



**POLICING  
RESEARCH  
PARTNERSHIP**

**N8 Policing  
Research Partnership  
Annual Report 2023**

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# Foreword

**Serena Kennedy KPM**, Chief Constable of Merseyside Police and NPCC Lead for Prevention, considers the importance of research partnerships to the effective prevention of crime.

**AS THE NATIONAL POLICE CHIEFS' Council lead for Prevention** I am delighted to have been asked to write the foreword to this year's N8 annual report.

In 2019 NPCC approved its very first National Policing Prevention Strategy which I think made a real statement to our communities, our partners, the government, and our workforce that there is a re-recognition that prevention is a hugely important part of policing.

I say re-recognition because if we go

*Prevention is the end to which every effort of the police is to be directed...*

back to the days of Sir Robert Peel in 1829 and the Peelian Principles (and yes, I know that it is highly likely that the

principles were not actually written by Sir Robert Peel!), he stated:

"It should be understood at the outset that the principal object to be attained is the prevention of crime. To this great end every effort of the police is to be directed..."

And yet in recent years, especially through austerity a focus on prevention on occasion has been seen as a 'nice to have' and not as an essential function for policing.

The national co-ordination committee that I lead is tasked to oversee the delivery and implementation of this new



Serena Kennedy, Chief Constable for Merseyside

National Policing Prevention Strategy by providing strategic guidance and direction to deliver the below outcomes.

It will also lead on the development and commissioning of key pieces of work which support the delivery of the National Policing Prevention Strategy. This will include academic research and evaluation, key products, services, and training on behalf of the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) to influence across policing, government departments, third sector and industry. Its objectives are to:

- Promote cultural change in policing through embedding a preventative approach as a core function of policing.
- Reduce harm by tackling the root causes, drivers and vulnerabilities associated with victimisation in both the physical and virtual environment.
- Reduce offending by tackling the

causes and opportunities that facilitate offending.

- Reduce demand through a systematic cost effective, evidence based problem-solving approach.

We in Policing must improve our use of evidence led best practice that is already available and mainstream into the day-to-day delivery of our service to our communities.

Policing must get better at identifying where there is an absence of research and evidence and then work with academia and partnerships such as N8 PRP to develop the research and act on the evidence.

*Research...will provide the longevity needed..*

We need to get much better at simplifying the evaluations and findings that result from academic research and

translating it into every day operational and organisational work that is delivered in our communities 24/7, 365 days a year.

An area where Policing absolutely has to improve is the cost benefits analysis especially in relation to prevention and demonstrating the cost benefits not only

to policing and the Home Office but also across other government departments.

*N8 PRP is essential to... research that will help shape the future of policing*

As the fiscal challenge continues Policing must articulate in a much more scientific way why there needs to be more investment into prevention and the impact that this

will have for future generations and how much money it will save across the public sector. This evidence is necessary because with the movement of police leaders and our cyclical approach to politics, the evidence needs to be proven and documented in the research papers which will provide the longevity needed.

This is where the work of the N8 PRP absolutely enhances and supports the ambitions I have for Policing and that are clearly set out in the strategy.

The work of the N8 PRP is essential to the provision of good quality academic research that will help shape the future of policing and ultimately and most importantly, improve the service that we deliver to our communities.



Liverpool Skyline @Conor Samuel



# Message from the Co-Directors

Co-Directors **Prof. Geoff Pearson** and **Chief Supt. Ngaire Waine** look back at the achievements in 2023, and lay out plans for 2024.

**WELCOME TO THE N8 POLICING** Research Partnership Annual Report for 2023.

## Knowledge Exchange

It has been an exceptionally busy year for N8 PRP events, with 8 webinars, the NRiPN research away day, and the 8th Policing Innovation Forum. All of the events benefited from the thought-provoking contributions of speakers and attendees, and the value of their input is seen in the reach and impact documented on pp.10-11.

## Research

2023 saw the publication of 5 Small Grants, 3 of which were funded during the current phase of the partnership.



Geoff Pearson welcomes delegates to PIF23 @Stuart Walker Photography.

Recommendations from these projects (pp.16-19) demonstrate the practical value of the Small Grants.

*How can we ensure research leads to lasting impacts on policing?* ”

In 2024, we look forward to expanding this evidence base with 6 further projects due for completion (details p. 20-21). This includes the *Policing Priority Project on Digitally Enabled Coercive Control*, which was developed directly in response to police evidence requirements.

## New Researchers in Policing Network

The value of the NRiPN can be seen from its continuing popularity, and the network now boasts over 110 members. Members have taken advantage of a number of events this year, online and in person (p. 22-23) and contributed to the Policing Innovation Forum Poster Exhibition.

## Impact

The strength of the N8 PRP model is demonstrated by the interest in replicating our approach, as seen this year with the establishment of the North East Policing Research Network. We are delighted to read the excellent progress already being made by NEPRN (pp.24-25) and look forward to continuing our support for the endeavour.



Ngaire Waine (left) chairs a panel at PIF23. @Stuart Walker Photography.

As we look back on 10 years since the founding of N8 PRP, we asked the academic leads to reflect on the profile of policing research at their universities, and the police SPOCS to contribute their thoughts on the impact N8 PRP has had for their force. The reports (pp.26-39) show the breadth of resources available at the N8, and the shared commitment to improving policing through collaboration.

*We are looking to move to a new 'Impact' stage of N8 PRP* ”

## Looking Forward to 2024

Our funding for this phase of N8 PRP, provided by our partners, will come to an end in September next year, and our thoughts are obviously turning to what will come next. It is clear that while we have achieved a tremendous amount in the last 10 years, there are still challenges to police-academic co-production and knowledge-exchange that have still to be overcome. The most obvious of these challenges is impact. How can we better ensure that academic research into police knowledge-gaps leads to direct and lasting improvements to policing? N8 PRP-funded and supported research

has had significant impact on policy and practice. But in many cases our activity has also identified barriers to change, whether they exist locally or nationally.

There is still we believe a considerable amount of work to do to identify how best we can mitigate and overcome the identified barriers, drawing upon existing evidence-based frameworks and forums, the College of Policing, and the office of the Chief Scientific Advisor for Policing. We are therefore looking to move to a new 'impact' stage of N8PRP, to develop, pilot, and test, different approaches and methods to ensuring that academic research meets the pressing needs of policing, impacts it to the greatest possible extent, and avoids unnecessary duplication of time, effort, and money. To this end we will be looking to secure funding, both from our partners and external sources, to take N8PRP beyond 2024. This new phase will seek to identify and trial solutions and put in place structures and frameworks, including regional or north-of-England based evidence-based policing forums, to ensure that our future research outputs have the broadest and most impactful effect upon policing.



## 2023

### January

#### N8 PRP AWARDS

The 4 projects awarded funding in Nov 2022 began.

### February

#### STEERING GROUP

### March

#### SMALL GRANT DELIVERED

B. Godfrey, *Police Strategies for Managing High Harm High Frequency Domestic Abuse Offenders*

#### SMALL GRANT EVENT

Stakeholder Engagement event for G. Gangoli, *Police Processes for Recording Honour Based Abuse*

#### NRIPN

Excellence in Policing Research Webinar: *Academic Publishing for Policing Researchers*

### April

#### POLICE PRIORITY GRANT CALL

Applications requested for 9 month projects researching high-priority research gaps.

#### SMALL GRANT DELIVERED

G. Gangoli, *Police Processes for Recording Honour Based Abuse*

### May

#### SMALL GRANT DELIVERED

C. Coleman, *Reporting Domestic Abuse During Lockdown: The Use of Silent Online Reporting*

#### POLICE PRIORITY GRANT WEBINARS

Call Information Webinars x2 held for applicants to the Police Priority Research Grant Call.

#### SMALL GRANT EVENT

Symposium - L. Bainbridge, *Understanding and Preventing 'Cuckooing' Victimisation*

### June

#### POLICING INNOVATION FORUM

Policing Innovation Forum 2023: *Improving Policing for Black People.*

#### STEERING GROUP

### July

#### POLICE PRIORITY GRANT FUNDING

Funding announced for Dr Antoinette Huber and Prof Barry Godfrey for a 9 month project investigating the tools and training needed to respond to Digitally Enabled Coercive Control.

#### NRIPN

Excellence in Policing Research Webinar: *Engaging with Police for Research Projects*

### August

#### SMALL GRANT DELIVERED

K. Whitfield; *Victims' Experiences of SmartWater in Domestic Abuse Cases*

### September

#### SMALL GRANT DELIVERED

S. Walklate, *Who is the Victim? Identifying The Victim In Coercive Control Cases*

### October

#### STEERING GROUP

#### SMALL GRANT RESEARCH WEBINAR

B. Godfrey, *High Harm High Frequency: Managing Domestic Abuse Offenders*

#### SMALL GRANT RESEARCH WEBINAR

S. Walklate, *Who is the Victim? Identifying The Victim In Coercive Control Cases*

### November

#### SMALL GRANT RESEARCH WEBINAR

G. Gangoli, *Police Processes for Recording Honour Based Abuse*

#### NRIPN RESEARCH AWAY DAY

Developing Impact-Focused Research

#### NRIPN

Excellence in Policing Research Webinar: *Creating Real-World Impact with Policing Research.*

## Coming up 2024

### January – June

#### SMALL GRANT DELIVERY/ WEBINARS

### June

#### POLICE PRIORITY RESEARCH GRANT DELIVERY

### 18-19 March

#### CONFERENCE

Leeds - Preventing Gender Based Violence Conference, led by UCLAN and Durham.

### 2 July

#### CONFERENCE

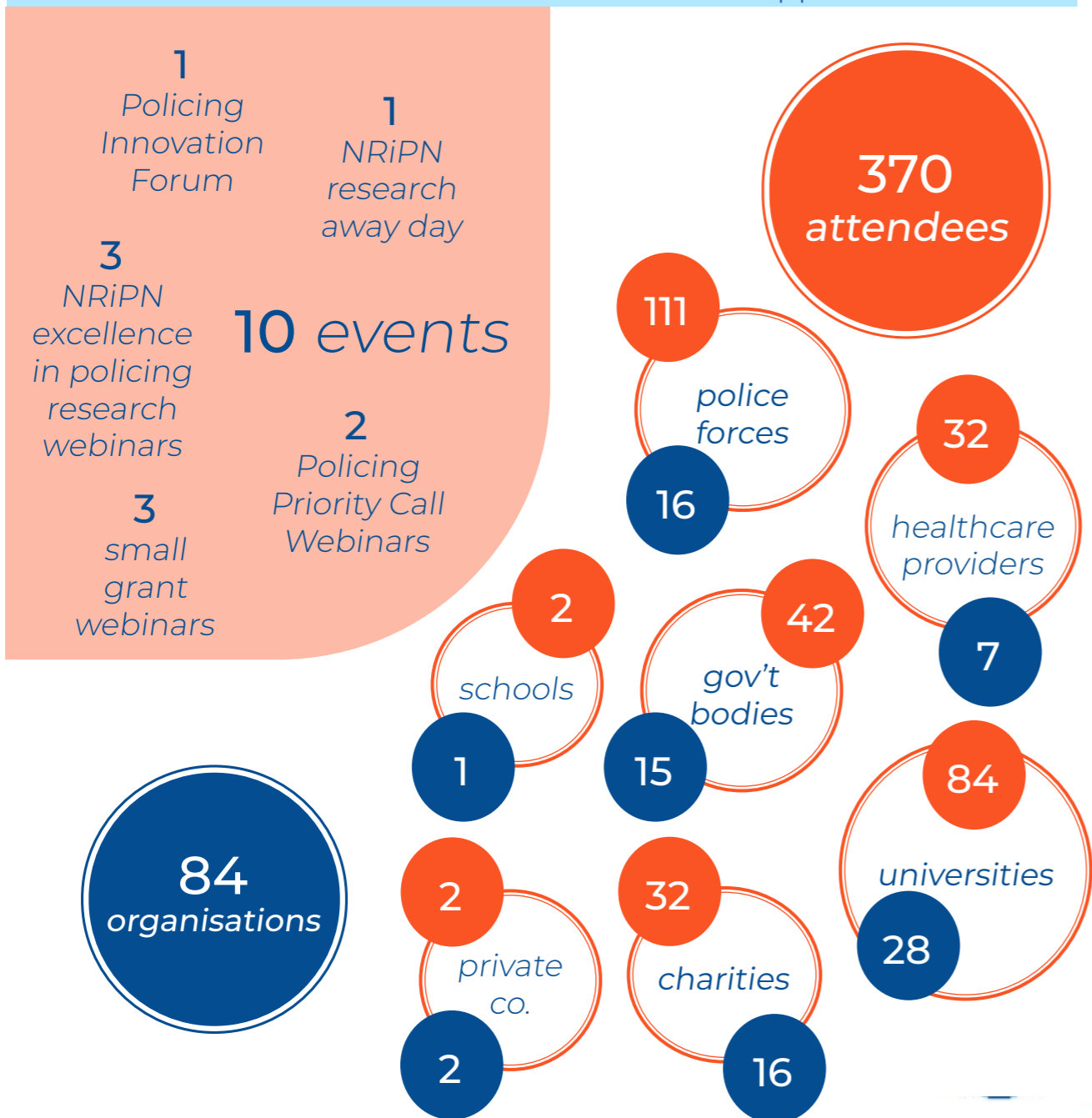
Manchester - Harm Reduction Approaches to Drugs Policing Conference





# 2023 Events in Numbers

**N8 PRP's Knowledge Exchange** Strategy cuts across everything we do, and the numbers below indicate of the reach of the partnership. From the NRiPN's Excellence in Policing Research Webinars to the flagship Policing Innovation Forum, N8 PRP creates opportunities for police, academics and other stakeholders to learn from each other and fosters a culture of collaboration and support.



# Inspiring Ideas and Action

Following the 2023 Policing Innovation Forum, delegates were asked what ideas and actions they had taken from the event. Their answers give an insight into the value and impact of N8 PRP knowledge exchange events.





# Policing Innovation Forum

## Improving Policing for Black People

DELEGATES FROM ACADEMIC, Policing, Charities and Business gathered at the beautiful Roundthorn Hotel in Penrith on 21 June to share ideas and find inspiration on how to improve policing for black people.

The Forum created discussion between a unique cross-section of voices, from leading academics - including keynote Professor Aisha Gill (University of Bristol), panellists Professor Iyiola Solanke (University of Oxford) and Professor Susan McVie (University of Edinburgh) - to senior leaders in policing and policy - such as director of the NPCC Police Race Action Plan Ch Sp Paul Thomas, ISOB member Nick Glynn, and Dr Andrea Banham, IOPC Policy Lead for Stop and Search.

Emerging research was presented by Dr Liz Turner (University of Liverpool), Dr Estelle Marks (Kings



Ngairé Waine and Nick Glynn answer questions. @Stuart Walker Photography.

College University), and Dr Sharda Murria (Birmingham City University), Mark McKue (University of Hull) and Dominic Cox (Keele University).

Contributions from lived and professional experience in a panel led by Lancashire Constabulary's, Rozila Kana, and in roundtable session delegates discussed how to develop innovative research and practice.

The lively discussions were captured by artists from More than Minutes (right).

Full proceedings are available on [N8 PRP.org](http://N8 PRP.org).

What goals can we set for measurable reductions in disproportionality?

How could police implement trauma-informed procedures for interviews and arrests?

Should knowledge and experience with a community other than ones' own be an essential requirement for recruitment?

The main themes were trust, scrutiny, accountability, engagement, and intersectionality.

Should legal training be provide to ensure meaningful accountability?



More Than Minutes created a record of the day's discussion



# Upcoming Events 2024

Two major conferences have been announced for 2024. For more information, and to find more events as they are announced, visit [n8prp.org.uk/home/events/](http://n8prp.org.uk/home/events/).

## How can we prevent gender-based violence? A 10-year vision

Tue 19 - Wed 20 Mar 2024, 10:30 - 16:30

For more information or any queries, please email [conferences@thebritishacademy.ac.uk](mailto:conferences@thebritishacademy.ac.uk)

**Venue**  
The Studio,  
Riverside West,  
Leeds, Yorkshire, LS1  
4AW

**Price**  
Free, booking  
required

**Event series**  
The British Academy  
Conferences

Organised in collaboration with:



DRUGS POLICING

Policing Markets, Policing People

2 July 2024

9am-5pm

Engineering Building, University of Manchester

Evening Reception 6-9pm, 1 July

Registration  
now open!

N8 PRP presents an international, interdisciplinary knowledge exchange conference bringing together cutting-edge research, innovative practice and diverse voices to set the agenda for the future of drugs policing.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Professor Alex Stevens  
University of Kent

Kirsten Horsburgh, CEO  
Scottish Drugs Forum

### PANELS

Current Challenges: Organised Crime, County Lines and Vulnerability

Alternative Approaches - Learning from Scotland and Europe

### WORKSHOPS

- Scrutiny: Constructive Engagement with Community Groups
- Cuckooing: Developing a Tactical Response
- Internet Facilitated Drug Markets
- Drug checking & testing for harm reduction
- Naloxone and Drug-Related Deaths
- Police-led Diversion

Poster Exhibition

New Researchers in Policing Network

Event Page

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Registration

[n8prp.org.uk/](http://n8prp.org.uk/)

[@n8prp](https://twitter.com/n8prp)



# Small Grants 2022-2023

**N8 PRP Small Grants fund** innovative, collaborative policing research with meaningful impact on policy, practice, and academic knowledge. Three Small Grants were delivered in 2023.

## Police officer identification of victims and perpetrators in coercive control cases.

Professor Sandra Walklate, Dr Charlotte Barlow and Dr Emma Finnegan; University of Liverpool and Lancashire Constabulary

*Ideal victimhood and systems abuse by the perpetrator* were highlighted by interviewees as making it difficult for police to identify them as the primary victim.

*How do victim/survivors feel about the ways in which victims and perpetrators are identified during the police frontline response?*

*Communication of the policing response* was highlighted as an issue by interviewees.

Interviewees were not always aware of the rationale for the police response to them. This point of contact can be improved.

## Who is the Victim?

*How are the victim and perpetrator identified by police officers in coercive control cases?*

The issue of misidentification of the primary perpetrator *did not emerge* as an issue in the same way as it has in other jurisdictions, such as Australia (Reeves, 2021).



@Humraaz

We strongly recommend that formal pathways are established that **acknowledge the role of specialist third sector organisations** in supporting police responses to HBA.

*Engagement with third sector organisations occurs at crisis point or when cases are complex, rather than through formal structured pathways.*

To support police to improve their knowledge in this area, we recommend **joint, survivor defined training to be conducted alongside NGOs.**

We suggest **replacing existing DASH risk assessment questions** with alternative questions based on survivor experiences.

**The gap in clear recording procedure for HBVA.** There are clear procedures that are followed for recording of FM and FGM, and these appear to be followed consistently across police forces.

## Recording Honour Based Violence and Abuse

Professor Geetanjali Gangoli, Dr Nikki D'Souza, Dr Kate Butterby, Ayurshi Dutt; Durham University, Durham Constabulary, Northumbria University, GMP, Cleveland Police, Cheshire Police, Humraaz, and Halo Project.

This research assesses, maps and suggests ways to improve police data recording for honour based abuse (HBA).

Police recording of HBA is affected by four key categories which can lead to inaccuracies: (1) Over-recording, (2) Under-recording, (3) Creative recording; (4) Mis-recording.

**We recommend that clear HBA pathways be established within recording systems** to ensure police are able to record HBA clearly.

There is fear from police of appearing culturally insensitive when responding to victim-survivors from minoritised backgrounds. We recommend **the internal 'safety net' be formalised and streamlined, alongside better training.**

*Police often rely on a 'safety net' within forces – lack of confidence in identifying HBA at the onset means they depend on others within the force to make decisions. This can sometimes lead to delays for victims but may make first responders more confident.*



Magistrates appear not to give weight or not to receive information on HHHF in some cases, which results in HHHF being bailed rather than remanded, having suspended rather than immediate custodial sentences imposed, and not-activating suspended sentences when re-offending occurred

**Informing Magistrates**

*Magistrates should always receive sufficient information about HHHF defendants.increase efficiency*

**High Harm High Frequency DA**

**Strategies for Disrupting High Risk High Harm Domestic Abuse**

*Prof Barry Godfrey, Prof Sandra Walklate, Dr Jane Richardson, Dr Lucy Williams; University of Liverpool and Cheshire Constabulary*

High Harm High Frequency Offenders (HHHF) are those who have offended more than once against two or more current or former intimate partners or family members. They cause considerable harm to their victims and take up a large amount of police time and resource.

In this study, researchers matched offending histories against police offender management strategies to see which, if any, worked.

**'Top 10' Perpetrator Lists**

Top 10 or top 20 DA perpetrator lists often contain hundreds of offenders. Reducing the offending of the top 50 HHHF in each force area would dramatically reduce all crime (including DA)..

*Researchers and police should collaborate to update mechanisms for identifying, recording, and archiving HHHF, in order to increase efficiency*

*Practices of archiving HHHF offenders should be standardised across all forces repo leave a smaller group of active HHHF who are actively managed.*

*Greater collaboration between forces would improve data quality and help to track HHHF offenders, especially when they move between different areas increase efficiency*

**94% of HHHF Offending is Non-DA**

On average, each HHHF offender will be involved in 30-40 incidents per year, in many cases for decades. 94% of HHHF offending is non-DA, and the majority relates to public disorder, drug-abuse, and mental health issues.

**Cuckooing**

**Understanding and preventing cuckooing victimisation**

*Dr Laura Bainbridge, Professor Charlie Lloyd & Dr Amy Loughery; University of Leeds, University of York, and Durham Constabulary*

**PUBLICATION OF** this Small Grant from the 2022 call has been delayed until early 2024. However, there is already significant impact from the project.

**Research England Grant**

Tackling 'Cuckooing' Victimisation: Establishing a Research and Practice Network  
£35k  
Nov 23 -July 24

**Symposium**

3 May 2023  
School of Law, University of Leeds  
[Slides and Recording](#)

**Edited Collection**

Dr Bainbridge and Prof Lloyd have produced an edited collection on Cuckooing, due to be published by Routledge 2024.

*When officers attend incidents, they should be immediately aware of the strategy in place for managing that individual offender, and act accordingly.*

*Each HHHF should be placed on a defined plan with a robust individual strategy.*

*Earlier intervention by mental health services would potentially shorten HHHF criminal careers.*

*Opportunities for disruption have been ignored when the report is not DA-related; these opportunities should be taken wherever possible no matter what offence is alleged.*

**Strategy Management**

*Strategies should be clearly indicated in police data for evaluation purposes*

Structures for assessing and dealing with HHHF vary across forces. For HHHF who engage, perpetrator programmes are available. For the vast majority of HHHF who do not engage, strategies include positive action, multi-agency management, disruption and incapacitation.

*Inspectors should have oversight of HHHF management strategies.*



# Small Grants 2023-2024

## Policing Drug Markets

University of Sheffield, South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Regional Organised Crime Unit

Despite its recent prioritisation in politics, policy and practice, research on drugs policing is surprisingly sparse and underdeveloped. This study, led by Dr Matthew Bacon with Co-I Dr Xavier L'Hoiry, both at the University of Sheffield, will explore drugs policing and will aim to shape academic debate relating to drugs, policing, and harm reduction, and significantly impact practice on drugs policing.

## Racially Minoritised Victims of Domestic Abuse & Outcome 16

Newcastle University, Durham University, University of Northumbria; Merseyside Police, West Yorkshire Police, Durham Police

Following the findings of a major recent Open University study on Outcome 16, (when a victim does not support further action against an identified suspect), Principal investigator Dr Hayley Alderson, Newcastle University, will lead an investigation into the specific context of Outcome 16 for racially minoritised victims of domestic abuse.

## Harassment of Female Runners

University of Manchester, Greater Manchester Police and Merseyside Police

Dr Caroline Miles, Senior Lecturer in Criminology, and Dr Rose Broad, both at the University of Manchester – will focus on female runners' experiences of abuse, including 'low-level' verbal abuse, cat-calling, flashing, serious violent/sexual assaults, and the barriers to systematic reporting of abuse, which can empower women to engage in making public spaces safer.

## Risk and Recidivism of Sexual Offenders

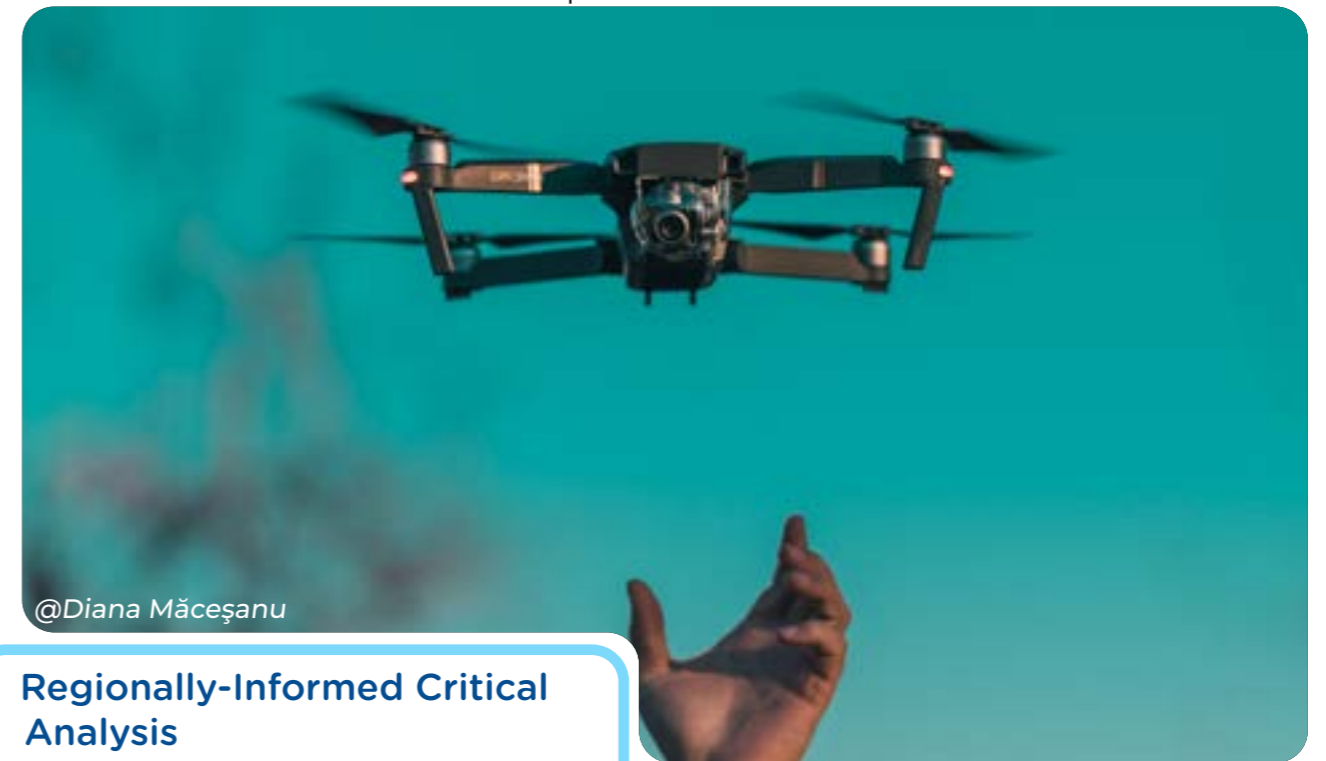
University of Manchester, Greater Manchester Police

Led by Dr Sandra Flynn, Lecturer in Psychology and Mental Health, with Co-Is Dr Polly Turner and Dr Verity Wainwright, this project will examine the sexual offending patterns of registered sexual offenders in Greater Manchester, to understand risk and recidivism between online and contact offenders. Initially proposed by GMP, the study has the potential for significant impact for the efficiency of police resources in managing registered sexual offenders.

# Police Priority Research Project

## Digitally Enabled Coercive Control

IN JULY, N8 PRP awarded £34k to investigate how police can respond to the use of domestic surveillance technology in coercive control cases. Reporting in July 2024, PI Dr Antoinette Huber and Co-I Prof Barry Godfrey, University of Liverpool, will examine current police responses to develop tools and training. For more information, please contact Dr Huber.



@Diana Măceșanu

## Regionally-Informed Critical Analysis

The funding is from a new initiative from N8 PRP, the 'Police Priority Projects'. The aim of the initiative is to provide regionally-informed, focused critical analysis on questions of value and significance to all 12 N8 PRP police partners and to policing nationally. It is an opportunity for researchers to engage with police on research with exceptionally strong potential to impact policing thought and practice on a significant scale.

For this call, police partners identified a need for peer-reviewed evidence to understand the scale and nature of digitally enabled coercive control, and how best to respond to it.

## The Evidence Gap

DCI Dr Rob Ewin, Cumbria Constabulary, said of the need for the project;

*"Technology can play a distinctive role in cases of coercive control, including use of social media, online banking, and home security technology.*

*However, a recent HMICFRS report found that the UK is lagging behind in the ability to recognise and investigate this activity, with demand outstripping capacity.*

*It is critical that staff feel sufficiently informed to manage digital investigations or develop forensic strategies."*



# NRiPN - New Researchers in Policing Network

In addition to ongoing support for grant applications and facilitating collaboration with police, N8 PRP ran 4 events to support NRiPN members in 2023.

NRiPN Director Dr Eon Kim organised 3 CPD webinars and a research away day, all on the theme Excellence in Research Policing.



Merseyside Police HQ Lobby, @Geoff Pearson

## The NRiPN Research Away Day

Merseyside Police HQ

Thursday 2 Nov

MEMBERS OF NRiPN were joined by the N8 PRP team and representatives from Merseyside and Lancashire Police to develop their understanding of how to design high-impact collaborative research with police.

Attendees were welcomed to Merseyside Police HQ by ACC Ngairé Waine. Louisa Laveback from the Merseyside Evidence Based Policing Team gave a presentation on the work of the team and the use of data in 'hotspot' policing, followed by a Q&A session.

Attendees then presented their current projects and got feedback from police and the N8 PRP team on how their work could have practical value for practitioners, how this could increase the academic significance of their work, and developing collaborative methodologies. Following a networking lunch, attendees split into small groups to workshop how to develop police priorities (submitted by the N8 PRP police partners) into research projects. Funding is available to attendees who wish to develop these projects further.

## The NRiPN Excellence in Policing Research Webinars

### Engaging with Police for Research Projects

Wednesday 4 July

Webinar panel with Dr Layla Skinnis (University of Sheffield), DCI Andy Crowe (Force Lead for Innovation, Durham Constabulary) and Louisa Laveback (EBP Co-ordinator, Merseyside Police).

Attendees gained an insight into how to find relevant contacts, the framework police use for engaging with research and researchers, how to present research ideas to police, what 'value' means for police in research projects.

### Creating Real-World Impact with Policing Research

Monday 27 Nov

This webinar panel featured contributors with a wealth of experience in police-academic partnerships.

Academics and professionals discussed practical aspects of how policing studies can make a tangible difference in the real world, and advised NRiPN members on how to increase the impact of their research.

Thanks to Rob Braddock, Senior Research Officer Research, Analysis and Knowledge Sharing, College of Policing; Dr Xavier L'Hoiry, Senior Lecturer in Criminology and Social Policy, the University of Sheffield; Oli Hutt, Head of Analytics, Crest Advisory; Suzanne Booth, Engagement Officer, Policy@Manchester.

### Academic Publishing

Wednesday 1 March

Webinar panel with senior commissioning editors, journal editors, and experience reviewers from Palgrave Macmillan (Josie Taylor), The Journal of Policing and Society (Professor Jenny Fleming), the Journal of Organizational Ethnography (Dr Mike Rowe), and Professor Geoff Pearson (speaking from his experience of '2nd reviewer').

Attendees gained an insight into navigating the world of academic publishing including book proposals, responding to reviewer notes, and finding the right journal for a submission.

# The North East Policing Research Network

**DR NIKKI D'SOUZA** (Northumbria University) and **Dr Donna Marie Brown** (Durham University) launched NEPRN in November 2022.

**THE NORTH EAST POLICING RESEARCH** Network recognises the need for a collaborative partnership working across the NE universities, police constabularies, and Offices of the Police and Crime Commissioners (OPCC).

Inspired by the work and impact of N8 PRP, the initial idea was to support police in identifying what research evidence they needed to address their annual priorities.

The ambition is to help shape policy and practice, through co-production, by harnessing the expertise of a multi-disciplinary academic team.

The disciplines represented include Geography, Anthropology, Law, Psychology, Criminology, Sociology, Business and Social Sciences.

For further information, please contact Nikki D'Souza, [Nikki.dsouza@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:Nikki.dsouza@northumbria.ac.uk), or Donna Marie Brown [donna.m.brown@durham.ac.uk](mailto:donna.m.brown@durham.ac.uk).



Dr Nikki D'Souza  
Northumbria University



Dr Donna Marie Brown  
Durham University

## the Network

### UNIVERSITIES

The core university members are Northumbria, Sunderland, Teesside, Newcastle and Durham. With an appetite to have reach beyond the NE, a strong international flavour has been fostered. UCLAN, York, Sheffield Hallam, University of the West of Scotland, Southampton University and the Norwegian Police University College are members of the network.

### PRACTITIONERS

The police constabularies/OPCCs are Durham, Northumbria and Cleveland, with the NE Regional Specialist Operations Unit attending

The cornerstone to innovating service delivery by engaging with stakeholders and police personnel is fostering a collaborative approach that enables knowledge exchange, including on international platforms, and securing resources to target strengthening the evidence-base through research.

At this developmental stage, 2 workstreams have been identified. A focus on structural inequalities will be a golden thread through all workstreams.

### Workstreams

There is also a focus on police staff as well as officers, as this is an under-researched group.

#### Social Harm and Vulnerability

Led by Prof Stephen Macdonald, Durham University.

Police lead to be identified.

The group explores structurally vulnerable marginalised groups, developing our understanding of both the harms caused by criminality and how we conceptualise social harms. Last year, Prof McDonald led *Exploring Desistance with Disabled Perpetrators through Checkpoint* in collaboration with Durham Constabulary.

#### Recruitment, Retention and Progression

Led by Dr Katherine Dunn Northumbria University.

Police lead to be identified.

The projects agreed under this workstream is Women in Policing which is led by Nikki D'Souza and Superintendent Kelly Martin (Durham Police) and the Recruitment and Retention of Police officers and Staff, led by Donna Marie Brown.

The Women in Policing Group will focus on the promotion pathways and on the resignation and retention for police officers and police staff using an intersectional lens.

#### Information and Data Sharing Protocols

Led by DCI Andrew Crowe, Durham Police.

DCI Andrew Crowe is developing a template for information-sharing which is intended to be utilised across the network, where appropriate, to enable an efficient method of data access for researchers, notwithstanding that several forces have their own well-developed internal processes for commissioning research.

In addition to the workstreams, two time-limited task-focused groups have been established to increase capacity for collaboration.

### Task Groups

#### Multi-agency Task-Focused Group

Led by Beth Henry Northumbria Police, and Ast Prof Ashley Lowerson (Northumbria University).

This group will map out the various local, regional and national partnerships, which members can tap into, in order to progress research initiatives.

The aim is to avoid duplication, enhance/forgo new collaborations, reduce the potential to exclude key networks and pave the way for greater collaboration by providing a snapshot of what already exists.



# N8 PRP Profiles

IN THE FOLLOWING profiles, the N8 Universities outline their research strengths and expertise in relation to policing, with current research institutes, groups, and major projects.

## University of Lancaster

DR SOPHIE NIGHTINGALE

School of Psychology

**POLICING RESEARCH** is being conducted across a range of disciplines at Lancaster, with interdisciplinary research supported by *Security Lancaster* and the *Data Science Institute*.

### Social Psychology

Prof Mark Levine and Dr Richard Philpot have a series of projects investigating bodycam footage of police-public interactions, analysing procedural justice and willingness of officers to challenge each others' behaviour. Findings will be published in Royal Society Open Science in 2024.

Dr Sophie Nightingale is working with Cumbria Constabulary on the STAR-funded *Digital Investigation Toolkit*, and is Co-I on an international project investigating eyewitness memory of sexual assault.

### Sociology

Professor Corinne May-Chahal recently published the report of a REPHRAIN project [developing a framework to evaluate online CSAM \(child sexual abuse material\) prevention and detection tools](#).

### Criminology

Dr Camilla Camargo is collecting pilot data on [police women's uniform](#).

Dr Olly Fitton is leading work on 2 projects with Lancashire Constabulary; one seeks to understand the *policing approach to Cannabis Cultivation* and the second is developing Self-Efficacy and Public and Professional Safety Training, with stage one scheduled for April 2024.

### Faculty of Health and Medicine

Dr. Laura Goodwin is leading work on mental health and alcohol use in the police, and has [recently published findings](#).



### Partnerships

Lancaster University, Microsoft and Lancashire Constabulary (supported by the office for the Scientific Advisor to Policing) are collaborating on a number of projects in data science and cybersecurity. The project plans to develop a blue print for collaboration local between academic and policing partners.

Williamson Park, Lancaster Jonny Gios

## UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

PROFESSOR DAVID ALLEN  
Business School

**THE LEEDS INSTITUTE OF DATA ANALYTICS (LIDA)** is the home of Data Science at Leeds, and has developed state of the art physical and IT infrastructures.

In 2021 it established LIDA: SOCIETIES, a knowledge centre for data analytics in social science, and offers practitioner secondments at LIDA: Societies.

Dr Dan Birks (Law) [d.birks@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.birks@leeds.ac.uk)

**THE INSTITUTE FOR TRANSPORT STUDIES** develops tools to examine risk, behaviour, and effective policy to increase public safety. Professor Charisma Choudhury is leading NEXUS, a £1.3m UKRI project developing next-generation mathematical models to predict travel behaviour.

Professor Simon Shepherd (Transport) [S.P.Shepherd@its.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:S.P.Shepherd@its.leeds.ac.uk)

**THE DIGITAL CULTURES RESEARCH GROUP** develops conceptual and methodological innovations to better understand digital media and technologies, with work on effective public messaging and communication.

Dr Chris Birchall [C.T.Birchall@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:C.T.Birchall@leeds.ac.uk)

**THE CENTRE FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES** current projects include Investigating Unexpected Deaths (Dr Imogen Jones), A Professional Register for Probation Practitioners (Dr Matt Tidmarsh), Domestic Abuse Service Providers (Dr Rebecca Shaw), and Preventing 'cuckoo' victimisation (Dr Laura Bainbridge).

Recently completed projects include Safer parks for women and girls in West Yorkshire (Dr Anna Barker) and The Geospatial and Contextual Patterns of Rural Domestic Abuse (Dr Sam Lewis), a Police STAR project developed from an N8 PRP Small Grant.

The Centre hosts the **ESRC Vulnerability and Policing Futures Research Centre**, which aims to reshape how the police and other agencies cooperate to reduce harm among vulnerable people.

Dr Dan Birks (Law) [d.birks@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.birks@leeds.ac.uk)

**THE CENTRE FOR ETHNICITY AND RACISM STUDIES (CERS)** has an international reputation for policy-relevant research on racism, ethnicity and migration. Currently, Prof Jose Pina-Sánchez (Law) is leading an ESRC project Disproportionality: Exploring the Nature of Ethnic Disparities in Sentencing through Causal Inference, to address the methodological gaps in using data on disproportionate sentences as evidence of discrimination.

Professor Jose Pina-Sánchez (Law) [J.PinaSanchez@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:J.PinaSanchez@leeds.ac.uk)

**AIMTECH ADAPTATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY** is an interdisciplinary research centre investigating the relationships between new technologies and information systems, innovation, information management and organisational change.

Dr Aleksandra Irnazarow and Prof David Allen are developing work on the use of algorithmic decision-making tools to inform operational decisions in policing.

Prof David Allen (Business) [d.allen@lubs.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:d.allen@lubs.leeds.ac.uk)



## NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

JO ISHIDA, Corporate Development Manager

ANU WATSON, Evaluation & Quality Assurance Adviser.

### NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

regards the N8 PRP partnership as crucial to developing contemporary research insights into priority areas of policing. Involvement with the partnership has enabled the Force to develop a strong network of contacts

with practitioners in policing and academia, broadening our understanding of key operational questions.

Access to experts, and our support for the Small Grants Fund in an advisory capacity, has enabled us to direct research to areas that are both practical and relevant, and have informed how we deliver services. Research webinars, presenting findings from Small Grants projects, have been well attended by police practitioners, who have applied learning to

their areas of business. Findings have guided our operational practice, notably in relation to domestic abuse and coercive control.

Opportunities for knowledge exchange have been generated through the Innovation Forum. 'Improving Policing for Black People' in Penrith brought diverse and interesting perspectives. Other research events and online seminars promoted by the N8 PRP have yielded useful insights through networking and engagement with police and academic partners.

## Newcastle University

PROFESSOR JILL CLARK

Education, Communication and Language Sciences

**NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY** is continuing to develop our expertise around the delivery of healthcare to detained persons. In October, ESRC announced an award of £1.9m for [The impact of Covid-19 measures on Criminal Exploitation and Serious Violence \(CESV\) in vulnerable communities.](#)

[Newcastle-upon-Tyne](#), a consortia led by Dr Steph Scott (Public Health).

In Sociology, fieldwork is underway on ESRC Standard Grant [Equivilence in Custody Healthcare](#). (Dr Gethin Rees). PhD student Kelvin Chu is researching *Police Encounters: Perception from People with Mental Illness*, exploring the experiences of person's with mental illness when they come into contact with the police.

Data collection has been completed on *HELP-PC (Health Screening of People in Police Custody) Phase 4* (Prof Iain McKinnon). This phase

evaluates the effectiveness of the new screening procedures embedded in one police force in the North of England. Using clinical interviews, research psychiatrists assessed detainees in custody and analysed whether the HELP-PC risk assessment screen detected clinically important conditions, and whether police custody officers referred detainees for an Appropriate Adult.

Dr Hayley Alderson is leading an ambitious N8 PRP Small Grant project with researchers at Durham University, *Racially Minoritised Victims of Domestic Abuse and Outcome 16*.



Bamburgh Castle, Northumbria  
Benjamin Elliot





Liverpool Skyline  
Ryan Warburton

**N8 PRP HAS BEEN** especially valuable to me settling in and developing my role, as it has presented great opportunities for networking with other police SPOCs and academic researchers and, in turn, provided guidance for my role in embedding EBP in our force.

N8 PRP research creates useful resources to develop EBP at Merseyside. In 2023, we approached Prof Barry Godfrey following the publication of his Small Grant report, Strategies for Managing High Harm High Frequency Offenders, to develop a further assessment of Merseyside's approach to High-Harm DA perpetrators.

With regards to upcoming research, the Digitally-Enabled Coercive Control project lead by Dr Huber demonstrates the strength of a police and academic partnership in that it has emerged from and centres around the needs highlighted by police practitioners.

## MERSEYSIDE POLICE

LOUISA LAVEBACK  
EBP Co-ordinator

Merseyside is involved in 3 further Small Grants that are due to report in the coming year.

The NRiPN Excellence in Policing Research event on Engaging with Police for Research Projects was an excellent opportunity for knowledge exchange with future researchers – we made contact with new researchers who proposed projects that our force considered taking part in. Hopefully, in the longer-term, these kind of events will strengthen police-academic relationships by way of greater appreciation of each other's needs, and improved effectiveness and efficiency of partnerships and collaborations.

## University of Liverpool

DR MIKE ROWE  
Management School

### Highlight: EU COST Action on Police Stops

**SINCE 2018, DR MIKE ROWE** has been the Vice Chair of **EU COST**, a European network exploring the use of police powers to stop members of the public.

In much of continental Europe, officers have the right to check identity papers and question those suspected of offences - yet these powers are subject to very little scrutiny.

The network has explored why the use of such powers has evolved in different ways, and the ways in which officers actually employ their powers.

Almost regardless of the legal framework and guidance, the practice is a very recognizable one. Attention is mainly on young men, often from a minority community. From Norway, to Spain and to Hungary, the network gathered evidence of the disproportionate use of powers and of increasing concerns being raised by civil society organizations and in legal challenges.

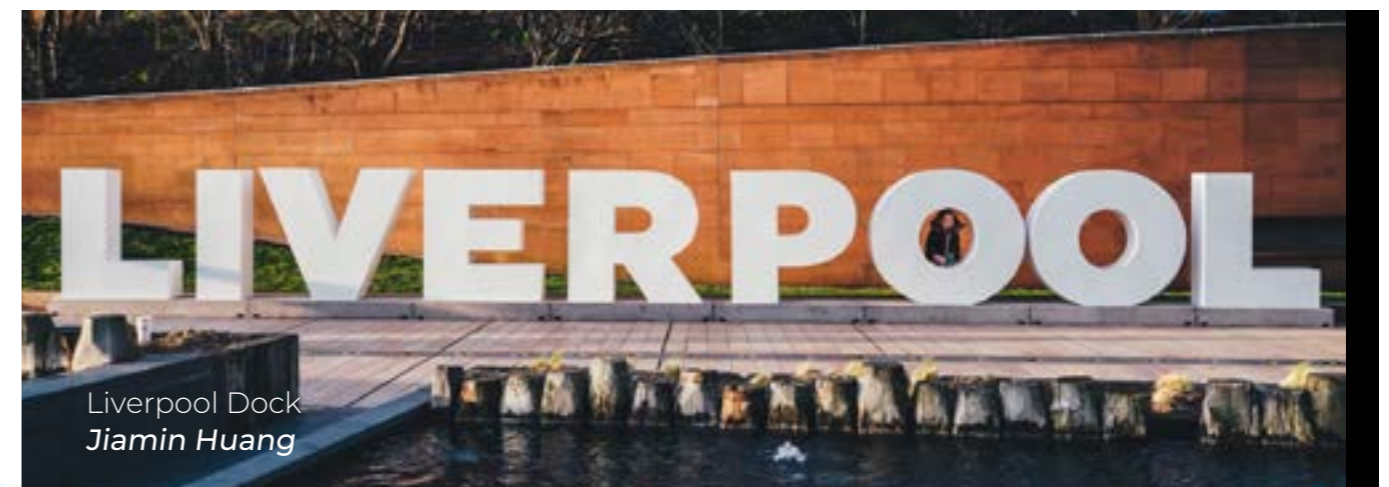
Trials are now underway in Oslo to record police stops and issue a record to the subject of those stops. In France, the Défenseur des Droits has expressed

interest in learning more about such recording practices.

Recording in itself is not a solution, but the information generated will form the evidence base for a more fruitful discussion in future.

The COST Action closed with a conference in The Hague in February 2023, attended by academics, civil society activists and practitioners from across Europe. In 2024, two edited books reviewing much of the learning from the network will be published by Palgrave. The first reviews the arrangements for scrutiny and oversight across Europe. The second examines the politics of the practice in several European states.

Further information and resources are available on the Police Stops website.



Liverpool Dock  
Jiamin Huang





Durham Castle from the Riverside, David Ross

**Health and Inequalities**

**DURHAM UNIVERSITY HAS** major interdisciplinary strengths in health and social sciences, centred on the [WOLFSON INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING](#).

**Regional Partnership**

The Institute is home to the [NIHR Applied Research Collaboration \(ARC\) for the North East and North](#)

an evaluation of an accountability programme (Prof Nicole Westmarland), Neurodiversity in perpetrator programmes (Dr Nicole Renehan), Mapping and Learning from Domestic Homicides (Dr Hannah Bows), and Image-Based Sexual Abuse (Prof) Clare McGlynn.

**NNE Doctoral Training Partnership**

The ESRC has recommissioned the [Northern Ireland and Northeast England Doctoral Training Partnership \(NINE DTP\)](#), enabling Durham University to bring on five new cohorts of PhD students, beginning in 2024/25. New pathways in Criminology, Policing, & Prisons have been



DR DONNA MARIE BROWN and DR MICHELLE ADDISON  
School of Sociology

[Cumbria](#), a regional partnership working to deliver 'better, fairer health and care at all ages and in all places'. Current research includes [Building and Evidencing Community Asset Partnerships in Housing and Health to Address Health Disparities in Cumbria](#) (Prof Eileen Kaner, Co-I), which will create a virtual directory of the services and options available to those facing homelessness and associated complex needs.

**CRiVA**

The Wolfson Institute also includes [CRiVA, The Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse](#). Current projects include Desist (Prof Nicole Westmarland),

**Responding to Neurodiversity**

Dr Alison Jobe, a Wolfson Institute Fellow, has significantly developed work that she began with N8 PRP-funded project on CJS responses to people with learning disabilities in cases of sexual assault/rape. With funding from the ESRC, IAA and Research England she has delivered the participatory research project [Supporting victims of gender-based violence with learning disabilities and/or autism](#), participants have co-created the film *Us Too: Alisha's Story*, a theatre-based training course (delivered to police officers and practitioners in Durham); and a series of visual resources.

confirmed. We are exploring opportunities for partnership and co-supervision with Durham and Cleveland Constabularies.

**New Collaborations**

Durham University has strong links with other regional universities, with Co-Is on [Equivalence in Custody Healthcare](#) and the newly announced ESRC consortia, [The impact of Covid-19 measures on Criminal Exploitation and Serious Violence \(CESV\) in vulnerable communities, Newcastle-upon-Tyne](#). Durham University also co-hosts the North East Policing Research Network, outlined in further detail on p.24-25.





## UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PROFESSOR GEOFF PEARSON

School of Law

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER'S involvement in policing research spans diverse themes, methods, disciplines, and faculties. From sociology to computer science, psychology to pharmacology, Manchester draws together natural, clinical, and social sciences with the aim of affecting positive change in policing, in line with the University's ethos of social responsibility.

Working with the College of Policing, NPCC, and IOPC, the Law Department has delivered national policy reform on public order policing, human rights, police complaints, and vehicle traffic stops. The Criminology department has world-leading expertise on to White-Collar Crime, Honour-Based Abuse, Human Trafficking, and public health approaches to drugs policing policy, and will host a major conference on Policing Drugs in July 2024.

A cross-departmental collaboration between criminology, computer science and psychology has recently developed research on emerging technologies and child sexual exploitation.

Since 2020 Manchester has led N8PRP's operation, hosting the Academic Director, Prof Geoff Pearson, NRiPN Director, Dr Eon Kim, and Project Manager, Helen Gordon-Smith. It has secured N8PRP Small Grants on areas as diverse as VAWG, recidivism of sexual offenders, policing demand during Covid-19, and football policing.

### RESEARCH CENTRES

[THE CENTRE ON THE DYNAMICS OF ETHNICITY \(CODE\)](#) examines the disproportionality of policing upon ethnic minority communities.

[code@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:code@manchester.ac.uk)

[THE CENTRE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SAFER CUSTODY](#) draws together expertise from forensic psychology and psychiatry to investigate mental health needs, s.136 detention, and street triage.

[roger.webb@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:roger.webb@manchester.ac.uk)

[THE CENTRE FOR DIGITAL TRUST AND SECURITY](#) focuses on cyber-crime and cyber-victimisation

[dtscentre@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:dtscentre@manchester.ac.uk)



Deansgate, Manchester  
Joe Cleary

## GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

ANNABEL STRAW  
Strategy & Policy Officer

### Tacking Violence Against Women and Girls

GMP are supporting the delivery of 2 N8 PRP Small Grants in 2023.

*Harrasment of Female Runners* will provide insight on the scale of the problem and recommendations for prevention.

*Risk and Recidivism* examines sexual offending patterns of registered sexual offenders (RSO) to understand risk and recidivism among online and contact offenders.

Locally, the cohort of RSOs is large and increasing. Identifying and managing individuals appropriately will improve resource allocation, risk management and prioritisation. This will reduce recidivism, support rehabilitation, and cut overall costs, potentially at a national level.

***GMP's drive to become a more evidence-based organisation has been enhanced by our involvement in the N8 Policing Research Partnership.***

**GREATER MANCHESTER Police's (GMP) drive to become a more evidence-based organisation has been enhanced by our involvement in the N8 Policing Research Partnership. It is one of several academic collaborations that provide GMP with insights, research and recommendations to provide a better service to our communities.**

### The Value of Knowledge Exchange

N8 PRP events, including the annual innovation forum, have provided excellent networking opportunities for GMP staff and have led to a number of other collaborations, particularly with our local N8 HEI, the University of Manchester.

Current research includes a project on the increased demand for police in managing vulnerability, focused on mental health and missing persons. Discussions are ongoing with Lancaster University to develop an investigation into deep fake technology.

Finally, we were delighted that the N8 PRP academic director, Professor Geoff Pearson, joined the judging panel for our inaugural force problem solving awards, which he attended alongside the Chief Constable in June 2023.



**Sheffield University Policing Research Group (SUPRG)**

Dr Xavier L'Hoiry and Dr Lindsey Rice are joint Chairs of SUPRG, which brings together University of Sheffield academics with practitioners from SYP, South Yorkshire OPCC and other statutory agencies and charities in the region.

The SUPRG mailing list has grown significantly in the past year. As well as a quarterly newsletter, recipients are invited to in-person lunchtime seminars.

In 2023 SUPRG hosted 2 lunchtime seminars. Dr Joe Purshouse presented his work on *policing and regulatory responses to 'paedophile hunter' groups* and Dr Jesse Matheson presented his work on the impact of support services for victims of domestic abuse.

**SYP Evidence Based Policing Group (EBPG)**

The SYP Evidence Based Policing Group (EBPG) invites academics from Sheffield to discuss the application of police and academic data in practical settings. Recently, Prof Joanna Shapland provided a review on violence and retail premises to senior SYP officers.

**Drugs Policing**

Dr Matthew Bacon and Dr Xavier L'Hoiry's N8 PRP Small Grant on policing drug markets is being conducted in partnership with South Yorkshire Police (SYP) and enjoys support from the College of Policing and National Police Chief's Council (NPCC). The research team includes 4 SYP analysts who have also enrolled part time on the University's MA International Criminology.

**Police Interviews**

Professor Layla Skinns has commenced work on a COST project *Establishing Networks to Implement the Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations*, an international network for the implementation of the 'Mendez Principles'. These offer an ethical approach to police interviews which aim to obtain detailed and reliable information, while respecting human rights.

**National Custody Forum**

In September 2023, Prof Skinns and the NPCC lead for police custody co-hosted the annual *National Custody Forum*, attended by representatives from nearly all police forces in the UK alongside national level police stakeholders.

*POLICING RESEARCH AT the University of Sheffield is concentrated in the Centre for Criminological Research in the School of Law, with further work in Sociological Studies, the Management School, the Sheffield Methods Institute and the School of Allied Health Professions, Nursing and Midwifery.*

**Key Research Themes**

*Policing and Restorative Justice*

*Police Custody*

*Drugs Policing*

*Policing Organised Crime*

**University of Sheffield**

DR ADAM WHITE  
School of Law

Winnats Pass, Sheffield  
Ali Gooya



**South Yorkshire Police**

ROSS GREENWOOD, Strategic Delivery Unit

A NUMBER OF N8 PRP events have led to increased knowledge in SYP with an increasing amount of thematic lead owners becoming engaged in projects via the SPOC. Examples include domestic abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic and more recently a project covering drug harm.

N8 PRP has brought the organisation closer to partners, particularly local academic institutions and has led to contacts in various areas attending the forces own evidence based policing board.

Within the board, our thematic leads in force ask questions of academics to assist in improving our response to policing challenges; we also offer some insight on topical issues we are dealing with and this will often generate healthy discussion.

The relationship between SYP and Sheffield University has continued to grow during the partnership, and a regular collaboration now also takes place each semester in the form of an EBP working lunch; organised by the SUPRG group.





## NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

Dave Barf, Inspector, Partnership Hub

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE continue to value their continuing collaboration with N8 PRP. Over the last twelve months the partnership has provided opportunity to meet both in person and virtually to discuss the issues impacting on policing locally as well as nationally and review opportunities to put into place research to augment understanding to prepare and present evidence-based research solutions to mitigate real life issues. Particularly around drug enforcement

we welcomed the chance to link in with the research being conducted in South Yorkshire around this area. The networking offered by N8 PRP means that when questions arise there are opportunities to speak with identified colleagues from other forces as well as recognised academics to explore existing research or the potential for future work to ensure that policing moves onto a truly evidence-based footing in line with other areas of professional activity. The collaboration also allows us to refer

*The N8 PRP network means when questions arise there are opportunities to speak with identified colleagues from other forces as well as recognised academics.*

appropriate specialists within our force to N8 prepared and organised learning events which in turn assists in creating valuable specialist networks and increases understanding of regional and national issues along with allowing consideration of potential bids for future research projects.

## UNIVERSITY OF YORK

DR GEOFF PAGE  
School for Business and Society

### Criminality in the Private Sector

### ESRC Vulnerability and Policing Futures Research Centre

Policing research in the University of York has expanded greatly in the last couple of years, with the development (and joint leadership, with the University of Leeds) of the *ESRC Vulnerability and Policing Futures Research Centre*. In 2023, the Centre moved into dedicated offices. The Centre is co-directed by Professor Adam Crawford and Professor Charlie Lloyd, with Dr Kate Brown as the deputy director for York. The Centre has multidisciplinary partners in 38 organisations. The Centre currently runs 14 research projects exploring several key aspects of policing and vulnerability.

2023 has also seen the launch of *Understanding Criminality in the Private Sector and Co-Producing Solutions*, an £800,000 ESRC project seeking to assess, define, and coproduce strategies to prevent criminality in private housing. The project is led by Dr Julie Rugg of York's *Centre for Housing Policy* and is highly interdisciplinary. Three N8 PRP forces in Yorkshire are supporting the project, with a major regional housing provider acting as a co-Investigator.

Fieldwork is already underway to interview key stakeholders, criminal landlords, and the victims of landlord-related crime; with analysis of courts and tribunal data providing a fourth work package.

### Forensic Speech Science

York has a highly active research portfolio in Forensic Speech Science in Linguistics. Projects include Person-specific *Automatic Speaker Recognition: understanding the behaviour of individual speakers for applications of ASR* (Dr Vincent Hughes), *Trust in Forensic Science Evidence in the Criminal Justice System: The Experience of Marginalised Groups* (Dr Vincent Hughes); *Anatomy, Acoustics, and the Individual: Investigating Inter-Speaker Vocal Tract Variation for Forensic Speaker Comparison* (Dr Amelia Gull), and *How to Deal with Voice Quality in Forensic Phonetics: A Feasibility Study Towards a Simplified Perceptual Protocol* (Dr Eugenia San Segundo Fernandez).





**POLICING  
RESEARCH  
PARTNERSHIP**

**N8 Policing  
Research Partnership  
Annual Report 2023**