



POLICING
RESEARCH
PARTNERSHIP

POLICING INNOVATION FORUM 2022

VAWG in Public Places

21 June | Radisson Blu, Durham

programme



Welcome



Welcome to the sixth N8 PRP Policing Innovation Forum, 'VAWG in Public Places'.

VAWG and policing is an emotive and high-profile issue. Police practitioners, policy-makers and researchers are wrestling with what effective policing looks like for behaviour with deep roots in our society and culture.

How do we think about the harms of public sexual harassment? How should police respond to the harassment and abuse of women and girls in public places? What does justice look like from victims' perspective? How are police and researchers innovating in this area?

The Policing Innovation Forum is an excellent opportunity to address these questions with people who can make real changes people's everyday lives and influence the wider conversation. The Forum brings together researchers, police, and stakeholders to share knowledge and experience, increase understanding of current thought and practice, and find opportunities for collaboration.

This year, we've brought together major campaigns, influential research, and innovative projects. We also have an early career poster exhibition and support from publishers Bristol University Press and Palgrave Macmillan who have both generously offered delegates 20% off their Criminology and Criminal Justice Lists.

Academic and campaigner, keynote speaker Dr Fiona Vera-Gray, will begin the day by reflecting on how we think about the harms of VAWG.

Professor Westmarland will then host a panel discussion with with the people behind high-profile campaigns Enough (Olivia Fox and Ben Morse, Home Office), That Guy (Adrian Searle, Police Scotland) and #IsThisOk? (Sarah Keaveny, Greater Manchester Combined Authority).

During the morning coffee break and at lunch, please take the opportunity to look round the ECR poster exhibition and visit the Palgrave Macmillan stand to take advantage of their 20% discount offer.

Palgrave and Bristol University Press have both kindly donated 3 books a piece as a prize for the best poster in the exhibition, to be judged by our keynote speakers.

Welcome

The afternoon will start with a second keynote from Dr Bianca Fileborn, giving an Australian perspective on how we can achieve victim-centred justice, followed by 'Risky Places' - A New Interventions Showcase, a session of group discussions with leads from innovative projects working to address VAWG on transport, in parks, in schools, and in the night-time economy. Delegates are invited to share the knowledge and experience at the table discussions, and consider the identification of 'risky places'. Some of the projects are actively seeking new research partners, so this is a great opportunity to start collaborating.

Ideas and Actions

Along with the printed schedule, and at the back of this programme, there is a hand-out titled 'Ideas and Actions'.

Throughout the day, we invite you think about the big ideas you'll take from the event, and what actions you'll be taking in light of what you've heard - whether that's following up on a research collaboration opportunity, implementing a new approach to assessing harm, advocating for policy changes to promote victim-centred justice, or anything else.

An evaluation will be sent to all delegates and is linked at the end of this programme; we'd love to hear what 'Ideas and Actions' you took away, and to support you to achieve them - just ask your local N8 PRP lead; details are available at: <https://www.n8prp.org.uk/home/about/people/>

We hope you enjoy the day, and find it valuable in our shared work to make our public places free of violence against women and girls.

*Professor Nicole Westmarland, Durham University
Chief Supt. Ngaire Waine, Merseyside Police*

Ngaire Waine is Chief Superintendent with responsibility of VAWG at Merseyside Police, and Co-Director of N8 PRP, has held a number of challenging senior roles including three as temporary Assistant Chief Constable. A commitment to demonstrating exceptional leadership and delivering innovation has underpinned her career, and she has been recognised for implementing several significant change projects that she has both planned and embedded within Merseyside Police. She has also been a peer inspector for Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and the College of Policing and Chair of the Superintendents' Association for the North of England, equipping her with a knowledge of other forces, a network of contacts and an understanding of the challenges for policing beyond her own force.

Nicole Westmarland is Director of Research in the Department of Sociology, Durham University, and Director of the Durham Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse (CRiVA). Prof Westmarland's research investigates male violence against women, and she is particularly known for her work on rape, domestic violence and prostitution, which has underpinned a number of policy changes. Academic advisor and consultancy positions have included Special Advisor to the Joint Committee on Human Rights for their Inquiry into Violence against Women and Girls (2014-15) and the Association of Chief Police Officers (2012-15), Special Advisor to the Government's Victims of Violence and Abuse Prevention Project, and the voluntary position of Chair of Rape Crisis (England and Wales). Prof Westmarland's research has directly underpinned two major government policy reform processes - HM Government Stern Review into Rape, and the Home Office Coordinated Prostitution Strategy.

Schedule

MORNING

10:00 Registration

10:30 **Welcome**

Ngaire Waine and Nicole Westmarland

10:40 **The Right Amount of Panic**

Keynote, Fiona Vera Gray

11:25 **Coffee and Networking**

11:45 **Behind the Scenes of Anti-Harassment Campaigns**

Panel, Nicole Westmarland, Adrian Searle, Sarah Keavany, Olivia Fox, Ben Morse

12:45 **Lunch**

AFTERNOON

13:45 **Achieving Justice on Street Harassment:
Victim-Centred Perspectives**

Keynote, Bianca Fileborn

14:15 **'Risky Places' - A New Interventions Showcase**

Deborah Alderson and Project Discussion Leads

15:15 **Wrap-Up**



The Right Amount of Panic

How traditional safety advice harms women

Dr Fiona Vera-Gray

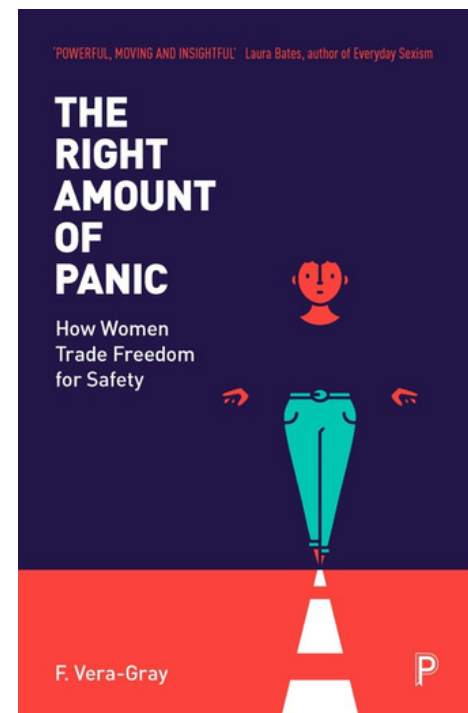
The last few years have seen heightened awareness of the range and extent of violence against women and girls in public spaces. The murders of sisters Nicola Smallman and Bibaa Henry by a 19-year-old male stranger in a London park, the high-profile rape, and murder of Sarah Everard abducted from public space by a serving Met officer, and the murder of Sabina Nessa by a man who drove over an hour and half to wait in public space for a woman to kill, have driven a focus on understanding what works to prevent men's violence against women. They have also brought to the fore the problems with traditional forms of safety advice which not only aren't working to keep women safe but are actively producing harm.

From women in Clapham being further directed to stay indoors during a period of national lockdown, to the suggestion that women should "wave down a bus" if they don't trust a male police officer, women responded with outrage at seemingly common-sense guidance intended to help them stay safe. What changes when we think of traditional safety advice as playing a part in *producing* rather than *reducing* the harms of violence against women and girls? Does it help us identify what needs to change? Does it tell us something useful about the possibilities for prevention?

Dr Fiona Vera-Gray, Assistant Professor London Metropolitan University, author of 'The Right Amount of Panic', 2018, is an activist and campaigner working on violence against women and girls with practice-based background in the specialist sexual violence sector.

Her academic work draws together philosophy with empirical research on violence against women and girls. Recent work includes investigating women's lived experience of mainstream online pornography.

A regular media commentator on sexual violence and harassment, Dr Vera-Gray has been an expert advisor to the Women and Equalities Committee Inquiry into Public Sexual Harassment and to the Department for Education in the development of the new RSHE curriculum. She is particularly interested in feminist methodologies and ways of disseminating research beyond the academy including through creative means such as theatre.



Behind the Scenes

Anti-Street Harassment Campaigns

Chaired by Professor Nicole Westmarland

This session will feature presentations from the people behind three high-profile anti-street harassment campaigns, discussing how they were put together, what they've achieved, and what's next, before opening up for discussion.

featured campaigns

The logo for the 'ENOUGH.' campaign, featuring the word 'ENOUGH.' in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a period, set against a white rectangular background which is itself centered within a larger black rectangular frame.

Olivia Fox and Ben Morse, Home Office

Enough is the government's multi-year behaviour change campaign aimed at tackling violence against women and girls. Launched in March 2022, the Enough campaign aims to bring about real and lasting behaviour change by targeting and challenging the harmful behaviours that exist within wider society, educating young people about healthy relationships and consent, and ensuring victims can recognise abuse and receive support. The campaign so far has included national TV, radio and social media advertising, as well as a campaign website and partnerships with national organisations.

Ben Morse leads the Home Office's campaign to tackle violence against women and girls. This covers the launch of the Enough campaign in March 2022. Ben has worked at the Home Office for more than five years leading on campaigns on child abuse and serious organised crime. Previously Ben worked as a TV producer.

Olivia Fox is a senior campaign manager working on anti-VAWG campaigns at the Home Office. This covers leading on the website and partnerships for the Enough campaign. Olivia has worked at the Home Office for nearly two years, previously working in a cross-section of roles the private sector including roles at Tesco and a tech start-up.

GREATER MANCHESTER

DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

Sarah Keaveny, GMCA

In December 2021, the Mayor of Greater Manchester launched the first phase of a major gender-based violence campaign aimed at men and boys. A video, developed with charities and women's groups, highlighted the everyday harassment experienced by women and girls and asked **'Is This OK?'** The video has received more than 5.2 million views, endorsement from influencers for both male and female audiences, and international recognition.

Sarah Keaveny is the Head of Communications at Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA.), where she led on the development and production of the #IsThisOk? campaign. Sarah oversees the Communications and Digital teams within GMCA and manages the delivery of communications, campaigns, branding and marketing activity for Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) and the Greater Manchester Police and Crime Commissioner. Sarah has significant experience in blue light crisis communications, and was previously a Senior Reporter working on a daily newspaper in North West England.

THAT GUY

Adrian Searle, Police Scotland

Police Scotland's That Guy sexual entitlement campaign seeks to rebalance the VAWG narrative by placing greater responsibility for ending sexual violence on men. It challenges the established belief that the most important messages for boys and men relate to understanding consent. Launched in October 2021, That Guy has been one of the most successful UK policing campaigns ever in terms of reach. Between 6-7m people worldwide have watched the campaign film, 28,000 sharing it on their own social feeds. The campaign hashtag was used 33,000 times and 80,000 visited the campaign microsite, viewing 160,000 pages of content. A number of UK and international governments and institutions are changing elements of their approach to VAWG in response to the campaign's messages.

Adrian Searle is Communications Strategy Manager at Police Scotland, where he led the That Guy campaign. His thirty year career has spanned advertising, branding, marketing, journalism, publishing and economic development. Prior to joining Police Scotland in 2017, career roles included creative consultancy, retail photography and arts marketing. He co-founded and ran a multi-award-winning creative agency for 16 years and a publishing company, designated Scottish Publisher of the Year in 2015, for six years. A campaign he led targeting online groomers was awarded a Scottish Policing Excellence Award in 2018. Outside work, Adrian is involved in new woodland creation and forestry.

Achieving Justice on Street Harassment

A Victim-Centred Perspective

Dr Bianca Fileborn

There has been renewed interest in street and public harassment over recent years, with this shift largely driven by local and international activism. This has been accompanied by the introduction of criminal legislative responses to street harassment in some countries, and campaigns calling for the criminal regulation of street harassment in the UK.

Yet, we currently know little about whether those who have experienced street harassment desire this type of response, or whether criminal regulation meets victims' justice needs.

Such questions are vital to consider given the widespread failure of the legal system to function as a site of justice in response to other forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

In this presentation, I draw on findings from in-depth interviews with 47 Australians who have experienced street harassment to consider how they understand the concept of 'justice', and the types of responses they wanted implemented to address street harassment. In contrast to the current emphasis on criminal legal responses, participants emphasised the need for preventative and transformative approaches that fundamentally shift the conditions that enable street harassment to occur in the first place.

These findings provide a vitally important starting point for developing responses to street harassment that are truly victim centred.

Dr Bianca Fileborn, (she/they) is a Senior Lecturer in Criminology and an Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Researcher Award Fellow. Their research is broadly concerned with the intersections of space/place, identity, culture, and sexual violence, and justice responses to sexual violence. She is currently undertaking research on victim-centred justice responses to street harassment; LGBTQ+ people's experiences and perceptions of sexual violence; representations of gender-based violence in music; and safety and violence at Australian music festivals.

They are the author of *Reclaiming the Night-Time Economy: Unwanted Sexual Attention in Pubs and Clubs* (Palgrave), and co-editor of *#MeToo and the politics of social change* (Palgrave) and the forthcoming *Geographies of Gender-Based Violence* (Bristol University Press). You can follow Bianca on Twitter @snappyalligator



'Risky Places'

A New Interventions Showcase

Facilitated by Ch. Supt. Ngaire Waine

Featuring 6 innovative interventions against VAWG in various public places, in this session delegates will circulate and discuss ongoing and recently completed projects with the project leads, with the opportunity to:

- Learn about innovative, practice-led work
- Discuss the development of 'Problem Profiles', especially methods for identifying risky places, and effective interventions
- Establish connections that will enable future partnerships, both across and between police and researchers, and with other stakeholders.

Featured projects

Safer Parks

Collaborative research on what makes parks feel safe.

Choices

school intervention developing children's understanding of choices.

Safer Transport Northumbria

multi-agency project and app for transport users.

NTE v. At-Home Drinking

How can we reduce the incidence and severity of alcohol-related VAWG?

Durham SWAN

Safety Hubs with local community groups for Durham City NTE.

Knowsely SWAN

Preventative measures for a growing NTE.

'Risky Places'

Safer Parks for Women and Girls

West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Policing and Crime) and University of Leeds

A collaborative research project developing the evidence base around what women and girls perceive to make parks feel safe and unsafe to visit, and what might make parks feel safer and more welcoming places. The fieldwork concluded at the end of March 2022, and included 60 interviews with women, 10 focus groups with teenage girls and 25 interviews with parks, landscape architects, and policing professionals. Results will be reported summer 2022.

Discussion Lead

Dr Anna Barker is an Associate Professor in Criminal Justice and Criminology at the Centre for Criminal Justice Studies, School of Law, University of Leeds. Her research explores the governance, regulation and policing of public spaces, notably urban parks, with a focus on perceptions of (in)security and fear of crime. She is currently leading Safer Parks for Women and Girls, a project on women and girls' feelings of safety in parks, in collaboration with West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Her areas of teaching include policing, criminal justice processes and criminal justice theory. Twitter: @Barker1Anna

Choices

Thames Valley OPCC, Slough Borough Council, VAWG Multi Agency Delivery Group, Air Saath, Chalvey Community Partnership, Lime Intervention Design

Slough has a higher than average rate of violent and sexual crimes. In schools, many young women report regular exposure to toxic views around gender and sexual harassment. Young people told us that education is critical to combat these problematic beliefs and that such education needs to start as early as possible.

Choices, a universally-delivered school-based intervention, supports young people in primary and secondary education settings to become more sophisticated decision-makers whose judgments lead them away from harm. It enables the development of a counter-narrative to toxic views around gender by helping them develop and embed strategies that can later be 'dialled-up' in real-life scenarios where they encounter problematic behaviour or challenging situations.

Discussion Lead

Mark Ashfield is the founder and CEO of Lime, a purpose-led strategic discovery, design and development lab with a mission to improve the world in which we live. Lime combines evidence-informed design and behavioural insight with engaging technologies to craft solutions and interventions that change behaviour. Mark and his team have spent the last decade working with police services and public sector agencies to solve complex problems impacting young people. They've persuaded teenagers in Birmingham to reject violence, young people in London to resist the lure of gangs, and they're currently working with schools in Slough to help build a counter-narrative to toxic views about gender.

Safer Transport Northumbria

Northumbria OPCC, Rape Crisis Northumberland and Tyneside, Northumbria Police, and travel operators Nexus, Go North East, Arriva, Stagecoach North East

Safer Transport Northumbria is a multi-agency project aimed at making public transport safer and feel safer, particularly for women and girls, across Northumberland and Tyne and Wear. Led by the PCC, the project launched in December 2021, with a number of interventions including an app that makes it easy for anyone travelling anywhere in the region to report crimes, incidents, or behaviours that make transport users feel unsafe, to get the right help and support, and to access travel information. The project seeks to make it everyone's responsibility to make it the 'end of the line' for unwanted sexual behaviour.

Discussion Leads

Tracy McCann is the Commissioning and Policy Manager at the Northumbria Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Tracy worked as an Environmental Health Officer and ASB Specialist before moving to Northumbria OPCC's VRU in 2019. She now manages a Team who commission over £3m of victim services. Passionate about the safety of women and girls, they recently secured £1.2m to improve women and girls' safety in public spaces and transport.

Abbi Buchanan is Safer Transport Northumbria Lead at Northumbria OPCC. Abbi initially worked with offenders and became an ISVA, then a crisis worker in the SARC, before becoming Regional SARC service manager. Abbi joined Northumbria OPCC in February 2022 as the Safer Transport Northumbria Lead, leading a multi-agency team dedicated improving the safety of public transport for women and girls.

Knowsley SWAN: Preventative Measures

Using the knowledge and experience of a small project team, we identified that although Knowsley doesn't have a significant issue of VAWG of an evening, we have a burgeoning night-time economy within our three main town centres. The project sought to develop proactive practice across businesses and communities to the issue of VAWG and the safety of women at night.

The project ran from November-April; measures included commissioning specialist night-time economy training provider for businesses, street art in the three town centres, school interventions, and fortnightly awareness events in each town centre handing out safety packs (key messages, support, alarms, and torches).

Discussion Lead

Tommy Dunn is the Principal Community Safety Officer for Communities at Knowsley Council. He has worked in Knowsley since 2002 in a variety of roles, and these have mainly been community focussed. Tommy strives to work with positive and proactive community-focused individuals for the benefit of local people.

NTE vs. At-Home Drinking

University of Liverpool, Institute of Alcohol Studies, ONS, Home Office

Alcohol is a compounding factor increasing the occurrence and the severity of VAWG, but policing has tended to focus on the NTE, rather than the home, as a site of alcohol-related violence. Understanding the consequences of this approach is complicated by the difficulty of isolating the effects of off-license sales.

Funded by the British Academy, this research used the quasi-natural experimental conditions of the recent pandemic to examine the contribution of off-trade alcohol availability to violence and gendered patterns in victimisation, to ask how we can meaningfully stem the flow of alcohol into homes and the NTE as a means of reducing the incidence and severity of alcohol-related VAWG, and how we can make use of police data to analyse and evidence these approaches.

Discussion Lead

Dr Carly Lightowlers is a Senior Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Liverpool. Her research makes use of administrative and secondary data sources with which to study alcohol-related violence, the processing of such cases through the courts, and the unequal distribution of such harm. She has also conducted research into violence more broadly (for example, on the 2011 English 'riots') and is part of an ongoing ESRC funded research project analysing the characteristics of victims and perpetrators of Modern Slavery offences.

Durham SWAN: 'Step In'

Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, Show Sec Security, City Safe Medics, Durham Parish Council, St Nicholas Church

The 'Step In' Safety of Women at Night Hub operates in Durham City between 20:00 and 03:00 on days when the licensed economy is at its most vibrant and those using the city are at their most vulnerable. It responds to community concerns regarding a lack of guardianship in the area.

It has been in operation since February 2022 and is led by Durham County Council and Durham Police. It is a safe space in the heart of the licensed economy where people know they will receive assistance from professionals and volunteers. Services include mobile phone charging; hot and cold drink; safe toilets; access to police, paramedics and safe transport services; and counselling advice.

Discussion Lead

Siobhán Jones is a Chief Inspector at Durham Constabulary. Siobhán has worked in a range of specialisms in policing including Response, Crime, Neighbourhoods and Public Order. From 2018 and 2021, she led the Cohesion Unit and Licensed Economy Team, and in April 2021, led the work on the Call It Out survey which sought to understand feelings of safety amongst women and girls in County Durham and Darlington; experiences of unwanted sexual behaviour; experiences of reporting these to police and what respondents felt could be done to address the issues. Siobhán worked with partners to develop funding bids to deliver interventions in the licensed economy to deliver some of the survey suggestions.

Delegate Offers

P Policy Press



BRISTOL
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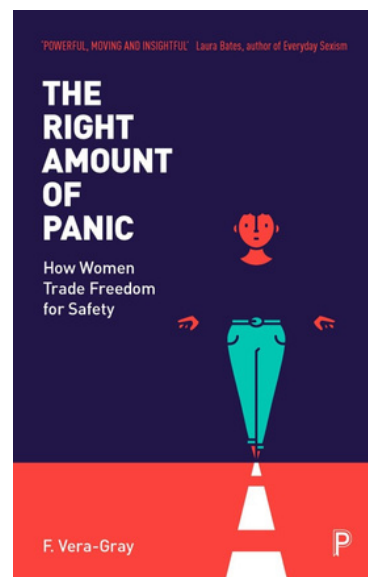
All titles in the **Criminology and Criminal Justice & Policing** list, including publications from Forum co-chair Professor Nicole Westmarland, are available to delegates at **20% off** using code **N8PRP22** at checkout.

<https://bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/criminology>

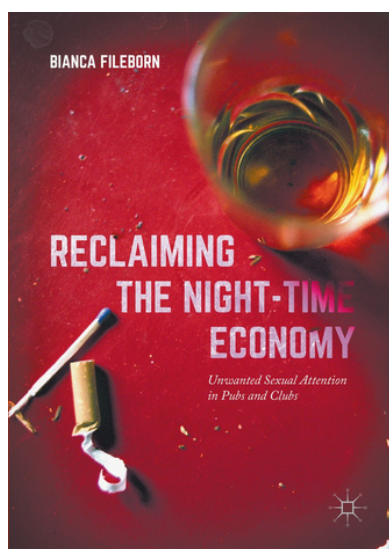
<https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/criminal-justice-and-policing>

The Right Amount of Panic, by keynote speaker Dr Fiona Vera-Gray, is available to delegates at **50% off** using code **FVG22** at checkout.

<https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/the-right-amount-of-panic>



Discount applies to individual orders until 30/06/2022.



palgrave
macmillan

20%
Book
Discount

A wide variety of titles including keynote speaker Dr Bianca Fileborn's *Reclaiming the Night-Time Economy* and *#MeToo and Social Change* are available to delegates at a **20% discount** - please visit the Palgrave bookstand in the Welcome area.

Ideas & Actions...



#N8VAWG

Ideas & Actions...



#N8VAWG

Thank you!

evaluation

Thank you for attending the N8 PRP Policing Innovation Forum 22, 'VAWG in Public Places'. Please complete the evaluation form linked below; it's 6 very quick questions and your feedback will help us to improve future events.

Feedback is anonymous, so if you have any questions please contact helen.gordon-smith@manchester.ac.uk

<https://forms.office.com/r/MYUhKpptAp>

