

N8 PRP Annual Report 2015-2016

Directors Executive Summary

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this review of the first year of achievements of the N8 Policing Research Partnership (N8 PRP) Catalyst Fund programme together with our future plans. This Annual Report covers the period from the commencement of the Catalyst Grant on 1 May 2015 until the end of April 2016, as well as future plans for the forthcoming year 2016/17. The outlines of the various activity strands documented in this report testify to the fact that it has been a busy and highly productive year. As befits the first year of an ambitious five year programme, it has been focused, largely, around achieving the following broad objectives across the full range of activity strands:

- I. *building engagement* across our policing partners and core stakeholders;
- II. *refining our strategic plans* in line with the aims and milestones set out in the HEFCE Grant;
- III. *clarifying our collective priorities, ambitions and expectations* over the lifespan of the project and identifying the benefits and opportunities that the partnership affords;
- IV. *developing appropriate collaborative structures, processes and procedures* for supporting the implementation of the full programme of activities; and
- V. *establishing mechanisms for ensuring effective communication* among partners and beyond to wider stakeholders.

A number of things have become clear from the last 12 months. The first is the immense appetite for greater collaboration between policing partners and universities in building the policing evidence base. Second, there are considerable - as yet untapped - opportunities that attend to, and might derive from, the construction of solid and vibrant collaborative relations between researchers and practitioners. The wide-ranging prospects to do more with regard to the exploitation and analysis of crime and policing data is one striking example, especially given the diverse new forms of data that abound, as well as their scale and speed of production. Third, the benefits of developing a model of genuine research co-production and knowledge application are becoming ever apparent. The N8 PRP philosophy is that those who are going to use research and apply the knowledge base should be involved in building it by actively co-producing the evidence. Policing professionals need to become knowledge producers as well as evidence users. Consequently, our approach assumes mutual respect, fluid and permeable disciplinary and professional boundaries, a two-way flow of knowledge between researchers and non-academics and a concern with usefulness and action. The N8 Policing Research Partnership is firmly built upon the belief that the collaborative benefits of our partnership can enable 'problem-oriented' approaches that produce real-life difference at the frontline. It aims to do so by:

- *Harnessing the skills, capabilities and resources* of policing researchers and practitioners across the North of England.
- *Providing multi-disciplinary expertise* in problem-solving.
- *Driving innovative, curiosity-driven and useful research* that is co-produced by partner organisations.
- *Delivering at a scale with real impact* by fostering cross-force and multi-institutional collaborations.

With this in mind, some of the high points for me over the first year have included:

- The launch of the first Policing Innovation Forum in October 2015 and witnessing the enthusiasm and commitment on the part of delegates in thinking through innovation in the context of cyber-crime, as well as the actors' interpretation of organisational barriers to innovation.
- The award of the first three small grants that will enable seed-corn funding to support a variety of immensely important collaborative projects.
- The establishment and first meeting in November 2015 of the International Advisory Board.
- Working with the Steering Group representatives from all the partner organisations who have been engaged, enquiring and appropriately challenging, throughout.

The first 12 months have also demonstrated that there are real challenges ahead in translating the N8 PRP vision and ambition into reality. In rising to this challenge, we are fully aware of the significance of establishing and sustaining open, trust-based inter-personal and inter-organisational relations with our key partners; the value of building mutual understanding and shared priorities; the importance of fostering ownership of, investment in, and commitment to, the partnership and its outcomes; and the need for flexibility in terms of methods and modes of implementation and delivery to achieve collective aims. This means building a coalition of people keen to grasp the opportunities for innovation and change in policing be they in professional practice, research or elsewhere. It also means demonstrating the value of the collaboration in terms of real-life public benefits and social outcomes.

One of the challenges that we have had to overcome and manage during this first year has been the turn-over of key academic staff involved in the project. A number of the activity strand leads have changed over the past 12 months due to either leaving their institution, changing their contract of employment or maternity leave. This has required identifying appropriate new colleagues within each institution to take on the role of activity strand lead. The changes of personnel include:

- Dr. Stuart Kirby (Lancaster) moved employment in August 2015 to take up his post as Professor at the University of Central Lancashire and has been replaced by Dr. Ian Paylor and Dr. Cheryl Simmill-Binning at Lancaster University. I am delighted that we have been able to retain Stuart's active engagement via the Advisory Board which he agreed to join, as a representative of non-N8 Higher Education institutions in the north of England.
- Dr. Adam White (York) moved employment in January 2016 to take up his current post at the University of Sheffield and has been replaced by Charlie Lloyd. I am delighted that Adam remains engaged in the work of the N8 PRP at his new institution along with colleagues working on the International Programme.
- Professor Sandra Walklate (Liverpool) stepped down from her post as Deputy Director and institutional lead for the Public Engagement Activity Strand, on account of her decision to reduce her contract of employment from February 2016. Sandra has been replaced by Dr. Liz Turner at Liverpool University. I would like to thank Sandra for all her work and assistance in getting the N8 PRP off the ground. She remains an active supporter of our work at Liverpool. I am very pleased to report that Steve Brookes from Manchester University has agreed to take on the role of Deputy Director.
- Professor Nicole Westmarland (Durham) is taking maternity leave from May 2016 and will be replaced for the period of leave by Dr. Donna Marie Brown at Durham University.

We wish Nicole well with the birth of her second child and look forward to working with Donna.

Unsurprisingly, this level of change during the crucial period of initial development and planning has had some impact on the delivery of milestones and development of plans, although I am pleased to report that this has been kept to a minimum and has been well managed by the institutions concerned, whose support we are grateful for. I am also very pleased with the calibre of the new colleagues who have joined the project, some of whom have been working with the N8 PRP over a number of years.

Looking forward, as you will see from the pages that follow, we have a wide range of exciting plans over the next 12 months, including but not limited to:

- The N8 PRP Policing 'Research and Innovation Summit' on 7th June in Leeds.
- The knowledge exchange conference on 'The Workforce of the Future' on 8th June in Leeds.
- The International Conference entitled 'Working with the Police on Policing' 12-14th October in Sheffield.
- The second Policing Innovation Forum on 7th November in Manchester.
- The call for the second round of seed-corn small grants which will open in October.
- Continuing to engage with the International Advisory Board members.

As with any partnership, we rely heavily upon the input and contribution of all our partner organisations and greatly value their continuing involvement and support. We are also extremely grateful to HEFCE for the generous funding and to colleagues at the College of Policing for their ongoing cooperation and assistance.

I sincerely hope that you find this Annual Report both interesting and informative. If you would like to find out more about the N8 PRP and all our events and activities please visit our website www.n8prp.org.uk where you can register your interest. Alternatively, you can contact the team via:

Project Manager, Stephanie Abraham – s.abraham@leeds.ac.uk
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We look forward to working with you and our partners over the forthcoming year.



Adam Crawford, N8 PRP Director
Leeds, 3rd May 2016

'A dynamic Northern Powerhouse in policing research and knowledge exchange'

"Building collaborative relationships of trust, openness and honesty to generate new evidence and realise knowledge informed policing."

"Transforming the ways in which academic researchers engage with policing partners in research co-production and the ways in which policing practitioners utilise evidence that is rigorous and relevant."

"Knowledge exchange is about mobilising and harnessing the resources, assets, capabilities and skills that exist in abundance in our partner organisations and encouraging a flow of people and ideas across institutional boundaries."

"Developing practices, transforming cultures and changing the ways in which research evidence is produced, valued and applied."



Contents

Project Overview

- Project Objectives Page 7
- Key Milestone Plan Page 8

Strand Updates and Plans:

- I. Governance & Management Page 9
- II. Policing Innovation Forum Page 10
- III. Data Analytics Page 11
- IV. People & Knowledge Exchange Page 13
- V. Research Co-production Page 14
- VI. Public Engagement Page 16
- VII. International Programme Page 17
- VIII. Training & Learning Strand Page 19
- IX. Evaluation Strand Page 20

Future Events Page 22

Appendix section:

- 1. International Advisory Board Members Page 24
- 2. International Advisory Board Terms of Reference Page 24
- 3. Small Grants Process – chart Page 25
- 4. Table of PhD studentships Page 26
- 5. Policing Partner Contacts Page 27

Project Overview

The N8 Policing Research Partnership (N8 PRP) enables universities and policing partners to develop research and knowledge exchange activities that address key policing issues. The N8 PRP provides a regional hub for the north of England, generating research and knowledge exchange work of national relevance and international significance. This collaboration is enhancing the impact of University research in the policing sector through the development and testing of mechanisms of knowledge exchange and research co-production to strengthen the evidence base on which police policy, practice and learning are developed and so support innovation and the professionalisation of policing.

The HEFCE Catalyst programme will facilitate people and knowledge exchange; develop a data analytics capacity and secure data repository service; provide opportunities for public engagement that inform the direction of research; and support research co-production in areas where the gaps in knowledge are most prominent and where research benefits are of greatest value to policing.

The project objectives are:

- i. To produce high quality, independent research of relevance to the police services and which will enhance the international reputation and recognition of policing research in the North of England.
- ii. To build policing research and knowledge exchange capacity in HEIs and to facilitate the efficient and effective transfer of knowledge that is vital to developing sound, evidence-based policing policy and practice.
- iii. To enhance the quality, integrity, scope, synthesis and exploitation of the datasets available to inform policing research and effective practices.
- iv. To develop capacity and resources in (a) policing research and (b) police and crime data analytics in ways that inform research and facilitate knowledge creation, dissemination and application.
- v. To encourage and foster the development of national and international links with other researchers, policy makers and practitioners involved in policing research.
- vi. To develop and disseminate a transferable model of practice for application by other HEIs and across the public sector, and internationally – with a view to extending the reputation and impact of English HE.

A range of nine interconnected and mutually supportive activity strands will deliver the project goals.

The activity strands have been designed to reflect the project's focus on research and knowledge exchange. Furthermore, the activity strands have been scoped to ensure that the opportunities to engage with partners are achieved and that the project is disseminated both nationally and internationally to optimise impact.

Key Milestone Plan

Target	Key milestone	Key risks	Actions to mitigate the key risks	Anticipated completion date	Anticipated outcomes	Actual completion date	Actual outcomes
Target 1	First meeting of Steering Group with senior police partners from across the North of England	Lack of engagement from policing partners	Existing strong level of commitment and continued engagement prior to start	Month 3	Full engagement with policing partners throughout the life of the project	Month 3	Policing partners letter of support confirming commitment to April 2020
Target 2	First meeting of Advisory Group	Lack of engagement from national / international advisors	Existing strong relations / support and engagement prior to start	Month 7	Full engagement with advisors throughout the life of the project	Month 7	International Advisory Board with 24 members and Terms of Reference
Target 3	Website & Register of Expertise launched for public use and dissemination plan agreed	Technical delays	The basis of the platform has already been constructed and piloted	Month 12	Communication and dissemination platform fully operational facilitating impact	Month 10	Website and register of expertise moved to a university of Leeds supported Wordpress site - increase in No. registered
Target 4	Initial evaluation completed and considered by Steering Group	Difficulties in tendering or failure by contractors to meet deadline	Early identification of possible contractors and scoping of evaluation criteria	Month 18	Evaluation report to inform the development of the project	Progress as anticipated	
Target 5	Date clearing house service operational	Technical delays	Protocols and delivery platforms are being developed at Leeds which will be replicated	Month 24	Data clearing house service available for use by HEI and Policing partners maximising value	Progress as anticipated	
Target 6	Report of the International Programme published	Delays in collecting the data and producing the report	Sufficient time to conduct work and excellent existing relations with international partners	Month 38	Enhancing the understanding of and relations with international police KE programmes	Progress as anticipated	
Target 7	Masters / PG certificate programmes launched	Delays in developing / coordinating programmes	Initial work identifying needs and capacities completed	Month 53	Self-funding and sustainable masters' programme launched	Progress as anticipated	
Target 8	Sustainable Business Plan developed and agreed	Difficulties securing longer-term funding	Wide portfolio of funding sources exploited and partner secured	Month 58	Sustainability of the N8 PRP beyond the life of the Catalyst funding	Progress as anticipated	

Governance & Management

(Led by Professor Adam Crawford, N8 PRP Director - University of Leeds)

Designed to provide clear governance and management structures that incorporate the key stakeholders into decision-making processes and provide clear accountability and oversight. The governance is ensured by three structures:

1. Project Management Team

Working together and meeting regularly to ensure that the synergies between activity strands are realised and that each strand benefits from the wider expertise of the N8 universities and participating policing partners.

The Project Management team is made up of:

- Project Director and two Deputy Directors
- Project Manager and Events Assistant
- Research Officer and Systems Analyst (recruitment planned for mid-2016)
- University Academic Fellow – Crime and Policing Data Analytics
- Academic Strand Leads from each partner institution

2. Steering Group

Senior representatives from all the policing partners, N8 universities as well as representation from the College of Policing. HEFCE are also invited to join the Steering Group and Advisory Board meetings. The Steering Group meets quarterly.

3. International Advisory Board

The Advisory Board meets annually benefiting from national and international representation. Board members have been encouraged to contribute to and participate in key events and annual conferences. The Chair acts as an independent reviewer of the small grants applications. Advisory Board members help raise the profile of the programme of work and dissemination of the findings and learning outcomes (see Appendix 1 for International Advisory Board Members and Appendix 2 for the Terms of Reference).

The Governance and Management strand is responsible for the financial management of the project and prepares quarterly updates of budget against expenditure.

Development of all communication activities – website, social media activities and E-newsletter are managed through the strand as well as all activities in keeping the wider project management team informed of all project activities.

Policing Innovation Forum

(Led by Dr. Steve Brookes, Deputy Director - University of Manchester)

Key policing partners and wider stakeholders are central to the design and operation of the forum which generates activity for the Small Grants (Research Co-production Strand). The main objective is in the creation of new collaborations between policing leaders and the research base to drive innovation, stimulate research co-production and foster evidence-based policing practice. The Forum's programme of activities will be overseen and informed by the Steering Group.

The Forum also acts as a catalyst for open innovation by:

- Matching policing needs with world-leading research solutions
- Creating ideas, insights, innovations and research and training opportunities through an agglomeration of talent and expertise
- Scanning to identify innovations applicable to policing
- Enabling cross sector innovation and knowledge exchange from a broad range of policing and community safety partners from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Project year 1 activities:

The inaugural PIF event, focused on Cybercrime, was successful both in terms of attendance and discussion. The morning began with a rapid 'starburst' talking heads from subject matter experts who spoke about the challenges of cybercrime from their perspective. This was preceded by a powerful keynote address from Sir Peter Fahy and a following session that used actors to play out a 'barriers to innovation' scenario (the purpose of this was to set the scene for the remaining discussion throughout the day). The delegates then formed a number of distinct groups which were asked to build on the talking heads session in identifying the key challenges and opportunities. This worked very well and a range of issues were identified that were then debated further in the form of an 'open market place' in the afternoon (the purpose of this was to form groups of mutual interest to take forward research ideas and possibilities). The outcome of the forum was very positive and the format for the day worked well.

Project year 2 activities:

The second Policing Innovation Forum is planned for November 8th 2016 in Manchester, the N8 PRP Steering Group will debate and decide the theme at the July 2016 Steering Group meeting. In addition to the forum, we hope also to introduce 90 minute 'pop-up' dialogues in which police partners can call together a group of academics to discuss a pressing policing issue that has research possibilities.



Data Analytics Strand

(Led by Professor David Allen - University of Leeds)

The strand will provide a data analytics infrastructure enabling the pooling and sharing of significant policing and other datasets. The infrastructure will act as a forum, clearing house and secure data repository service providing access to police data that are otherwise inaccessible and poorly utilised. The clearing house will operate:

- By responding to requests by N8 institutions and policing partners for datasets
- Supporting both the provision of access and facilitating the archiving of data in a secure manner
- Raising awareness and knowledge about datasets held by police and partners to stimulate academic research

It is envisaged that the infrastructure platform will be cloud based with open areas for networking with a secure area for collaborative workspaces. A portal to appropriate secure data facilities and access to software for data cleansing plus toolkits for data sharing agreements will also be available. The infrastructure platform will build upon existing good practice and expertise as offered by Leeds Institute for Data Analytics and the Consumer Data Research Centre.



Project year 1 activities:

Resourcing & Planning	<p>Clarify requirements and resources from policing partners with regards to project aims and objectives</p> <p>Agreed and developed the strand project plan</p> <p>Developed scenarios for sustainable business model</p> <p>Agreement that N8 PRP partners will use the clearing house service</p>
Groups & Communication	<p>Developed website holding page</p> <p>Formed Advisory Group, Data Guardians and Technical Board and held inaugural meetings to determine data governance strategy</p> <p>Developed Communications strategy and online presence</p>
Processes	<p>Analysed and evaluated data sharing agreements</p> <p>Reviewed best practice from N8 big data initiatives</p> <p>Evaluated police data sharing portals</p>
Tools	<p>Identified tools for data clearing integration</p> <p>Identified tools for data analysis and visualisation</p>
Research	<p>Catalyst projects deposit for data agreements</p>

Project year 2 activities:

Resourcing & Planning	<p>Produce first annual report</p> <p>Design and launch Data e-Request form</p> <p>Develop a network of SPOCs (single points of contact) to provide 'rapid review' – research bids and linked projects / work packages</p>
Groups & Communication	<p>Develop a forum for 'face-to-face' meetings of data security staff</p> <p>Collaborations with the Lancaster Training & Learning strand to support training of data analysts</p> <p>Creation of a forum for sharing best practice ideas</p> <p>Supporting access to existing infrastructure, data centres and other (Police Assured Secure Facilities)</p>
Research	<p>Identify data and streams of data to be provided to the academic community via the service</p> <p>Skills gap analysis to identify resources required 'in-kind'</p>
Infrastructure	<p>Appoint Systems Analyst and Developer</p>

People and Knowledge Exchange Strand

(Led by Professor Nicole Westmarland, Deputy Director - Durham University)

The strand activity will develop the research skills of police officers and staff in partner agencies, and enable them to deepen their knowledge of specific aspects of policing through their own supervised programmes of research.

The strands aim is to promote innovation and enhancement in the HE system by:

- Developing the evidence base
- Enabling the capacity of police to undertake and utilise research
- Enhance the scope and robustness of the data available
- Facilitate the exploitation and analysis of data to inform practice
- Storing accessible and secure datasets
- Demonstrating the value of research co-production by tackling front-line policing problems
- Developing skills to get research evidence used
- Building a culture change in the police that is appreciative of the role and value of research evidence
- Fostering change among HEIs by enhancing pathway to impact across the sector.

Project year 1 activities:

1. Pilot staff exchange scheme involving the University of Sheffield (academic supervisor) and Durham Constabulary (police staff). The partnership is on-going with research on the topic of 'restorative justice and organised crime groups' having started.
2. Pilot summer school 'reading and evaluating research'
3. Summer conference in June 2016 (co-ordinated by Leeds project team) arrange jointly by policing and academic partners on the theme of 'workforce of the future of policing'.

Project year 2 activities:

1. Roll out the staff exchange scheme / partnership based on the pilot
2. Roll out the annual programme of 'reading and evaluating research' workshops (knowledge exchange summer schools)
3. Open the PGR first round (funding for up to six placements per year)
4. Increase international involvement



Research Co-production Strand

(Led by Dr. Jill Clark - Newcastle University)

The strand will facilitate and support research co-production via a ring fenced budget which will pump-prime co-produced research around two themes:

1. New and emerging technologies and innovative policing strategies: supporting research evaluations of the use, implications and public acceptability / legitimacy of the use of new technologies and strategies.
2. Small grants: pump-priming funds are available to support research into targeted and urgent areas of policing work as well as areas where the gaps in the knowledge are of most prominence and where research benefits are of greatest value to policing.
3. The partnership also supports nine collaborative PhD studentships. Each of the N8 PRP institutions will register one PGR funded for three years, benefiting from advanced training, methods and skills development provided by the three Doctoral Training Centres (DTCs) that make up the N8. In line with the ESRC collaborative model of studentship, the projects will be designed in conjunction with the policing partners and will entail substantive knowledge exchange components. See Appendix 4 for the table of PhD studentships.



Project year 1 activities:

Small Grants first round – (appendix 3), Small Grants Process chart. In March 2016 the first three grants totalling £71K were awarded, the successful projects are:

- ‘Mapping the contours of human trafficking’ – a partnership between the University of Manchester, Greater Manchester Police and the University of Leeds.
- ‘Policing bitcoin: investigating, evidencing and prosecuting crimes involving cryptocurrency’ – a partnership between Greater Manchester Police, Universities of Leeds and Liverpool, Birmingham City University, North West Regional Organised Crime Unit and the CPS.
- ‘Exploring Novel Psychoactive Substance (NPS) use and its consequences for police practitioners and substance users in the North East of England’ – a partnership between Newcastle University and Northumbria Police.

The projects will start by May 1st 2016 concluding no later than April 30th 2017.



Project year 2 activities:

The call for the second round of small grants will open during the Policing Innovation Forum (PIF) on 8th November 2016 with a closing date for applications in early 2017. In 2016/17, we anticipate making awards in excess of £75K from the total £250k allocation over the life of the Catalyst programme. Bids are encouraged in relation to the criteria and N8 PRP priority steers which will be published with the call.

Feedback from the first round of applications has been mostly positive, minor changes and clarifications to the criteria and process will be made in the light of constructive feedback from both applicants and reviewers.

Research co-production will also support new and emerging technologies and innovative policing strategies. It will connect with the activity in public engagement by generating research ideas formed by preliminary findings from a series of 'public juries and panels'. The catalyst will fund work which evaluates the development and implementation of technologies to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of policing.

A further six PhD studentships will start in autumn 2016 forming an innovative training network with opportunities for further advanced training provided by three Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTPs). This will be supported by tailored co-production themed workshops.

Each PGR will be supervised and supported by an N8 academic outside their host institution and a nominated police contact, periods of structured placement with a collaborating police force will also form part of the studentship.

Public Engagement Strand

(Led by Dr. Liz Turner, University of Liverpool)

The strand will embed public engagement and public understanding of policing into the programme of research and knowledge exchange and research co-production.

With the 'citizen' at the heart of policing, the strand will introduce a remote panel to explore how members of the public feel about general policing related issues and as a sounding-board for emerging technologies, future policies and decisions.

Project year 1 activities:

Over the course of two events, the citizen engagement team developed a proposal for three priority areas to facilitate future collaborative working:

- Identify and agree on an appropriate online mechanism for sharing ideas and information
- Carry out an audit of existing engagement activity across all of the involved force areas to understand current practices and begin to identify good practice exemplars as well as opportunities for further research
- Development of a research project to explore how police forces and OPCCs can engage in those 'difficult conversations' with the public about limitations in police resources and the availability of other, often more appropriate, sources of support in relation to certain types of problems.

Project year 2 activities:

It is anticipated that the above will assist with the generation of information on:

- **Ideas** as to the most useful online collaboration mechanism. There is currently a site operating on the University of Liverpool server, also ideas for better (secure) collaboration platforms
- **Volunteers** to take forward the work on auditing existing engagement activity. A small working party to determine how the mechanism works and how to progress it and to assist in the collation and analysis of information.
- **Volunteers** interested in taking forward the work on 'difficult conversations'.

The first of these objectives is particularly important as there seems little point in setting up a new 'citizens panel' if forces/OPCCs already have such mechanisms in place. Volunteers are needed to take forward work on auditing existing engagement activities.

Keenly suggested was the idea of online citizen panels with a rudimentary site currently operating at the University of Liverpool. Using this as a starting point the need to agree the most useful online collaboration mechanism is key.

International Programme

(Led by Dr. Layla Skinns, Professor Joanna Shapland & Dr. Matt Bacon - University of Sheffield)

Working with the College of Policing and international partners, the strand will map out and explore international developments in police-academic partnerships and collaborations in knowledge exchange, enhanced training and research co-production. An international report will be published in mid-2018.

A number of international partners are in collaboration with the University of Sheffield, to assist with the production of the international report but to also sit on the International Advisory Board (see Appendix 2 for Advisory Board members). Relationships have been established with:

- Scottish Institute of Policing Research (SIPR)
- Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR)
- Swedish National Police Academy
- CEPOL – European Police College
- European Forum on Urban Security (EFUS)
- Centre for Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS), Griffith University and Australian Institute of Criminology
- National Institute of Justice and the Department for Homeland Security, USA
- The Hydra Foundation
- Ministry of Home Affairs, Singapore

Project year 1 activities:

A Research scoping exercise to provide ideas on relevant case studies of police-academic partnerships, key academics in this field and relevant publications. The scoping exercise, along with a review of the literature on police-academic partnerships in an international context will form the basis of the report on the international strand. These activities will be further complemented by publications emanating from the international conference; the intention is to produce a special issue of a key policing journal such as *Policing and Society*.

- CEPOL annual European Police Research and Science Conference (October 2015, Lisbon)
 - Workshop on 'Experiences of police-academic partnerships'
- American Society of Criminology Conference (November 2015, Washington D.C.)
 - Round table on 'Working with the police on policing: experiences of police-academic partnerships'

Project year 2 activities:

Furthermore, there are conference and knowledge exchange activities planned over the next two years all of which will feed into the report on the international strand, including a further panel at the American Society of Criminology conference in New Orleans in November 2016, a panel at the Stockholm Criminology Symposium in 2017 and visits to the US and to Australia as well as the International conference to be held in October 2016 (Sheffield).

- Sheffield University International Conference ‘Working with the police on policing’ (October 2016, Sheffield)
- American Society of Criminology Conference (November 2016, New Orleans)
 - Round table on ‘Mobilising Research Evidence and Knowledge in Policing: Comparative Experiences’



WORKING WITH THE POLICE ON POLICING

12 - 14 October 2016



Centre for
Criminological Research

The vital role of empirical research evidence in informing police training, strategic decision making and operational practice has long been recognised. In the current climate of evidence-based policing, police organisations are increasingly looking for innovative ways to understand what works and why. At the same time, academics working in higher education are under increasing pressure to demonstrate that their research is impacting on society. There is a need for effective collaborations and knowledge exchange between the police and police researchers. However, the structures and systems that might facilitate this are underdeveloped and poorly understood. Therefore we wish to invite both academics and police practitioners to an international conference, Working with the Police on Policing.

The conference will focus on the ways academics and the police do and can work together, drawing on real-world collaborations between academics and the police from different countries. In terms of format, each panel session at the conference will involve academics talking alongside police practitioners about specific research projects where they have worked closely together. Both will reflect on things like the research process and its challenges, the outputs and outcomes of the research, and models of partnership relations and how well they work, as well as exploring any lessons that can be drawn from these experiences.

Training and Learning Strand

(Led by Dr. Ian Paylor, Professor Corinne May-Chahal & Dr. Cheryl Simmil-Binning - Lancaster University)

The strand activity will develop the research capacity of police officers and staff and provide opportunities for knowledge exchange between academics and policing partners. Currently a comprehensive review of training and development needs within police forces is being undertaken (completed in 2017).

Project year 1 activities:

In a process designed to better understand training and learning needs, a period of consultation will take place with NCA (Northern satellite office), ROCU, and training/ development leads for Police Forces in the N8 region.

- Closing the circle – filling the requirement highlighted by oversight agencies.
- Development of research based training modules in a variety of formats. This will include the recent UCL coordinated project ‘What works in policing’. The modules will consider the following:
 - Research capacity
 - Current training output
 - The type of delivery
 - The topics that are being delivered
 - How that delivery is taking place
 - The accreditation levels and types
 - Plans for future delivery.
- Pilot training events – ‘Evidence Based Policing and the National Agenda’ and ‘Exploring Evidence Based Policing’ delivered to a range of policing practitioners from Lancashire Constabulary, Cheshire Constabulary and Greater Manchester Police.

Project year 2 activities:

- Further training events in other N8 areas on Evidence Based Practice are planned, also a workshop of similar delivery format to the Police Forces Analysts in collaboration with the Data Analytics strand.
- The Lancaster team also plan to support the national project on policing meeting the demands of the future. The proposed activity would be to use a learning approach to scope the project with police partners and multi-disciplinary academics working together.
- Lancaster will engage with the People and Knowledge Exchange Summer Conference on 8th June 2016 (held in Leeds) - enquiring into the needs and preferences of N8 policing partners regarding future Training and Learning Strand activities and deliverables.

In association with the Leeds N8 Governance and Management team, Lancaster propose to undertake the creation of a PGT database across the N8 Universities to record programmes including PhDs, MScs, Certificates, Diplomas they are currently delivering directly through the N8 to police force members.

Evaluation Strand

(Led by Charlie Lloyd - University of York)

The strand will evaluate the impact, value and effectiveness of the different activity strands as they develop and monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the plans and delivery structure. Resources will be provided for the activities, providing assurances to key stakeholders (HEFCE) regarding the efficacy and efficiency of the programme as well as supply evidence of outcomes and social benefits, incorporating three key elements:

- Evaluation of process and delivery, an exercise conducted to assess the propriety and working of the partnership, its structural composition and forecasting. To be presented to the Steering Group.
- Evaluation of impact, independent evaluation studies conducted by an external consultant to assess the impact of the work and to learn lessons to feed back into and make improvements.
- Cohort studies, the partnership will conduct analysis of particular cohorts of staff within the police by way of surveys. These will include new (direct entrants) to Superintendent rank, data analysts and new recruits.

Project year 1 activities:

A register / opt in-opt out process was prepared and processed through the University of York Ethics, this allows data collection from any cohorts of individuals engaging with strand activities.

Project year 2 activities:

Reflecting the nature of co-production, this evaluation needs to be flexible and sensitive to the inevitable changes in method and approach which have already started to occur and which will continue to occur within the various work strands over the course of the programme. There will need to be extensive fieldwork to identify the theoretical underpinnings of each activity strand; to explore how initial expectations have developed; how relationships have progressed; how persistent co-production structures are established; and how the people and practices most directly involved in projects have been affected. Key here is the dynamic nature of co-production, which requires a fieldwork resource that is able to respond to important processes and events as they unfold. A Research Fellow will be recruited by York for this activity.



In August and September 2016 it is proposed that a first wave of fieldwork, involving participant observation at key meetings, visits to all of the strand teams conducting semi-structured interviews with them and their partners will be undertaken. The interviews will aim to capture the initial objectives and expectations surrounding each of the strands. Focus on initial successes and obstacles; the mechanisms expected to support co-production and partnership work; and whether and how initial plans may have been adapted. Separate interviews will then be sought with identified police staff.

Feedback and dissemination, it is important for the evaluation to involve formative and summative elements. The first phase of this evaluation will be designed to feed into the 18 month report on the initiative (due November 2016), with findings being fed-back to strand partners. Providing an opportunity to explore interpretation and implications, with the hope that there will be useful insights that can feed into the ongoing development of the programmes of work.



Future Events

How you can become more involved in the programme of activities

Activities and Opportunities - <http://n8prp.org.uk/research/>

There are a number of different ways in which N8 PRP can help those wanting to do research on policing in the North of England.

- It can provide information on recent and on-going research;
- It can help facilitate access to relevant police personnel and help identify researchers with expertise in particular topic areas;
- It can provide resources for a range of different types of research, from PhD Studentships, to shorter People Exchange Fellowships aimed at police staff and others working in the policing field who wish to spend time at a university undertaking a piece of supervised research;
- N8 PRP can help build collaborative research networks nationally and internationally.

N8 PRP Experts Register

The expertise register has been developed as part of the N8 PRP's commitment to promoting collaboration in research and knowledge exchange. It is a fully searchable online database which can be used to identify experts actively involved in policing research across the N8 universities, N8 policing partners and other institutions and policing agencies across the North of England. The database classifies academic experts according to their primary areas of policing research expertise, the classification identifies 44 thematic areas.

[Register here as an expert in your field](#)

The database is freely open to anyone to search, including: academics, policing professionals and other policing partners.

Events

The N8 PRP holds a number of events across the calendar year from our quarterly Steering Group (invitation only), themed workshops on research areas / audience specific, large scale annual conferences – Summer 2016 'Workforce of the future in policing' and the Policing Innovation Forum.

There is also the opportunity to advertise events on behalf of partner institutions and colleagues within the N8 Universities. If you would like to advertise an event or find out more about the calendar of events check the [N8 PRP website](#) or contact the [N8 PRP Project Team](#).

You can subscribe to the [project newsletter](#) or follow us on twitter [@N8PRP](#).

Our policing partners are already taking the opportunity to engage with the project, the table highlights the spread of attendance at our events since May 2015 (including repeat attendance by some individuals at events such as the Steering Group).

Partner	Operational	Strategic	Total
Cheshire	4	6	10
Cumbria	0	6	6
Durham	7	4	11
Greater Manchester Police	6	5	11
Humberside	10	6	16
Lancashire	18	5	23
Merseyside	12	6	18
Northumbria	13	3	16
North Yorkshire	8	8	16
South Yorkshire	1	4	5
West Yorkshire	26	9	35
Your Homes Newcastle	3	1	4
Total	108	63	171

Appendix Section

Appendix 1 – International Advisory Board members

Advisory Board	
Professor Nick Fyfe (Chair)	Scottish Institute for Policing Research
Sara Thornton	National Police Chiefs' Council
Michael Cunningham QPM	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)
Andy Feist	Home Office
Ian Readhead	ACRO Criminal Records Office
Professor Gloria Laycock	WWCCR's Commissioned Partnership Programme
Professor Betsy Stanko	Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime
Janine Green (MD)	Resolve ASB
Steve de Burgh	Institute of Community Safety
Scott Chilton (Ch Supt Hampshire Police)	Society for Evidence Based Policing
Geoff Elvey (University of Chester)	Higher Education Forum for Learning and Development in Policing
Professor Mike Rowe	Northumbria University
Professor Stuart Kirby	University of Central Lancashire
Professor Lorraine Mazerolle	School of Social Science, University of Queensland, Australia
Professor Christian Mouhanna	CESDIP, France
Professor Wesley Skogan	Institute for Policing Research, Northwestern University, US
Professor Sirpa Virta	Policing and Police Management, University of Tampere, Finland
Professor Johannes Knutsson	Norwegian Police University College, Norway
Dr Ferenc Bánfa	European Police College (CEPOL)
Magnus Lindgren	Safer Sweden Foundation
Amanda Wilcox	Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
Professor Adam Crawford	N8 PRP Director & University of Leeds
Professor Nicole Westmarland	N8 PRP Deputy Director & Durham University
Dr Steve Brookes	N8 PRP Deputy Director & University of Manchester

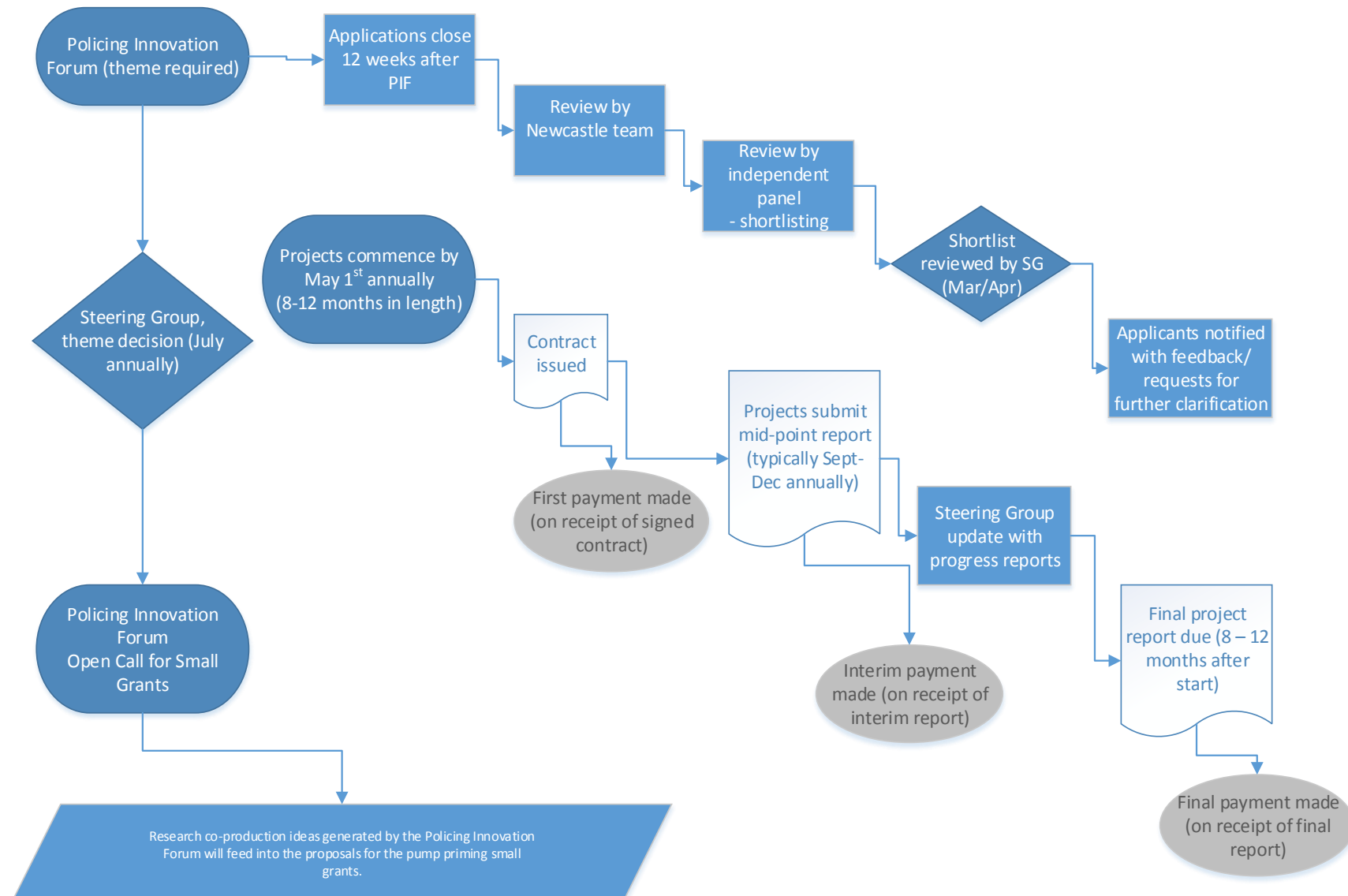
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Appendix 2 – IAB Terms of Reference

<..\Advisory Board\Documents\Terms of reference - Nov 2015.pdf>

Appendix 3 – Small Grants process



Appendix 4 – Table of PhD studentships

Title	N8 Institution	Policing Partner	Status	Duration
The regulation and policing of drugs at festivals: exploring the tensions between transgression, control and harm reduction in commercialised 'liminal space'	Durham University	Greater Manchester Police and Cumbria Constabulary	Student recruited (+3)	October 2015-2018
Joint working between social work and the police	Lancaster University	Lancashire Constabulary	Student recruited (+3)	October 2016-2019
Evaluation of Mobile Systems & Mobile Analytics	Leeds University Business School	West Yorkshire Police	Candidate shortlisting	October 2016-2019
Assessing the impacts of police use of body-worn video on public-police relations	Leeds University School of Law	West Yorkshire Police	Candidate shortlisting	October 2016-2019
Exploring the impact of funding cuts on police-community engagement	Liverpool University	Merseyside Police	Student recruited (1+3)	October 2015-2019
Developing a Human Rights-Based Approach to Football Policing in England and Wales	University of Manchester	Greater Manchester Police	Candidate shortlisting (+3)	October 2016-2019
Improving techniques to facilitate information retrieval during investigative interviews of suspected sex offenders	Newcastle University	Northumbria PCC; Northumbria Police; HMP Frankland; Greater Manchester Police; and the Metropolitan Police Service	Student recruited (+3)	October 2015-2018
Responding to risk through police partnerships	Sheffield University	South Yorkshire Police	Candidate shortlisting	October 2016-2019
Assessing the Potential of Problem Based Learning in Police Training	York University	North Yorkshire Police	Candidate shortlisting (+3)	October 2016-2019

Appendix 5 – Policing Partner contacts

Institution / Organisation	Name	Role
Cheshire Constabulary	Janette McCormick	DCC
Cheshire Constabulary	Nicola Bailey	Head of Organisational Development
Cumbria Constabulary	Michelle Skeer	DCC
Cumbria Constabulary	Stephen Kirkpatrick	Director of Corporate Support
Durham Constabulary	Gary Ridley	Assistant Chief Officer
Durham OPCC	Sweety Sahani	Staff Officer
Greater Manchester Police	John O' Hare	ACC
Greater Manchester Police	Jim Battle	Deputy PCC
Humberside Constabulary	Justin Partridge	Head of Corporate Development
Humberside Constabulary	Neil Kingston	Head of Assessment and review
Lancashire Constabulary	Mark Bates	ACC
Lancashire Constabulary	Ian Dawson	T/Supt
Merseyside Constabulary	Nikki Boardman	
Merseyside Constabulary	Dawn McNally	Ch. Insp
North Yorkshire Constabulary	Ken McIntosh	T/ACC
North Yorkshire Constabulary	Rosie Holmes	Head of HR and Training
Northumbria Constabulary	Winton Keenan	ACC
Northumbria OPCC	Vera Baird	PCC
South Yorkshire OPCC	Michelle Buttery	Chief Exec & Secretary
South Yorkshire OPCC	Jamie Smith	
West Yorkshire Police	Andy Battle	ACC
West Yorkshire OPCC	Fraser Sampson	Chief Exec & Solicitor
Your Homes Newcastle	Neil Scott	Director of Tenancy Services



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