

After a short hiatus **The Evidence Brief** is back. It's 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 meet Mark Evans—New Zealand Police Executive Lead: Future Policing.

You will find out about the Redesigned Police Bail Notice that Lance Tebbutt, Lauren Cloutman both from EBPC and Helen Glennly from Behavioural Science Aotearoa (BSA) worked on and what the overall outcome was.

In the March edition of The Evidence Brief we learnt about the EBPOP Training that was delivered in Counties Manukau East and West areas. We now revisit them find out how they have been doing after completing their 90-day training programming on EBPOP

The Publications pages has really good recently released reports on various topics internationally.

Coming up on 22 November are the Evidence Based Problem Oriented Policing (EBPOP) Awards. See the poster on the last page of this newsletter.

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Edition 1
September 2023

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

Visit the EBPC Portal:
[Ebp.police.govt.nz](https://ebp.police.govt.nz)

People – EBPC Teams

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

Manager Implementation & Evaluation

Inspector Simon Welsh

- Checkpoint
- Evaluation
- Knowledge & Information Services
- Network Leads
- Service Design



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- Research Insights
- Research Panel



Manager Service Design

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R. Mark Evans OBE

New Zealand Police Executive Lead: Future Policing
Visiting Professor University College London
Senior Associate Fellow, Police Foundation

Mark Evans has been a member of the New Zealand Police Executive since 2011 and during that time has held a wide range of portfolios including intelligence, evidence-based policing, strategic tasking & co-ordination, ministerial services, policy and strategy, service delivery and transformation, prevention, and the national road policing centre. He has also been the executive lead for several portfolio responsibilities including the 2011 Rugby World Cup intelligence operation, the New Zealand Police response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the March 15 terrorist attacks in Christchurch, Police use and deployment of emergent technologies. His current responsibilities include chairing the Independent Advisory Board at RNZPC and the Understanding Policing Delivery work programme that is focused on researching and addressing issues of systemic bias in Police's operating environment.

Mark is a Senior Associate Fellow with the Police Foundation (UK), Vice President of the Australia and New Zealand Society of Evidence Based Policing (ANZSEBP), a member of the Global Advisory Board for Policing Insight, and a Fellow of the Institute of Strategic Risk Management. In 2022 he was made a Fellow of the NZ Institute of Intelligence Professionals and inducted into the Evidence-Based Policing Hall of Fame at George Mason University, USA.

He is a contributor to international police teaching and training, author of articles and several book chapters, and since 2008 has been a Visiting Professor at University College London where he teaches annually on their MSc in Countering Organised Crime and Terrorism.

Mark came to New Zealand having previously been the Director of Analytical Services for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. He has an MBA from Manchester Business School and in the New Year's Honours 2006 was awarded an OBE for services to policing.

He is married to Alison, a special needs teacher, and they have a son, Rhys and a daughter, Shannon.



Any questions?

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

Projects

Spotlight on current and completed initiatives

Redesigned Police Bail Notice: To reduce the Incidence of Failing to Appear on Police Bail and being the subject of a subsequent Warrant to Arrest

Authors: Helen Glenny (Behavioural Science Aotearoa), Lauren Cloutman and Lance Tebbutt (Evidenced Based Policing Centre)

PROBLEM

Traditionally, approximately 15% of persons who are bailed by Police to appear at court fail to appear (FTA) at their first court appearance. In almost all cases when this happens, the Court will issue a Warrant to Arrest (WTA) for that person to ensure their appearance at court. This leads to an increase in the time and resources required by Police and the Court, as well as a range of adverse consequences for the defendant who failed to appear, including increased time in custody and a potential further related charge.

ANALYSIS

The issuing of arrest warrants and risk of a further charge of failing to answer bail are designed to act as deterrents to FTA, increasing the penalties associated with it. However, this is based on the premise that people are making a conscious decision to not appear in court. While this may be true of some, it has been argued that for a large number of defendants who FTA, this failure is unintentional, and is the result of other challenges which have impacted the person's ability to attend their court date.

There is a myriad of reasons why a defendant may fail to appear in court as required by the Police Bail Notice. These include:

- An unwillingness to abide by the bail notice
- Work related restrictions
- Family reasons
- Transport difficulties
- Misperceptions about social norms favouring non-attendance
- Fear and mistrust of the legal system
- Forgetfulness
- A failure to fully comprehend the requirements of the bail notice
- Difficulty in reading

Studies have found that many defendants who FTA have a number of difficult life circumstances which impact their ability to appear in court. Some of these circumstances result in practical impediments, such as work commitments, childcare issues, or a lack of access to reliable transport. However, beyond this, living under challenging conditions can place a person under a condition of 'cognitive scarcity', where a narrow attention and focus on solving problems in their immediate day-to-day life limits the mental capacity they have to attend to other issues. This may further increase the chances of FTA due to an inability to take in or remember important information about their court appearance.

NOMINATE STRATEGY

In 2020, the bail notice used by New Zealand Police was redesigned using the principles of behavioural science. This redesign aimed to reduce the number of people who FTA by increasing the salience of important information regarding the defendant's court appearance, making information easier to understand by reducing the required reading age from 12 to 9 years, and encouraging defendants to attend their court appearance with small behavioural 'nudges' based on social norms and reciprocity.

The initial pilot of the redesigned bail notice showed a promising impact of the notice on rates of FTA.

DEPLOY STRATEGY

As a consequence, a National Trial, using the Police NIA information system to automatically produce the new bail notice, in a 'Stepped Wedged' randomised control trial format, was commenced.

This National Trial was conducted by the Evidence Based Policing Centre (EBPC) in partnership with Behavioural Sciences Aotearoa (BSA).

In total, 17,843 people were bailed by Police for the duration of the National Trial.

ASSESS OUTCOMES

During the period of the National Trial, the baseline FTA rate in Police Areas issuing the original bail notice was 11.9% compared to 10.1% in Areas issuing the new redesigned notice. This translates into a statistically significant decrease in FTAs of 1.8 percentage points. This drop of 1.8% equates to a 15% reduction in expected FTAs, that is, 15% of the people who would have been expected to FTA (i.e. the baseline FTA rate), successfully attended their court appearance.

The results of the National Trial of the redesigned Police Bail Notice found that the redesigned notice successfully reduced the number of people who FTA. As such, it represents a simple and effective method to reduce the impacts of FTA on the defendant, their family/whānau, as well as Police and Court resources, at no additional cost to Police.

Using the numbers in this trial, there were 13,711 people getting Police Bail per year. With the old notice (at 11.9% FTA rate), that means 1632 failures to appear per year, and with the new notice it is 1385 (10.9% FTA rate), which is **247 fewer failures to appear** per year.

As a very rough guide this would equate to 247 people a year, not being subject to a Warrant To Arrest and its corresponding issues.

Projects

Spotlight on current and completed initiatives

Evidence Based Problem Oriented Policing (EBPO) in Action

Counties Manukau East and West Prevention teams recently completed their 90-day training programme on Evidence-Based Problem Oriented Policing. The prevention teams have been working alongside the Evidence-Based Policing Network Leads, Local and National Intelligence Centres, and the Prevention Development team to expand their knowledge and application of Problem solving models, SARA and [PANDA](#).

The teams have navigated their way through the 90-day programme consisting of three interactive workshops. The first covers how to identify problems and determine the 'why' or cause(s) of a problem through analysis of trends. District prevention teams then apply their new knowledge to problems in their area. Day two focuses on supporting teams to consider a range of potential responses that target the cause(s) of their problems, and how to nominate a response which is supported by research and evidence. This workshop also touches upon some of the basic principles for implementing a problem-solving response. On the third and final day, teams consider what implementation design might be most suitable for their problem and learn the importance of assessment in problem solving frameworks SARA and PANDA.

In addition to these in-person workshops, the Network leads and Prevention development team walk alongside the district prevention teams with regular catch ups throughout and following on from the programme to mentor them throughout their problem solving journey.

So far, the teams have identified and begun to address an array of problems including vehicle theft from a hospital carpark, anti-social behaviour at a Kāinga Ora housing complex, frequent bail breaches, and public harassment alcohol-related harm at local shops. Counties Manukau Intelligence have been instrumental in supporting the prevention teams to learn as much about these problems as possible. A range of additional intelligence collection techniques have also been employed, including a large range of Intelligence interviews, problem location reces and a NEST – a community policing survey designed to understand the perspectives of local residents.

Having researched methods that have been effective with similar problems across the world and considered the pros and cons, teams are now planning and deploying their nominated responses. These include community days, working with partners to change processes and introducing templates, and employing situational crime prevention principles and Crime Prevention Through Environment Design (CPTED). Throughout the process, partnerships which are fundamental to successful problem-solving initiatives, have flourished – one of the most satisfying outcomes reported by programme attendees.

Problem-orientated Policing encourages us as Police to look at why crime patterns occur so that we can respond to the underlying causes rather than what we see on the surface. Doing so will make impact of the strategies and tactics we employ more effective and sustainable for the community.

EBPOP training is also currently being delivered in Counties Manukau South and Central areas, and also Southern district, with Canterbury district starting in October 2023.

EBPOP awards are occurring on the 22nd November 2023 at the RNZPC. The awards are a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the great work that our people and our partners do in problem solving. Importantly, this year's awards are focused on encouraging our people to have a go at problem solving, rewarding effort and energy.

Staff in the small EBPC network lead team have more than 100 years of diverse policing experience between them, including frontline, CIB, Community, Youth, Intelligence, tactical groups and more, mixed with academic members delivering a unique learning experience that district staff can then apply practically.

If areas or districts are interested in group training, resources, or more one-on-one support for teams, they should contact [Dr Deane Searle](#) – Manager EBPC Network groups or [Dr Emma Ashcroft](#)—Practice Lead Prevention Development



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

Publications

International EBP Literature

What makes police officers resist research and evidence-based policing? Examining the role of organizational and environmental factors

KUEN, Kiseong, LUM, Cynthia, KIM, Seung Hyun

Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice, Volume 17, 2023, paad051

19 August 2023

Despite a growing body of research on police officers' receptivity or resistance to evidence-based policing (EBP) and research, the mechanisms behind officers' resistance have received limited attention. To address this gap, we investigate the impact of organizational factors (i.e. organizational justice, supervisor support, cynicism towards organizational change) and environmental factors (i.e. disrespected experience by citizens, citizen animus, crime trends) on shaping officer resistance to EBP and research using survey data from 457 front-line officers from seven police departments in Seoul, South Korea. Our findings reveal that cynicism towards organizational change significantly impacts officer resistance to EBP and research, more so than the impact of officers' dispositional resistance to change. Furthermore, we find that organizational justice and supervisor support have significant indirect effects on officer resistance to EBP and research through cynicism towards organizational change. These results underscore the importance of improving organizational climates to reduce officer resistance to EBP and research.

Replicating & Reproducing Policing Research

MONK, Khadija, KOZIARSKI, Jacek

Police Practice and Research

21 July 2023

In science, replication and reproduction are critical for understanding the reliability of findings from scholarship that came before. When an independent group of researchers collects new data with the intention to replicate an earlier study and end up drawing similar conclusions, our certainty in knowing or understanding the phenomenon under scientific scrutiny grows; if, on the other hand, a replication fails to draw similar conclusions, what we know or understand about the phenomenon under scientific scrutiny is rightfully called into question (Lamal, Citation1990; Popper, Citation2005; Simons, Citation2014). As such, replication and reproduction in science is not only critical for knowledge creation, but for verifying what we know as well.

Police Statistics on Homicide Victims in New Zealand 2007 – 2020: A Summary of Statistics about Victims of Murder, Manslaughter, and Infanticide

JONES, Ryan

June 2023

The report at a glance: Between 2007 – 2020 there were 1,005 people killed by homicide (i.e., murder and manslaughter offences); Māori account for approximately a third of homicide victims; Males represented 65 percent of all victims; The lowest annual homicide figure of 46 was in 2017; Around 7 out of 10 homicides were murders; Of all family-linked homicide victims, 44% were male and 56% were female; Around 16% of homicides were committed by a current or ex-partner – 74% of these victims were female; Children under the age of five made up 10 percent of homicide victims. Note: the report excludes road fatalities. There is also a separate table listing the historic New Zealand murder rate 1926-2021. This table shows Murder offences collated from existing electronic and microfiche data from previous Police annual reports and crime statistics and the current statistics on Homicide Victims.

Feedback from POP Training

Counties Manukau West Area Commander Insp Ross Elwood - "The EBPOP training delivered by the EBPC team to our Prevention Teams has added significant value to what we are doing here in Counties Manukau West. The staff have not only enjoyed the engaging way the training has been rolled out, they have really enjoyed going through the process of identifying a problem, going through the process of scanning and analysing the problem, and then developing some really robust strategies. Just going through the process has already seen some real benefit in a deepening of relationships with some of our community partners and better relationships with the community in general. I'm really excited to see the plans implemented. What is really telling is that when other Areas in CMD saw what we were doing with the EBPC, they couldn't wait to get involved and jump on board with the training. This really is a win for everyone – Police, our staff, and the communities we work with."

Publications

International EBP Literature Articles

Effective Implementation of Problem-Oriented Policing: Guidelines: Consultation

College of Policing

2023

These evidence-based guidelines support the effective implementation of problem-oriented policing. They set out the actions that chief officers and other policing leaders should take to embed a sustainable problem-oriented policing approach in their organisation. These guidelines complement the Neighbourhood policing guidelines, which include problem-solving as a key component. They also provide practical advice and supporting resources. These guidelines do not cover the effectiveness of specific problem-solving models, such as SARA (scanning, analysis, response, assessment). Research evidence shows that problem-oriented policing is an effective strategy for reducing crime and disorder. Despite this evidence base, forces appear to find it challenging to implement sustainable problem-oriented policing. For example, inspections by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS), as well as peer reviews by the national Problem Solving and Demand Reduction Programme, have consistently found a mixed picture on how far problem-oriented policing has been embedded in forces. To help forces embed sustainable problem-oriented policing, the guidelines cover the following areas: governance; organisational infrastructure and capability; partnerships. The supporting information that follows each guideline includes a brief summary of the evidence and explains what the guideline might mean in practice.

The reinvention of policing: Crime prevention, community, and public safety

KELLY, William R, MEARS, Daniel P

19 June 2023

Contemporary policing is in crisis, a situation that has led to persistent calls to reform it. Unfortunately, many proposed solutions focus on piecemeal changes that ignore a fundamental problem-police relies on a largely reactive approach that does not in any systematic or comprehensive way focus on crime prevention. Most of what the police do, such as responding to 911 calls for service and employing directed patrols or hot spots policing, fails to address the causes of crime. Compounding this problem is the absence of any institution or agency charged with prioritizing the prevention of crime and for ensuring that police efforts support this goal. Kelly and Mears argue that a better strategy exists, one that places responsibility on the police and other governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations for truly preventing crime. Why, historically, did crime prevention not take hold and infuse policing? One reason is a design flaw-the vision of policing centered too much on surveillance and too little on efforts that target the diverse causes of crime. The end result? Contemporary policing lacks any institutionalized commitment or systematic approach to crime prevention. It is designed to fail. The Reinvention of Policing diagnoses this problem, along with many others, in American policing. Then the authors turn to solutions. First, they call for a great many reforms to existing practices. Second, they call for a reinvention of the design and focus of policing and, concomitantly, the way that states, cities, and towns approach public safety. This change presents special challenges, but it is the only way to create an appreciable impact in reducing crime and improving justice.



Counties Manukau West Prevention teams and EBPC Network leads (Sgt Brian Williamson, Sgt Terri-Anne Sole, Dr Claire Phipps, Sgt Mike Wall, Snr Sgt (Ret.) Lance Tebbutt, Dr Deane Searle (manager) and Dr Emma Ashcroft from Prevention Development at the end of the 90 day EBPOP workshops



Sgt Ross Donaldson presents his problem solving journey to date, and nominating an appropriate strategy supported by using research and evidence



Any questions?

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

Coming soon...

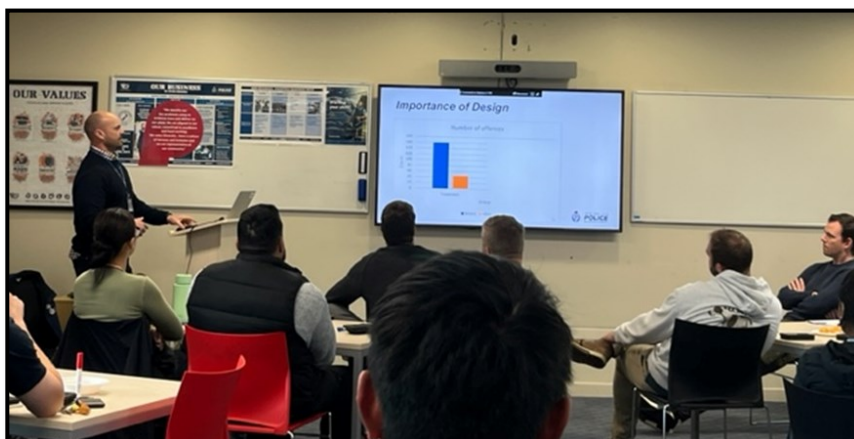
Refreshed Strategic Research Agenda

The Evidence-Based Policing Centre (EBPC) is committed to being leaders in open science, proactively sharing our skills, knowledge, and capabilities with expert researchers. To help encourage uptake of findings, and support for the research community, the first Strategic Research Agenda / Te Rautaki Kaupapa Rangahau o Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa was launched in 2020. The agenda identifies key areas of research that are current priorities of New Zealand Police and will have beneficial impacts upon both the community and the organisation.

Over the last three years, the current agenda has been used to guide the research priorities of the EBPC, as well as the assessment of applications to the New Zealand Police Research Panel. Over 50 research studies have been supported by New Zealand Police through this process, and countless more internal research programmes have contributed to our evidence base. The intent of the agenda is not to direct research, but to encourage investigation of priority organisational needs.

The time has now come for a light refresh of the agenda to reflect the changing policing and community environments, organisation priorities and emerging technologies. Over the next couple of months, we will be refining the new agenda document to clarify our primary research interests.

COVID lockdowns disrupted attempts to publicise the first agenda launch. We hope later this year to be able to celebrate the refreshed agenda with the organisation, our partners, and the research community.



Sgt Mike Wall discusses implementation design



Counties Manukau West Prevention teams workshop nominated strategies to their area problems working with the EBPC Network leads and Dr Emma Ashcroft from Prevention development



2020 EBPOP Winners - Maori Pacific Ethnic Services 'Te Pae Oranga' with the judging panel

22 NOVEMBER 2023 EVIDENCE-BASED PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING (EBPOP) AWARDS

Celebrating Excellence

The Awards recognise innovative and effective Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) projects that have achieved measurable success in resolving recurring specific crime, road trauma, disorder or public safety problems faced by local police and the community.

This event will be streamed online and in person.

For a registration pack, please email:

EBPOP Awards2023@police.govt.nz

Great guest speakers:



Deputy
Commissioner
Tania Kura



Senior Sergeant
Darren Green
Queensland
Police



Mike Townsley
Griffith
University



Lisa Tompson
University of
Waikato

Previous Winners



2018 EBPOP Award Winners—
Operation Notus, Bay of Plenty District



2016 EBPOP Award Winners—
Christchurch 'Reach Out'