

Welcome to the second edition of **The Evidence Brief**, an opportunity for the Evidence Based Policing Centre to keep you updated with everything happening nationally and internationally in the world of Police Science.

In this edition we interview Jon Stevenson the Manager of the Service Design Team and the New Zealand Police Innovation Lab. You will learn what the Service Design team do to interact better with Our Community and the people they serve. We also find out all about the Evaluation Team, who they are and what the role of the Evaluation Team is.

The Network Leads team recently held a problem solving workshop with one of our partners—the University of Waikato’s Institute for Security and Crime Science. The training focussed on the P and A of the PANDA problem solving model.

The Publications page has really good recently released reports on various topics within New Zealand, however there is also some interesting reading on what is happening internationally.

Finally we have two new projects to show case. First is the LUMI project which is the Drug Scan Tool. This has been co-designed with our partner—Environmental Science and Research (ESR).

The other is the Drager Download Project. This project implemented a national data download solution of Breath Screening Tests (BST).

What’s New?

Global Societies of Evidenced Based Policing Conference 12-13 October

11-12 October UK, US, Canada | 12-13 October Australia, NZ



The inaugural Conference of the Global Collaboration of Evidence Based Policing takes to the virtual stage on Oct 11 – 12 (in UK, US and Canada) and Oct 12 – 13 (in Australia and NZ). This is a fully online live 24 hours of Exceptional Policing the Evidence Based Way – operationally relevant EBP stories and studies coming live, via your desk or phone, wherever you are.

Evidence-Based Policing (EBP) is growing globally, ensuring that policing strategy, operations, and tactics are based on what works, according to evidence and research. Rather than being guided by assumptions, tradition, convention, or subjective impressions, EBP combines the existing skills, knowledge and experience of police with research, crime science, problem-solving and testing.

This inaugural global conference brings together world-leading criminologists, academic thinkers and police professionals to look at the role that evidence, its legitimacy, and our policing leadership have in everyday policing – shaping “exceptional” policing, the evidence-based way.

<https://globalebpconference.com>

Registration for the online conference is free of charge and unlimited for New Zealand Police officers and staff via this link:

<https://cdesign.eventsair.com/2022ebp/agencies-and-jurisdiction-inclusive-registration>

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Edition 2
October 2022

Want the latest research and literature about ‘what works’ in policing?

Visit the EBPC Portal:
Ebp.police.govt.nz

People – EBPC Teams

In each issue we will profile several EBPC teams and team leaders

Data Science
Hamish Hull

Research Insights & Performance
Dr Jess Dent
o Performance
o Research Insights

Director
Simon Williams

Implementation & Evaluation
Inspector Simon Welsh
o CheckPoint
o Evaluation
o Knowledge & Information Services
o Network Leads
o Service Design

Partnership Development
Priya Devendran

Delivery & Improvements
Dr Karen Martyn

Jon Stevenson

Manager Service Design Team and the New Zealand Police Innovation Lab



Jon’s career in Service Design stretches back to 2010 and across the public sector including ACC, Inland Revenue, and MBIE’s Better for Business Programme.

THE SERVICE DESIGN TEAM

The Service Design team conducts human-centred design research that leads to the creation of better interactions between Our People and the communities they serve. “We spend time with frontline officers and communities to understand their lived experience and use those insights to help improve Police’s services.”

The Service Design Team includes a senior Continuous Improvement Advisor who is available if you need help identifying opportunities for streamlining work and reducing duplication or wasted effort. The Innovation Lab is a great creative space for workshoping problems and is available for use by contacting Jon.

Jonathon.Stevenson@police.govt.nz

Evaluation Team

The Evaluation Team are from left to right:

- ▶ Femi Abikanlu – Evaluation Advisor
- ▶ Sarah Czarnomski – Senior Evaluation Advisor
- ▶ Lauren Cloutman – Senior Evaluation Advisor
- ▶ Claire Phipps – Evaluation Advisor (based in Tāmaki Makaurau)
- ▶ Simon Welsh – Manager Implementation and Evaluation
- ▶ Travis Steenekamp (not pictured) - Evaluation Advisor



The Role of the Evaluation Team is to:

- Provide advice and assistance to the wider NZ Police staff (external of EBPC). If high levels of evaluation support is needed, or EBPC is requested to lead an evaluation, direct the staff member to the EBPC tasking and co-ordination group.
- Provide advice and assistance to colleagues within EBPC, particularly Network Leads.
- Liaise with appropriate stakeholders, both internal and external, for our evaluations.
- Create implementation, evaluation and monitoring plans for projects (end to end involvement/support).
- Publish findings internally or externally - in appropriate journals, magazines, and media.



Any questions?
Connect with the EBPC Team via EBP@police.govt.nz

People

Profiles of EBPC people and the work they do to support *Our Business*

Local Problem Solving in Action

In partnership with the University of Waikato’s Institute for Security and Crime Science, the EBP Network Leads hosted six districts in August to participate in problem solving workshops and learn more about Crime Science. Participants from Northland, Tamaki Makaurau, Waikato and Bay of Plenty Districts included Iwi Liaison, PST and Intelligence supervisors and Area Prevention Managers.

Assistant Commissioner Bruce O’Brien opened the course, and Dr Lisa Tompson led the training delivery over the three days teaching the key principles of problem solving, recognising the potential for bias and lessons learned from 40 years of problem-orientated policing.

Lisa has a wealth of experience in problem solving having worked at the Jill Dando Institute for Security

and Crime Science for 15 years prior to moving to NZ last year.

Each District brought a problem that they were then able to utilise and apply the learnings from Lisa in order to conduct a problem scan, asking relevant questions in the analysis phase to better understand the problem and identify any knowledge gaps.

The training focussed on the (P and A), of the PANDA (Problem - Analyse - Nominate - Deploy - Assess) problem solving model, and Professor Richard Wortley, Dr April Simpson and the Network Leads were on hand to workshop the District problems with the participants.

A good few days of learning and camaraderie was had by all, and to quote Prof Jerry Ratcliffe (author of Reducing Crime), “the future of Policing is harm-focused, intelligence-led, problem orientated, and evidence-based”.



Meet the Team...

Waikato



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Any questions?
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Publications

Recently released EBPC reports

Custody Messaging Evaluation: Hawke’s Bay Custody Unit

Steve Elers & Caitlin Spence

Wellington: Evidence Based Policing Centre / Behavioural Science Aotearoa

The custody messaging initiative was developed to reduce the rates of people who fail to appear (FTA) in court after they are released from Police custody on bail. FTA results in negative impacts for individuals and whānau and creating significant costs for the justice system. FTA is a particular problem in the Eastern Police District, with 20 percent of people scheduled to appear in Hastings District or Youth Court failing to appear at their first court appearance, compared to nine percent nationally. Custody messaging was identified as a timely and easy to deliver intervention to address FTA. Messages were installed in 11 cells in Hawke’s Bay Custody Unit by May 2021. The message design was informed by interviews with people in custody, behavioural insights and considerations of te ao Māori. To increase engagement, the messages also included a blackboard space where people in custody could write or draw. In order to evaluate the impact of the custody messaging in cells, this research aimed to: Determine whether participants see, read and understand the custody messages; Understand participants’ impressions of the custody messages; Understand whether custody messages increase motivation to attend court; Understand participants’ perspectives on the use of Māori concepts in custody cells; Understand participants’ connection to their iwi and marae, and their openness to being supported by their iwi, and; Understand insights into the problem of FTA in court.

Exploring Differences between “Methamphetamine” and Other Offenders

Ryan Jones

Wellington: Evidence Based Policing Centre, 2022

The Methamphetamine in New Zealand Research Programme was established by Police in February 2020 in response to, and with the need to evidence the significant harm caused by methamphetamine. The research is supported and guided by a Steering Group with representatives from government agencies, non-government organisations (including the New Zealand Drug Foundation), universities and Iwi (Tūhoe) who have influence over, and/or a substantial interest in methamphetamine harm reduction. Tranche 3 of this programme uses Police data to examine the relationship between methamphetamine and other offending. The first part of this research compares the offending rates of a cohort of offenders with at least one recorded methamphetamine offence between 2010-2021, with a comparison cohort of offenders with no recorded methamphetamine offences. *Continue reading on Page 5...*

International Literature

[Evidence-based policing and police receptivity to research: Evidence from Taiwan](#)

[Evidence-Based Policing Is Here to Stay: Innovative Research, Meaningful Practice, and Global Reach](#)

[Expressing uncertainty in criminology: Applying insights from scientific communication to evidence-based policing](#)

[“Test-As-You-Go” for Hot Spots Policing: Continuous Impact Assessment with Repeat Crossover Designs](#)

[Criminology for the Police](#)



Also just released...

Minimising the harms from methamphetamine

Philippa Yasbeck, Kali Mercier, Hinemoa Elder, Rose Crossin, Michael Baker

Wellington: The Helen Clark Foundation/New Zealand Drug Foundation, 2022

Harmful methamphetamine use has become a serious and intractable health issue in Aotearoa New Zealand over the past 20 years, and it is the country’s most feared and stigmatised substance. While Aotearoa New Zealand has turned increasingly towards a health-based approach to drug use over the past several years, until now no comprehensive analysis has been undertaken about what that might look like in the context of methamphetamine use. This paper aims to address that, and to start a conversation about how we can move beyond a status quo that is failing to address the harms experienced in our communities from methamphetamine use. The paper begins by providing an overview of how methamphetamine is used, by whom and why, how big the market is, what the harms are that it causes, and how it is currently regulated. We then recommend how we can reduce those harms by better implementing what the evidence tells us about how to lower demand and support people better using a mix of psychosocial, cultural, and pharmacological approaches.

Wellington Mental Health Co-Response Team Evaluation: Police, ambulance and mental health services co-attending 111 mental health calls

Susanna Every-Palmer, Silke Kuehl, Alice Kim

Dunedin: University of Otago/Evidence-Based Policing Centre, 2022

Improving the outcomes for people who are experiencing mental distress is a strategic priority for the New Zealand Police and for health services. This includes managing the demand and risk associated with mental health-related callouts; working in partnership to provide a better service to people in mental health crises; and improving outcomes for these people. In light of these objectives, an innovative mental health co-response team (CRT) was piloted in the Wellington region between March 2020 to March 2021. The pilot involved staff from mental health services (MHAIDS 3DHB), Wellington Free Ambulance (WFA) and the Wellington District Police being jointly deployed to respond to mental health calls for service made by or about someone requiring help in a mental health crisis. The CRT provides a person-centric, wrap-around response for the provision of in-situ mental health assessments and therapeutic care in a home or community setting rather than the person being transported to an emergency department (ED) or police station for mental health triaging. This report details an evaluation of the pilot undertaken by the University of Otago Department of Psychological Medicine. The evaluation found that the CRT had a range of positive benefits for service users and their whānau including: reduced attendance to emergency departments; more responsive, specialist assessment and treatment provided at home or in the community; improved connections and referral pathways; earlier intervention to prevent escalation; reduced stigma and trauma; and a trend indicating a reduction of the use of coercive powers.

Want to collaborate with the EBPC?

Priya Devendran, Partnerships Manager
would love to hear from you!
priya.devendran@police.govt.nz



Any questions?
Connect with the EBPC Team via EBP@police.govt.nz

Publications

Recently released EBPC reports

[Exploring Differences between "Methamphetamine" and Other Offenders](#)

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Overall aim of Tranche 3

The aim of Tranche 3 of the Methamphetamine in New Zealand Research Programme is to explore available police data sources to determine how methamphetamine is associated with crime and non-crime related demand and activities.

Tranche 3 is split into three separate reports which build upon each other. To date, two of the reports have been completed.

First Report

The aim of the first report was to conduct exploratory analyses on a dataset of individuals with, and without, methamphetamine offences to identify whether there were any differences between a sample of individuals with recorded methamphetamine offences and a sample of other offenders in the volume and harm of offending, victimisation, and incidents involved.

The data set used in the first report comprised of a sample of individuals with recorded methamphetamine offences, and a randomly selected and stratified sample of individuals without recorded methamphetamine offences.

Offenders with methamphetamine offences committed more offences, caused more crime harm, and experienced more victimisations and crime harm than other offenders both in total and per crime type. The differences between the methamphetamine and comparison groups in each district were similar indicating that national pattern is reflective of the pattern in each district.

For methamphetamine illicit drug offences, dealing or trafficking, manufacturing, and importing or exporting had low volume which accounted for a high amount of crime harm. Conversely, possessing or using methamphetamine, and other methamphetamine offences (e.g., possessing utensils) contributed disproportionately less crime harm compared to the volume of offences (i.e., high volume and low amount of crime harm).

A third of the thefts committed by the "methamphetamine group" involved theft from retail premises (i.e., shoplifting), and a further fifth was theft (excluding vehicles) which was predominantly comprised of theft under \$500. However, these two offence types combined only accounted for a little over a third of the crime harm caused by thefts whereas illegal use of a vehicle accounted for the most crime harm (29%).

The "methamphetamine group" were involved in more non-crime incidents than other offenders: specifically, the "methamphetamine group" were involved in more breaches of bail, whilst the "comparison group" were involved in more domestic disputes, and vehicle collisions.

Report 2

The purpose of this research stage was to investigate patterns of offending and victimisation within a cohort of individuals who have recorded methamphetamine offences. Therefore, the second report did not use the comparison group, and focused on the methamphetamine cohort.

Latent profile analysis was implemented to differentiate subgroups of offenders within the methamphetamine cohort who share similar patterns of offending or involvement with non-crime incidents. The latent profile analysis found that there are five distinct subgroups of methamphetamine offenders within the cohort based on their number of offences perpetrated and incidents involved in. Whilst there was a degree of generalised offending and incident involvement for all of the subgroups, there was some degree of specialisation.

- The first subgroup included 326 individuals who specialised primarily in dealing drug offences especially for methamphetamine,
- The second subgroup were 239 individuals who were characterised by a high volume of non-crime incidents especially mental health and family harm,
- The third subgroup was the largest with 23,463 individuals. This subgroup was characterised by a more generalised offending and incident pattern,
- The fourth subgroup was the second largest group with 4,398 individuals. This subgroup was also characterised by generalised offending, however, there was a degree of specialisation with acquisitive crime and offences relating to public order, property damage or crimes against justice, and
- The fifth subgroup of 208 individuals appeared to specialise more in fraud and acquisitive crimes.

Comparing the volume of offences and incidents accounted for by each subgroup highlighted that subgroups 1, 2, 4, and 5 account for a significant number of offences and incidents committed by the methamphetamine cohort despite the relatively small number of individuals with these subgroups.

Subgroup 4 and subgroup 5 caused the highest crime harm on average. Additionally, subgroup 1 caused more crime harm than subgroup 2 and subgroup 3, and subgroup 2 caused more crime harm than subgroup 3.

Next Steps

The third and final report of Tranche 3 will explore the longitudinal nature and trajectory of the offending of the methamphetamine cohort. Specifically, it will investigate the offending trajectories of the five subgroups, and determine the offending career of the subgroups.



Any questions?
Connect with the EBPC Team via EBP@police.govt.nz

Projects

Spotlight on current and completed initiatives

Lumi Drug Scan Tool

Lumi enables frontline officers to screen suspected drug sample on the street in real-time

The national rollout of Lumi – this transition from ‘project’ to the implementation of the service is a fantastic outcome that was only possible based on the work from everyone involved right from the idea stage.

Lumi has been co-designed by Police and Environmental Science and Research (ESR), following a Police need to more effectively test unknown substances in the field, and reduce the risk for officers handling them. 150 Lumi devices have been rolled out to all Police districts, where the devices can best respond to the harm and drug profiles of each area. The Lumi drug scan device can immediately identify with 95% accuracy if an unknown substance in clear plastic packaging is methamphetamine, cocaine or MDMA, providing better information to an officer about the most appropriate course of action to take with the drug holder. As police increasingly seek to adopt evidence informed practices, the need for science and data for early decision making is becoming more important. Real-time screening of suspected drug samples has the potential to provide valuable information to support officer decision-making, although current methods available do not address these needs: laboratory analysis is not sufficiently rapid, handheld devices were previously too expensive to make them widely accessible, and traditional chemical tests suffer from limited specificity and potentially expose the officer to health and safety risks by requiring them to handle unidentified substances. This PDF [How Lumi Works](#) explains how the device works.



The Draeger Download Project

The Draeger Download project implemented a national data download solution of Breath Screening Tests (BST) which enabled the download and retrieval of timely data to improve reporting and operational deployment.

When Draeger devices are downloaded on a regular basis, Districts are able to utilise the BST information to prevent death and serious injury on our roads.

Upcoming International Conferences

International conferences from around the world

The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC 2022) 31 October—2 November 2022



AIC 2022 will bring together policy-makers, practitioners and academics working in the crime and justice sector to discuss contemporary issues affecting Australia.

This dynamic conference program covers policy-relevant topics that include Indigenous justice, violent extremism, online sexual exploitation of children, domestic and family violence, sexual violence, cybercrime, organised crime, homicide and economic crime.

<https://aic2022.thisiscreative.com.au/>

PC 2022 ANZPAA Police Conference: Navigating the next generation of policing 8—9 November 2022



Hosted by the Police Commissioners from across Australia and New Zealand, PC22 will look forward to Navigating the Next Generation of Policing.

Focusing on innovation and future opportunities the conference will discuss the complex and emerging challenges facing policing whilst exploring a wide range of opportunities.

Step into the future of policing and grapple with how we can keep communities safe, work smarter with technology, harder with efficiency and collectively with world-leading external partners.

Both in-person and online registration options are available.

Further information on the website:

<https://anzpaaconference.com.au/>



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