



Understanding the impact of SHiFT

# Young People and Crime: How to support them for safe and bright futures?

Xinran Han | BSocSc Sociology

#### **Overview of the Data Fellowship**

SHiFT exists to break the destructive cycle of children and young people caught up in, or at risk of, crime. SHiFT works in several practices in London, Greater Manchester, etc., which are made up of five practitioners (Guides) who each work with a small number of children for an 18-month period. The quantitative and qualitative data is collected and organised across four outcome domains: Loved and Cared for, Safe and Stable, Healthy and Happy, Power and Purpose.



My role as a data intern is to help SHiFT understand where we are most effective and where we have areas for development through analysing data from various professionals in youth justice and social care services and the Guide. I reached out to wider literature and data sets to contextualise the research and looked at different cross sections of the SHiFT population (ethnicity, age, deprivation, gender) to help SHiFT understand the outcomes.

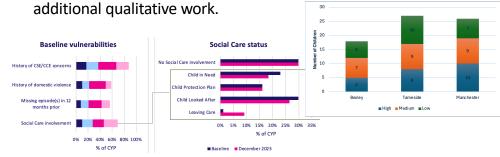
# **Data Analysis**

I prepared the data set for all the children we work with to analyse the outcomes. This involves checking the data with the online report done by the Guide and creating different spreadsheets for quantitative data and qualitative children's stories. For example, to compare and analyse the baseline to the most recent 12 months of SHiFT for arrests, proven offences, missing episodes, and exclusions/suspensions, calculate the average, and make bar charts and line graphs by using Excel.

## **Findings**

SHiFT has been curious about the effectiveness of in-person interactions between the Guide and the young person. I found relevant literature and hours comparison between social workers in general and SHiFT Guide, where the Guide has more hours spent with children. By analysing data of 71 children from 3 practices, I explored the contact hours, providing explanations for better intervention outcomes.

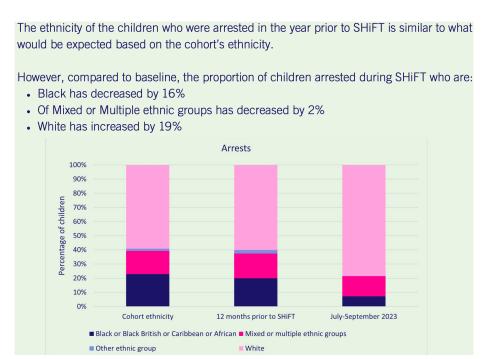
This report has shown that it is crucial to maintain accurate contact hour records, but a more detailed analysis of the way that Guide's time is spent is required, especially as the hours used here are self-reported. We also need to further understand the complex relationship between in-person hours and the quality of the relationship established between the young person and the Guide by analysing if outcomes for children are different for those receiving a low, medium, and high dosage and perhaps doing some



### **Key Skills Learnt**

Throughout this fellowship, I developed my quantitative analysis and data visualisation skills, as well as the ability to search for previous research for literature reviews. I gained more confidence in using Excel, Canva, and PowerPoint. Furthermore, I improved my verbal communication skills as I worked closely with the data analyst and discussed my output with the national team. The national team praised this report as being very informative and helpful.

I also learnt about how SHiFT as a charity organisation produces an impact on helping children and collaborates with different services and professionals. Working with people with the same goal and hope makes my data fellowship very enjoyable, as I became a part of this positive change. These experiences about charity work, especially UK child social care and youth justice systems, and therefore being able to figure out my passion is in charity to help to create a better world indeed.



Example graphs for data analysis at SHiFT