

- Effectiveness of GIS upon crime reduction
- Legitimacy in policing
- Stress Management Training and Development Programs for Police Officers and Recruits
- Crime displacement and diffusion of crime prevention benefits resulting from geographically focussed police initiatives
- Effect of interview and interrogation methods on investigative outcomes

The NPJA is also working on translating selected systematic reviews into 'What Works' guides aimed at police practitioners. The purpose of these guides is to provide an online resource that distils the key findings of the reviews, in addition to other robust research evidence, into a style and format suitable for a non-academic audience. The aim is to make the work of the research and academic community more easily accessible to police practitioners on a day to day basis.

Reviews currently on the Campbell website may be a useful resource for your organisation in addressing common policing issues faced by forces all around the world. The Campbell Library (<http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/library.php>) enables free access to reviews on a number of important subjects.



## THE SCOTTISH INSTITUTE FOR POLICING RESEARCH (SIPR)



By

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Established in 2007 and supported by investment from the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland and the Scottish Funding Council, the Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SIPR) is a consortium of thirteen universities. Its key aims are:

- To undertake high quality, independent research of relevance to policing in Scotland;
- To engage in a range of knowledge exchange activities in order to strengthen the evidence base on which policing policy and practice are developed;
- To provide a single focus for policing research in Scotland in order to foster the development of national and international links with other researchers, policy makers and practitioners;
- To enhance policing research capacity in Scotland by developing the research infrastructure and enhancing research skills.

SIPR's activities are organised around three inter-disciplinary Research Networks which bring together researchers from over 15 different academic disciplines. The Police-Community Relations Network focuses

on the relationships between the police and different socio-economic and geographical communities and brings together researchers with backgrounds in sociology, criminology and political science. The Evidence & Investigation Network focuses on the role of the police in the recovery, interpretation and effective use of intelligence and evidence in the investigation of crime and draws on the expertise of researchers with backgrounds in areas like forensic science, computing and psychology. The Police Organisation Network focuses on issues of management, structure and leadership within the police and includes researchers with a management science and public administration background. The activities of the three networks are coordinated from an administrative hub based at the University of Dundee.

Within each of these networks, SIPR is directly supporting new policing research through investment in PhD studentships and post-doctoral researchers. These research projects, each of which has been developed in collaboration with police forces, cover a wide range of topics. These include issues relating to community policing strategies, the policing of racial and ethnic diversity and radicalization; obtaining best evidence from witnesses and the use of forensic science in volume crime investigations; and studies of resilience and well-being in Scottish police forces and the governance and accountability of police organisations. SIPR is also helping researchers secure research funding from external sources by facilitating access to police personnel and data held by police organisations.

Complementing investment in new research is the process of making sure that knowledge is exchanged between researchers, practitioners and the policy community. Indeed, for SIPR knowledge exchange is one of the most important roles it performs. This is partly achieved via its governance arrangement which involve chief police officers and senior academics meeting regularly at its Executive Committee and Board of Governance. In addition, SIPR supports a wide range of mechanisms to facilitate processes of knowledge exchange. This includes organising a regular programme of seminars and workshops attended by the police and researchers, holding an annual research conference and annual lecture, and maintaining a website which contains podcasts of conference and seminar

events, a briefing paper series for practitioners, and other research resources. In addition, SIPR works closely with the Scottish Police College in the delivery of a Continuous Professional Development programme for all members of the police service.

SIPR is also working to develop the knowledge, research and analytical skills of those who work in police organisations via the creation of a distance learning Graduate Programme in Policing. Beginning in Autumn 2010, this programme aims to make a substantial contribution to the professional development of policing in Scotland with initial modules covering theories and concepts of policing, leadership in police organisations, understanding and controlling crime, and police-community relations. SIPR also runs a Practitioner Fellowship programme which provides opportunities for police practitioners to work with academic researchers on the practical and policy applications of a policing topic, with the academic providing advice about relevant literature, research design and methodological issues.

At an international level, SIPR is also developing strong links with a wider community of police researchers and practitioners. This is important because in an era of globalisation it is important for Scotland to be able to access knowledge about policing created elsewhere in the world and to reap the benefits of comparative analysis. Three world-class policing scholars have been appointed as Visiting Professors to the research networks with the aim of creating opportunities for collaborative research. In addition, SIPR's international advisory committee has strong European representation (from the Norwegian Police University College, Dutch Police Academy and the Police Science programme at Ruhr University, Germany) and, in an initiative led by the Police Academy of the Netherlands, SIPR is a founding member of the 'The North Sea Collaboration for doing research on and with the police'. This brings together policing research institutes from Holland, Norway, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, England & Wales and Scotland with the aims of conducting comparative research and creating opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and people. A couple of comparative projects have already emerged from this collaboration: one on careers within police forces (coordinated by researchers at the Norwegian Police University College) and an-

other on community engagement and community policing (coordinated by SIPR and the University of Ghent). Individual members of SIPR are also playing important roles within wider networks of researchers and practitioners including the European Academy of Forensic Science, the European Society Working Group on Policing and the European chapter of the FBI National Academy of Associates.

In little under three years SIPR has established itself as a key part of the research and policing landscape in Scotland with strong links to other parts of the UK, Europe and beyond. Furthermore, as a model of collaboration between police practitioners and the academic research community it now attracts national and international attention. Crucial to its success is recognising that regular and sustained contacts between research 'providers' and research 'users' are vital determinants of policy impact. Researchers and practitioners must also share a mutual understanding of the relevance of each others interests and activities and have an understanding of the ways in which research can add value and offer insights to key issues of concern for police practitioners and policy makers. As police organisations across Europe increasingly face the challenge of having 'to do more with less', as a result of growing demands but limited resources, the partnership between universities and police forces embodied by SIPR provides a highly effective way of meeting the need for relevant research and for developing the skills of those who work in police organisations.

#### Further information

Further information about SIPR is available from its website ([www.sipr.ac.uk](http://www.sipr.ac.uk)) and we very much welcome inquiries from researchers and practitioners. These should be sent to its Director, Professor Nick Fyfe ([n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk)).



## CENTRE DE RECHERCHE DE LA GENDARMERIE NATIONALE (CRGN)



By

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Located in Melun, 50km South-East of Paris, the Research Center of the Gendarmerie Nationale (CRGN) is connected with the Gendarmerie Nationale Officers College and headed by a director, who is a senior university professor.

The center was set up as a political initiative to provide major educational establishments, dedicated to the training of high military and civilian servants, including the funding of research facilities.

Benefiting from these 'think-tank'-potentials, the Gendarmerie Nationale Officers College deals with issues linked to homeland security and especially regarding the career of Gendarmes. The work undertaken at the center aims at including the cadets in each and every part of their academic studies.

The former documentation center of the Academy has been the touchstone of the Research center of the Gendarmerie Nationale (CRGN), hence at the origin of its creation in September 2008. It is now supervised by both military and civilian staff.