Zealand Police

Research Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to present the findings of the Crossroads Project during the period of June 2020 to March 2021. The analysis compares 28 Crossroads Project participants with a control group of 28; matched by age, sex, ethnicity, offending history, and offending location. The analysis also covers the outcomes of those people who are still on the programme (completers) and the people who received the Crossroads treatment and have subsequently left the programme (non-completers). The analysis considers several evaluation outcome metrics, including differences in numbers of offences, differences in volume crime
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offences, differences in the New Zealand Crime Harm Index (CHI) and qualitative feedback from partners. The main finding during this time is that the Crossroads Project is associated with a decrease in the number of offences committed, Volume Crime offences and Crime Harm.

4:30–4:50pm Awards

Fourth-T Award
Evidence Based Policing is grounded in the ‘Triple-T’ approach, Targeting or analysis of problems, Testing practice or policy, and Tracking outputs and outcomes. The newly appointed Director of the EBPC, Simon Williams stresses the importance of a fourth “T”; Telling our policing research stories through multiple media, to ensure findings can have the greatest impact.

- Fourth-T Award: New Zealand Police Staff Presentation
- Fourth-T Award: Student Presentation
- Fourth-T Award: Organisation/Agency Presentation

Contribution to Police Research award
This award recognises an individual or team that presented research that will significantly add to our evidence base in the policing context here in New Zealand. This award does not necessarily have to have directly involved NZ Police or policing but will have significant impact for NZ Police.

4:50–5:00pm Closing
Simon Williams/Professor Devon Polaschek
We will prioritise research which uses, or builds tactical forecasting methodologies.

We will partner with other organisations within the justice sector, prioritising research into ‘what works’ in terms of resource allocation models and prevention tactics, be it current practice or novel ideas.

We will prioritise research that helps us to understand and identify ways to increase the public’s trust, confidence and belief in the legitimacy of Police.

We will prioritise research that helps us to understand, engage with, and improve outcomes for different communities.

We will prioritise research into methods and best practice approaches for connecting with communities and ensuring they feel heard, informed and respected.

We will prioritise research that helps us to understand, engage with, and improve outcomes for different communities.

We will prioritise research that investigations ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our systems and processes.

We will prioritise research that helps us build a capable, resilient and ethical workforce.

We will prioritise research that explores opportunities to improve sector efficiency and investigate potential threats to sector integrity and ways to mitigate them.

We will prioritise research that helps to identify problems that create harm to people and communities.

Prioritising problems involving significant harm

Deploying resources and tactics

Forecasting and preventing crime and harm

Supporting rehabilitation and reintegration

Enhancing sector integrity and efficiency

Building capacity and capability

Improving systems and processes

Enhancing our organisational capability

Connecting with communities

Increasing trust, confidence and legitimacy

Empowering and connecting with the community

Ingraining strategic forecasting in policing

We will prioritise research that helps to identify problems involving significant harm.

We will deploy resources and tactics to forecasting and preventing crime and harm.

We will increase trust, confidence and legitimacy by connecting with communities.

We will empower and connect with the community.

We will ingrain strategic forecasting in policing.

We will build capacity and capability by improving systems and processes.

We will enhance our organisational capability.

For research enquiries please email: research@police.govt.nz

For more information about the Evidence Based Policing Centre please visit our website: https://ebpc.org.nz/

For more in-depth information regarding our four research themes please refer to the New Zealand Police Strategic Research Agenda document here: https://ebpc.org.nz/