

<p>Institution: University College London</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 22 – Social Work and Social Policy</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>UCL's submission comes from its Department of Security and Crime Science, which forms part of the UCL Jill Dando Institute (JDI), founded in 2001 with the explicit mission of developing practical, evidence-based strategies to reduce crime. We have realised this goal by influencing public policy, working directly with the police and other agencies, contributing to the evidence base on what works in crime prevention, and disseminating our applied research to maximise its reach. Along with the public, the chief beneficiaries include: the Home Office, whose prevention policies and strategies are informed by our research and advocacy; police forces, police and crime commissioners (PCCs) and Community Safety Partnerships with whom we work directly to help understand and address their crime problems; private security sector companies (e.g., BSIA, ADT and G4S) for whom we completed applied research (on crimes such as cash in transit robbery); and police and policy makers overseas. Our impact agenda is achieved with the help of supportive policies, structures and facilities at both the UCL and Faculty level.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>Our approaches to maximise impact focus on building relationships with and transferring specialist knowledge and expertise to practitioners working in the fields of crime prevention and security.</p> <p>Transferring research expertise: The Department's multiform approach to engaging practitioners includes (since 2008): 20 publications in leading policy and practice crime reduction journals (e.g., <i>Policing</i>); 4 problem-oriented policing guides (e.g., bicycle theft, ca 11,000 downloads per year) for popcenter.org, a website funded by the US Dept of Justice dedicated to the provision of crime prevention advice for police; and a Rapid Evidence Assessment of AL-Qaeda-influenced radicalisation (2011) to inform the Home Office's Prevent strategy. In May 2013, with EPSRC Pathways to Impact funding awarded to UCL, the Department launched its own website-based, <i>JDiBrief</i>, aimed at making our research accessible to practitioners. Short guides provide succinct 'how-to' crime reduction advice on specific crime problems, receiving >11,000 page views May-August 2013. Staff transfer research expertise through the provision of expert advice to numerous high-level advisory boards and other end-user organisations, both nationally and internationally (e.g., the Minister's Forum for Innovation in Crime Prevention). The Department also brings practitioners into the University by organising three annual conferences that showcase departmental research to a mixed audience of end-users and academics: the <i>International Crime Science Conference</i> (2007-) regularly attracts over 200 delegates, of whom roughly 40% are non-academics; <i>The International Crime and Intelligence Analysis Conference</i> (ICIAC, 2001-) attracts over 250 professionals working in intelligence, policing, security and crime prevention; and <i>The National Environmental Crime Conference</i> (2008-) brings together domain experts from major agencies together with technology specialists to work together to tackle environmental crime. These conferences regularly receive government and commercial sponsorship (e.g., ICIAC 2012 attracted over £25k). On a more regular basis, but smaller scale, departmental forensic science knowledge exchange seminars (6 pa) attract professionals and industry stakeholders. Staff also contribute to conferences run by agencies such as the Home Office, Association of Chief Police Officers, and the National Police Improvement Agency, delivering more than 120 presentations since 2008. Lastly, the Department leads a £3.2M ESRC funded consortium (Sept 2013-) that, with the College of Policing, will synthesize the evidence base on what works in crime reduction.</p> <p>Training: The Department shares key research findings and expertise through its delivery of continuing professional development (CPD) courses. Since 2008, more than 30 CPD courses (of 1 to 10 days) have been delivered to over 300 participants from police and other agencies from the UK and abroad. In 2011, the Department developed a Geographic Profiling Analysis course in partnership with the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA); attendees include police officers from the UK, Norway, Australia, and Thailand. In 2012, UCL awarded the Department two £75k grants from institutional EPSRC Knowledge Transfer (KT) funds to develop new CPD courses in cyber security and forensic sciences, both launched in 2013.</p> <p>Direct collaboration: A key principle of the Department's approach to impact is that staff work directly and collaboratively with end-user practitioners and policy makers through consultancy projects, knowledge exchange programmes, secondments, and commissioned research. This engagement includes funded projects: for the period 2008-2012, with support and management</p>

Impact template (REF3a)

services from UCL Consultants (UCLC) we accrued more than £300K via this type of activity. Clients and partners since 2008 have included [text removed for publication]. The problems covered have been diverse and include crime associated with football matches, mobile phone theft, burglary, town centre anti-social behaviour and nuclear forensics.

Product delivery and commercialization: SCS staff have worked with our technology transfer office and UCLC to develop outputs that are available to end-users, either freely or through commercialisation. **Johnson** worked with North Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership to develop a form of predictive mapping software, now freely available to crime reduction agencies. With funding from the Home Office, **Chetty** (with Karl Woodbridge, Electrical Engineering) is commercialising work on a software defined wireless detection system for security monitoring.

Secondments and Studentships: The Department has engaged some end-users via the secondment of staff. **Laycock**, for example, was given special leave (2010-2012) to work with the Abu Dhabi Police (ADP) to establish short courses and to advise His Highness Sheikh Saif, Head of ADP, on problem solving for the UAE; funded by the ESRC (2011) **Chainey spent dedicated time** (8 days per month, for 6 months) with Greater Manchester and Northumbria Police helping them develop analysis for tactical, investigative and strategic decision making. The Department has also developed productive partnerships with new groups through its research students. In 2008, with Faculty support, including £400K in overseas scholarships, it launched the EPSRC-funded SECRéT Centre for Doctoral Training - the only RCUK CDT focussing on crime and security - to help realise the potential contribution of physical scientists to crime prevention and security. Impact training is embedded into the programme to emphasise its importance at an early stage. More than 60 students have enrolled, all of whom have been required to complete internships with relevant agencies, to the mutual benefit of both parties. For example, under **Laycock's** and **Wortley's** supervision, two students conducted research on child sex trafficking within the UK, strengthened through internships (May-June 2012) at SOCA. Their research has influenced the UK National Action Plan on tackling child sexual exploitation and these placements with SOCA are now annual. More broadly, the Department supported the development of relationships between its research students and relevant external bodies via a programme of events. These include an annual industry evening (Dec 2009-) and a weekly seminar series that bring our research students together with over 50 private and public sector organisations in order to 'match' MSc and PhD research to real-world need and to ensure that every PhD student has an external collaborator. Over £500K of funding has been provided to date by industry partners or external agencies to support students enrolled on the SECRéT PhD programme. Finally, the MSc Crime and Forensic Science offers a unique module in collaboration with the Metropolitan Police Crime Academy that trains students in crime scene investigation.

The JDI Board: The continued focus and relevance of our research to end-users is also maintained by the JDI advisory board (2001-) chaired by Nick Ross (broadcaster and journalist), and made up of senior figures in the field (66% are end-users). Current members include Sir Hugh Orde (chair, ACPO), Professor Bernard Silverman FRS (Chief Scientific Advisor, Home Office), Nick Alston CBE (PCC, Essex), and Brian Kingham (chair, Reliance Security). The Board provides a two-way conduit between JDI and the external crime and security 'community'; advises on strategic direction; identifies emerging crime and security issues; fosters collaborative relationships; promotes the unit; and advises on funding and commercialisation opportunities.

Engaging the Public: We have shared key aspects of our research with a broader, public audience through media engagement activities on all major UK TV and radio channels and in UK Newspapers. For example, **Chainey** was interviewed by Channel 4 News on the use of geographic profiling for a major serial crime investigation (2009) and on BBC Newsnight for a feature on Big Data (2013); **Johnson** was interviewed about predictive policing on the BBC breakfast news (2012); **Wortley** was interviewed on Newsnight and BBC radio about child sexual abuse (2013), and **Johnson and Bowers'** work on predictive policing has been featured in the Economist, New Scientist and the national press. SuperLab, an initiative funded by the Wellcome Trust through the UCL Train and Engage bursary scheme, attracted over 400 members of the public, introducing them to the latest forensic science research and facilitating interactive discussion about the role of science and the arts. Media contact is encouraged and facilitated by UCL Media Services. We have made increasing use of online resources including the departmental webpages, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube to communicate Department activities, particularly to a younger non-

academic demographic. For example, **Chainey** has almost 800 Twitter followers, including all of the leading national news crime journalists. The Department Facebook page has 968 members.

c. Strategy and plans

Many of the approaches we have taken since 2008 have been very successful; as such, our strategy for the future involves both maintaining and building upon these to increase the impacts of our research and the range of beneficiaries. With Faculty support, we will continue a programme of managed growth to build capacity and expand our expertise for problems such as cyber-crime.

We expect that the new Faculty-funded UCL JDI secure data lab (see environment template), built to UK government standards for data security, will substantially increase our ability to produce work with an impact on the policy and practice of relevant agencies by being: a) a significant national and international resource for applied work; and, b) one of an international network of secure data labs.

We plan further problem-oriented impact-focused work in an international context. We have made contributions to addressing global security challenges of various kinds (e.g., in Malawi, India and Abu Dhabi) and expect this to grow over the next few years, already having new projects on (for example) violence-prevention in Australian Aboriginal communities (**Wortley** and **Tilley** with Griffith University). Recent funding acquired from Santander Bank will facilitate visits to Brazil to introduce practitioners there to predictive policing (**Chainey** and **Sidebottom**).

Within the UK, we plan to pursue sources of funding not fully exploited, such as the ESRC's Knowledge Exchange opportunities stream and collaborative research grants. The landscape of policing is changing and we plan to engage fully with bodies including the College of Policing (CoP), the National Crime Agency (NCA) and the PCCs. The CoP will take on many of the roles of the National Police Improvement Agency, with whom we have worked closely in the past. Our good working relationship with them will be strengthened by the **£3.2M ESRC funded programme** of work that will support the What Works Centre for crime reduction hosted by the CoP (Sept 2013-). The potential reach of this work will be to all crime reduction practitioners worldwide.

Working with UCLC, we plan to extend provision of both consultancy services and the CPD courses that will likely be a requirement for chartered police officers (e.g., geographic profiling and forensic analysis). Feedback on previous CPD courses has indicated that a financial barrier to practitioners attending our (2 day+) courses is the cost of accommodation in London; we are therefore exploring distance learning as a means of delivery, drawing on the support and assistance of the UCL E-Learning Advisory Team.

In 2012 staff met with the deputy mayor of London, the designated PCC for greater London. We will foster this relationship to maximise the impact of our research. We will also build on our past relationship with SOCA to exploit the opportunities presented by their incorporation as a core component of the new NCA. We will maintain our connections with government departments, notably the Home Office but also the departments for the Environment and Transport.

The new Centre for Forensic Science will deliver CPD training in forensic science research and practice with the UAE Academy of International Security, a collaboration with the Higher Colleges of Technology (UAE) (Oct 2013-).

The Department's commitment to impact will continue to be reinforced via its inclusion as a standing item on the agenda of staff meetings, its incorporation into workload modelling, the staff appraisal process, and the requirement for successful impact as a criterion for promotion. This will ensure that impact activities are fully recognised and that staff have the time needed for them.

d. Relationship to case studies

Our two case studies exemplify many of the strategies discussed and show the importance of our multi-faceted approach. In both, research findings have been disseminated via our CPD courses, staff presentations at practitioner conferences in the UK and abroad, and direct engagement with end-users. In UCL22-JOH (crime mapping), with support from UCLC, staff worked directly with police forces in the UK and advised those in other countries. With UCL Media Relations, the researchers also ensured the research attracted considerable attention in the popular media. Likewise, UCL22-WOR (situational crime prevention) reflects our approach of transferring research expertise through targeted publication and advocacy. In particular, this case study demonstrates our strategies to change on-the-ground prevention practices and broader crime policies.