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## **Criminal justice interventions with perpetrators or victims of domestic violence: a theory-informed systematic review**

### **Protocol**

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# 1. BACKGROUND

## 1.1 Purpose and rationale for review

Domestic violence and abuse is a serious and widespread problem within the UK. The Crime Survey for England and Wales estimates that two million adults experienced domestic abuse in the year of 2011/12, with levels remaining broadly unchanged since 2008/9 (ONS, 2013). The negative effects of domestic abuse are varied and far-reaching. Studies report that the health, well-being, and autonomy of domestic violence victims is adversely affected (WHO, 2013; Campbell, 2002), the emotional and behavioural outcomes of their children are compromised (Wolfe et al., 2003) and society sustains a range of costs (Walby, 2009).

Modern western governments have invoked the criminal justice system to provide a dedicated and visible response to domestic abuse (Barner and Carney, 2011; HM Government 2013). Within the UK, this response involves a number of agencies including the police, the Crown Prosecution Service, and the Courts system. Various initiatives, from pro-arrest policies to programmes for perpetrators, have developed over the past 30 years in an ongoing effort to tackle domestic violence. Despite this progress, recorded levels of domestic abuse remain static (ONS, 2013) suggesting that existing criminal justice programmes are inadequate in making a substantial and lasting impact on abuse and weaknesses in the system continue to impair the delivery of protection and justice for victims (Bowen, 2011a; HMIC, 2014).

Whilst there is a growing body of research evaluating criminal justice agencies and their intervention in domestic violence, our understanding of such initiatives remains limited in two main ways. First, we have limited knowledge about the effectiveness of criminal justice interventions in addressing domestic violence. Whilst some criminal justice interventions have been subject to rigorous and systematic review, such as perpetrator programmes, (Akoensi et al., 2013; Babcock et al., 2004; Davis et al., 1999; Feder et al., 2008; Miller et al., 2013; Smedlund et al., 2007; Stover et al., 2009; Tolman and Edleson, 1995), the conclusions from these reviews are mixed or inconclusive. Other criminal justice interventions have not been subject to rigorous evaluation. Second, there is significant absence of research interrogating the theoretical underpinnings of criminal justice interventions for perpetrators or victims of domestic violence. It appears that ‘we do not yet know what works best, for whom, and under what circumstances’ (Akoensi et al., 2013). Whilst ideology has been a driving force in the development of these programmes (Bacchus et al, 2007; Bowen, 2011a), there has been limited analysis of how and why criminal justice interventions can and should address domestic violence. The main gaps in this knowledge relate to the principles that underpin different interventions in domestic violence, the expected mechanisms of change (also known as programme theory, theories of change, logic models) and resultant impacts on behaviour.

To address these gaps in understanding, this project aims to:

- Identify and describe the evidence base for criminal justice interventions for perpetrators or victims of domestic violence (systematic map of the studies)
- Provide an overview of the impact of different criminal justice interventions for perpetrators or victims of domestic violence (aggregative synthesis of systematic reviews and primary studies)

- Identify the main principles underpinning criminal justice intervention in domestic violence (configurative synthesis of main principles/ theories of change)
- Provide an overview of the relative impact of different criminal justice interventions in relation to different principles (mapping aggregative synthesis against configurative synthesis)

In order to meet these aims, a systematic and rigorous theory-informed evaluation of criminal justice interventions is required. Systematic review methodology is particularly suited to this task for a number of reasons. First, a broad approach using comprehensive and transparent searching techniques will enable the review to identify evidence on a range of domestic violence interventions across different criminal justice agencies. Second, systematic reviews can assist in the process of adjudicating between studies and comparing findings when evidence of effect is often inconsistent or inconclusive. The pooling of effects from multiple studies can improve our confidence in the conclusions that we can draw about the impact of interventions. Third, the ongoing debates within the literature about the definition and nature of domestic abuse (Bowen, 2011a) mean that using a consistent, systematic and transparent approach will enable us to identify different methods, approaches and hidden assumptions within studies. Fourth, the use of configurative review methods will enable the review to explore, analyse and compare the theoretical underpinnings of interventions. This will enable an analysis of the relationship between the mechanisms of change and the resultant impact on behaviour. In other words, such an evaluation can help us to understand what works, for whom, and under what circumstances (Baxter, 2010; Dobash and Dobash, 2000). Fifth, there is an ongoing demand for evidence-informed guidance to help policy makers and practitioners address the issue of domestic violence (Akoensi et al., 2013). Systematic reviews are widely recognised as a valuable tool for ensuring that policy and practice recommendations are based on the best, and most comprehensive, view of the evidence (Gough et al., 2012).

## **1.2 Policy and practice background**

In the last 40 years there have been significant changes in policy and practice addressing the issue of domestic violence. Partly driven by feminist activism and political influence, a raft of operational and policy changes have been established to recognise and criminalise domestic violence. Whilst ‘domestic violence’ is not currently recognised as a criminal offence within the UK, it is the criminal justice system which has been at the forefront of responding to intimate partner violence (drawing on a range of criminal activities, such as grievous bodily harm, assault, harassment, to criminalise perpetrators). Since the 1980s, the criminal justice system has initiated a raft of changes with other services, such as health and social care, following suit (Matczak et al., 2011). Policy and practice developments relevant to the English and Welsh context are briefly outlined below.

### **National policy for England and Wales**

From the start of the 1990s, domestic violence policy was developed at a national level and delivered locally by multi-agency services. The election of the New Labour

Government in 1997 led to a higher policy profile for domestic violence as the administration made an explicit manifesto commitment to combat domestic violence in England and Wales (Matczak et al., 2011). The government initiated a 'Living without fear' campaign to actively tackle societal attitudes believed to endorse, legitimate and perpetuate domestic violence (Bowen, 2011a). In practice, this provided support for locally driven and non-governmental agencies working in the field of domestic violence rather than enabling the government to take a leading role. Further guidance was subsequently developed during the 2000s which positioned government in a more pro-active role. This culminated in the publication of 'Domestic Violence: A National Report' in 2005 which marked a shift in national policy as government outlined a range of commitments and services to pro-actively address domestic violence (Matczak et al., 2011). The successive coalition government continued this commitments with the publication of 'Call to End Violence against Women and Girls' in 2010 (Home Office, 2010). This located policy development within an equalities and prevention framework with a new focus on children as well as adults (Matczak et al., 2011). The government have subsequently revised the definition of domestic violence to include young people aged 16 and 17 years old (Home Office Circular 003/2013). These policy developments have fed into changing policies within policing, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and the Courts System.

## **Policing**

The police occupy a unique position at the forefront of the criminal justice response to domestic violence. The police are understood to provide a 'domestic violence service' (Hester, 2013: 623). Police practice in domestic violence is both reactive and proactive. For victims seeking criminal justice intervention, the police are usually the first agency of contact. They react to a report or complaint and take the case through arrest, detention, investigation and charging of a suspect. Proactive policing involves preventing or reducing repeat victimisation (Groves and Thomas, 2014).

Over the past 40 years, changes to policing practices in England and Wales have mirrored those that took place in the USA. Feminist critiques of policing of domestic violence and research findings from the Minneapolis Police Experiment in the US provoked a review of police policy and practice. In the late 1980s in the UK, this was reflected in a Home Office Circular (69/ 1986) calling for the police to review the training and operational procedures for domestic violence incidents. Four years later, significant changes to police practices were introduced by the Home Office as a more interventionist, pro-arrest and pro-prosecution approach was recommended. Although this approach didn't mirror the emphasis on mandatory arrest and prosecution in the US (Hester, 2013), the pro-arrest strategy recommended that domestic violence be treated as seriously as non-domestic violence, emphasised the arrest of perpetrators and prioritized the safety of women and children (Bowen, 2011a). The pro-arrest strategy was based on widely accepted assumption that an increase in arrest and prosecution would lower rates of violence without giving serious consideration to the concern that this tactic could actually increase violence (Hoyle and Sanders, 2000). During the 1990s, police forces were also encouraged to set up dedicated domestic violence units and train staff to become 'domestic violence liaison officers'. Multi-agency working was also encouraged (Matczak et al., 2011). More recent developments in police approaches in England and Wales have included the development of risk assessment and risk management tools in order to identify the risk associated with each case, in particular to identify high risk cases. Further, in late

2013, the Home Secretary announced the national roll out of two policing interventions: domestic violence protection orders and the domestic violence disclosure scheme. Protection orders are intended to protect the victim following an incident of domestic violence. This order prevents the perpetrator from returning to the residence and having contact with the victim for up to 28 days. The disclosure scheme enables the police to inform members of the public about an individual's previous violent offending when such information is requested. A shift in the commissioning system for victims of crime also means that from 2014 onwards, Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) will have the powers to target and commission local services for domestic violence victims (Ministry of Justice, 2013). This is important because domestic violence is identified as a priority by most PCCS (HMIC, 2014). However, as the recent HMIC review (2014) reported, the operational police response to domestic abuse requires significant improvements.

### **Crown Prosecution Service**

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is the agency responsible for the decision to charge and prosecute domestic violence cases. The police refer cases to the CPS when they have reasonable suspicion that a suspect has committed an offence involving domestic violence. The CPS will then decide whether, and what, charges should be levied against the suspect. The CPS is a national organisation, consisting of 42 areas that each corresponds to a single police force area. Since 2001, each area has its own Domestic Violence Co-ordinator (CPS, 2009).

Since the early 2000s, CPS policies have been amended to improve working practices with the police and given greater priority to domestic violence cases. These policy changes have given greater emphasis to victim safety and their views (Bowen, 2011a; CPS, 2009). In 2008, the CPS developed a strategy to improve the prosecution response to a range of crimes that are related to violence against women and girls (CPS, 2008). This strategy was developed in response to the United Nations, Council of Europe and End Violence Against Women Campaign initiatives as well as the cross-governmental strategy to tackle such violence. Violence Against Women and Girls has remained a key priority for the CPS and performance in this area continues to be monitored and analysed (CPS, 2013).

### **Courts System**

When the CPS decides to prosecute a domestic violence case, the process moves to the court arena where remands, convictions and sentences are decided upon. Many domestic violence cases are dealt with in the 'lower' Magistrates court where the injuries sustained are relatively minor. More serious cases move to the 'higher' Crown court where they are heard by juries and judges (Groves and Thomas, 2014).

Since the early 2000s, the UK government recognised the need to change the way in which the court system dealt with domestic violence cases. Innovations included specialist domestic violence courts and integrated domestic violence courts. Such approaches have been widely adopted in North America, Australia and New Zealand (Bowen, 2011a). Within the UK, the first Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC) was opened in 1999 in order to cluster and fast track domestic violence cases. The SDVC system is set within the Magistrates court and aims to combine civil and criminal sittings and prioritise victim safety. Following evaluation and consultation exercises, SDVC were more widely adopted across England and Wales in the mid-2000s (Groves and Thomas, 2014). Integrated Domestic Violence Courts

were developed to consider both criminal and civil matters. This means that both criminal and family matters relating to the same case can be heard before the same judge (Bowen, 2011a).

The majority of domestic violence crimes are prosecuted on the basis of ‘offences against a person’. This comprises a range of offences including grievous bodily harm, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, common assault, possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence and child abduction (CPS, 2013).

### **Multi-agency working**

Multi-agency working has generally become regarded as good practice in the field of domestic violence. Such an approach recognises that the criminal justice system and other agencies (such as health and social services) need to work in an integrated and co-ordinated way to achieve positive outcomes for victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse (Against Violence and Abuse, 2010). Whilst there are tensions and challenges inherent to multi-agency working (Hester, 2011), there is a growing momentum behind such initiatives. A series of government policies in the 2000s supported the development of a range of approaches. These included multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARACs), independent domestic violence advisors (IDVAs) and Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVC) (Groves and Thomas, 2014). MARACs are a forum for different voluntary and statutory agencies to share information about a ‘high risk’ domestic abuse case in order to lower the level of risk and develop a safety plan for the victim. MARACs are primarily a police led process and the majority of cases come via the police. The latest reports identify 274 MARACs operating in England and Wales (CAADA, 2014). IDVAs are an integral part of the multi-agency approach to domestic violence, introduced to support ‘high risk’ victims through the criminal justice system by offering practical help and social support. They also advocate for victims and enable them to access resources outside the criminal justice system (Groves and Thomas, 2014). The role of SDVC has been outlined above. Alongside these distinct interventions, there are further tools and approaches to support a co-ordinated community response to domestic violence and abuse (Against Violence and Abuse, 2010).

### **1.3 Research background**

The academic literature addressing domestic violence and the criminal justice system is broad and varied. Theoretical research and debates have focused on the most appropriate way to define, explain and measure domestic violence. This body of work has formed the foundation for the analysis of domestic violence and criminal justice but has arguably progressed very little over the past 40 years (Groves and Thomas, 2014). Empirical work in the field, however, has made ‘monumental strides’ in the same period of time (Groves and Thomas, 2014: 43). Within this, the evaluation literature slowly emerged and is now a growing body of work. The historical development of criminal justice interventions in domestic violence has been driven, to a large extent, by ideology rather than evidence (Bacchus et al, 2007; Bowen, 2011a). Feminist perspectives and activism have promoted particular interventions and methods. It is only relatively recently that there has been a greater focus on research evidence and formal evaluations of ‘what works’ (Bacchus et al, 2007). Relevant issues in the research background are explored below.

## **Understanding, explaining and measuring domestic violence**

- **Defining domestic violence**

There is a large literature relating to how we should name and define the violence and abuse that takes place between intimate partners. Within the UK, the term ‘domestic violence’ is most commonly used and understood within the public domain (Groves and Thomas, 2014). There are multiple definitions of ‘domestic violence’ and debates about which relationships and behaviours this term should refer to (Bowen, 2011a). The label ‘domestic violence’ has been criticised for not recognising the gendered nature of the abuse (that women are more likely to be victims than men), or the extent of the violence which can extend beyond the domestic sphere and encompass more than physical violence (Groves and Thomas, 2014). The term ‘intimate partner violence’ (IPV) is preferred by some as an alternative to domestic violence. Whilst the phrase does not recognise the gendered nature of violence, it is seen to acknowledge that violence can take place within both heterosexual and homosexual relationships. Further, it usefully distinguishes abuse between intimate partners from elder abuse or child abuse (Ali and Naylor, 2013a). ‘Intimate partner violence’ is more commonly used in North American settings. Other terms used in the literature include ‘domestic abuse’, ‘spousal abuse’, ‘wife battering’, ‘violence against women’, and ‘intimate partner abuse’.

- **Explanations for domestic violence**

There are multiple explanations for domestic violence and many attempts to summarise these theoretical positions. A recently published systematic review identifies five broad areas of thought: biological, psychological (Ali and Naylor, 2013a), feminist, social, and ecological (Ali and Naylor, 2013b). The biological perspective attributes violent acts to structural and chemical changes in the brain of the perpetrator, and the psychological explanation encompasses a range of psychological factors, such as mental illness, attachment problems, deficiency in communication and other skills (Ali and Naylor, 2013a). The feminist perspective is based on the concept of a patriarchal society and gendered power and control within such a system. Within policy circles, this also represents the ‘human rights perspective’ where inequality and discrimination are identified as the root causes of violence (e.g. United Nations, 2006). The sociological explanation focuses on the social context, and the norms and attitudes towards violence in societies. This perspective encompasses a range of theories such as social learning theory, resource theory and conflict theory. The nested ecological framework seeks to recognise that multiple factors help us to explain domestic violence and that these operate at different societal levels of the family, community and society more widely. Each perspective is both supported and challenged by research studies (Ali and Naylor, 2013b).

Explanations for domestic violence have been subject to empirical inquiry through an analysis of risk factors associated with intimate partner violence. Primary research and systematic reviews have identified a number of predictive factors ranging from demographic characteristics to relationship status and satisfaction (Capaldi et al., 2012). Most analyses recognise that no single factor can fully explain the phenomenon of domestic violence (Ali and Naylor, 2013b) and that these explanations continue to co-exist and contradict each other (Hearn, 2012). Studies that have sought to identify and distinguish between types of perpetrator have identified



different predictors of violence according to different subtypes of abuser (Chiffrieller et al., 2006; Johnson, 2008).

Research on risk factors has informed the development of risk assessment tools used by criminal justice agencies to identify and prevent further harm to high risk cases (Hoyle, 2008) (see below).

- **The measurement of domestic violence**

The measurement of domestic violence is ‘fraught with complexities that challenge researchers’ ability to establish its accuracy’ (Follingstad and Rogers, 2013: 164). This is due to a number of factors: the interpersonal nature of the abuse, the hidden, domestic nature of the violence, possible motivations influencing individuals’ reports on their own or others’ abuse, and the role of subjectivity involved in individuals’ perceptions of the events (Follingstad and Rogers, 2013). Moreover, without a single statutory definition of domestic violence in the UK, the measurement of this type of abuse presents real and practical challenges (Groves and Thomas, 2014). Whilst a range of methods have been employed to measure domestic violence, there remains ongoing debate about the most appropriate and valid methods for data collection.

The use of different instruments and samples has fuelled one of the most persistent and controversial debates in the domestic violence literature, that concerning the ‘gender symmetry’ of abuse (Bowen, 2011a; Hester, 2013; Kimmel, 2002). This debate refers to whether intimate partner violence is used equally by men and women in heterosexual relationships (gender symmetrical) or violence is used differently, and with different consequences, by men and women (gender asymmetrical) (Hester, 2013). There is empirical evidence to support both conclusions. Numerous studies report the preponderance of male perpetrated violence and a growing body of literature focus on women’s violence in intimate relationships (Kimmel, 2002). These two positions are understood to have different theoretical orientations, sampling and data collection methods. The ‘gendered asymmetrical’ position is premised on feminist theoretical perspectives and seeks to assess the range, impact and context of violence. Data is drawn from agency based samples (police, courts, women’s shelters) or criminal victimization surveys (Bowen, 2011a). The use of such a sampling frame has attracted criticism for selecting populations that typically include a male perpetrator and female victim (Esquivel-Santovena and Dixon, 2012). In contrast, the ‘gendered symmetrical’ argument draws on conflict and family violence perspectives and seeks to measure individual incidences of abuse without recognising the nature or context of such abuse. This position relies on nationally representative household surveys that typically employ a version of the ‘Conflict Tactics Scale’ (CTS) to measure violent acts (Bowen, 2011a). The sampling methods of these approaches have been accused of bias due to sample attrition (those who refused to participate in the survey) (Johnson, 2008) and the CTS instrument has been seen unable to capture the intent, circumstances or consequences of violent acts (Kimmel, 2002). Attempting to resolve this debate, it is argued that these different approaches are both seeking to measure violence whilst actually studying two different phenomena and types of domestic abuse (Johnson, 2008; Kimmel, 2002).

Within the UK, the Crime Survey for England and Wales is commonly cited as a key source for estimating the extent and prevalence of domestic violence. Data are drawn from self-completion questionnaires and aims to identify reported and unreported crimes. Whilst the survey provides an indication of the levels of domestic violence, its

methodological limitations mean that the full extent and prevalence of domestic violence remains unknown and unknowable (Groves and Thomas, 2014).

- **Evaluations of criminal justice interventions in domestic violence**

There is a growing body of literature that evaluates the effectiveness of criminal justice interventions in domestic violence. This is briefly outlined below.

### **Policing**

Within England and Wales, routine policing of domestic violence has been recently analysed by the HMIC (2014) using a range of official police data sources and victim/public views. This report found significant weaknesses in the police response to intimate partner violence and recommended a raft of organisational and practical changes.

Certain aspects of policing practices have been subject to evaluation. The US Minneapolis domestic violence arrest experiment was one of the earliest, and most famous, evaluations of policing intervention in domestic abuse. It provided strong evidence in support of mandatory arrest and paved the way for the implementation of such policies in Western nations. Subsequent primary studies and systematic reviews have reported non-significant impacts on re-arrest rates but a significant deterrent effect on the offenders' rate of subsequent re-victimisation. A systematic review of the effects of mandatory arrest on repeat offending is currently in development (Ariel and Sherman, 2012).

With an increase in pro-arrest policies, the police have become more heavily involved in assessing and managing risk (Hoyle, 2008). On attendance at a domestic violence incident, police officers in England and Wales use a tool for assessing risk: the Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour-Based Violence Risk Identification, Assessment and Management Model (DASH). This involves asking a series of questions to the victim of the domestic violence in order to attempt to identify and reduce future harm (Groves and Thomas, 2014). The use of risk assessments by British practitioners has been evaluated (Robinson and Howarth, 2012) as has the validity and predictive accuracy of tools used in different countries (Bowen, 2011b; Fazel et al., 2012).

Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) are a relatively recent initiative within the UK context. They provide a civil justice response that allows police and magistrates to remove domestic violence perpetrators from the household and stop them returning for up to 28 days. These orders can be issued with or without the victim's consent. DVPOs are designed to provide immediate protection to victims following an incident of abuse when there is no other enforceable, criminal justice responses that can be used. A 15 month pilot of DVPOs in England and Wales was carried out in three police force areas in 2011/12. The evaluation of these pilots found that DVPOs were associated with reductions in re-victimisation and were generally viewed positively by practitioners and victims (Kelly et al., 2013). These findings have also been supported by evaluations from other countries (e.g. Kothari et al., 2012)

Following the initial police attendance of a domestic violence incident, police second responder programmes are follow-up visits to provide information and advice to a victim (usually by a team composed of a police officer and victim advocate). These types of interventions have been evaluated and reviewed systematically. Conclusions based on US studies suggest that second responder programmes may increase victim's

confidence in the police to report abuse but may not reduce the likelihood of re-victimisation (Davis et al., 2008). Data from European countries suggest that similar services are provided in EU Member States (European Institute for Gender Equality, 2012) although these have not been subject to rigorous evaluation or systematic review.

### **The CPS and Courts system**

Analysis of the prosecution and conviction of domestic violence cases in England and Wales is regularly monitored by the CPS. Latest data suggests that the conviction rate for domestic violence is rising, with fewer cases discontinued and more defendants pleading guilty. Of the 88,000 cases forwarded to the CPS by the police for charging, 64.6% were charged (CPS, 2013).

Specialist court mechanisms to deal with domestic abuse cases have been evaluated by a number of primary research studies. Specialist domestic violence courts (SDVC) and fast track procedures for domestic abuse cases in England and Wales have been found to enhance the effectiveness of court services for victims (Cook et al., 2004). Similar conclusions have been drawn by studies from other countries reporting higher victim satisfaction and improved outcomes (Gover et al., 2003; Reid Howie Associates, 2007). Initial evaluations of Integrated Domestic Violence Courts (IDVC) were disappointing as fewer cases than expected had been processed (Groves and Thomas, 2014).

### **Perpetrator programmes**

Many evaluation studies have examined the process and outcomes associated with treatment programmes for abusive men (voluntary and court mandated). A relatively high proportion of systematic reviews in the field of domestic violence and criminal justice have also focused on these types of intervention (Akoensi et al., 2013; Babcock et al., 2004; Davis et al., 1999; Feder et al., 2008; Miller et al., 2013; Smedlsund et al., 2007; Stover et al., 2009; Tolman and Edleson, 1995). Overall the findings have been mixed, due to different reviewing approaches and various methodological limitations of the primary studies.

### **Multi-agency Interventions**

Multiple primary studies have evaluated the effectiveness of different multi-agency interventions (such as MARACs, IDVAs, and SDVC). To date, there is a single systematic review that has sought to bring this evidence together (British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, 2013). This review found moderate evidence that multi-agency working was effective at increasing referrals, reducing further violence, and/ or supporting victims of DV.

### **Non-criminal justice social policy areas**

Beyond the field of criminal justice, other social policy areas have undertaken evaluations and systematic reviews in the field of domestic violence. Most recently, NICE public health guidance reported on 'how health services, social care and the organisations they work with can respond effectively' to domestic violence and abuse (NICE, 2014). This guidance was informed by an extensive systematic review of the literature (British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, 2013). The

Early Intervention Foundation has also recently published a systematic review that assessed the effectiveness of existing services aimed at prevention of domestic violence (Guy et al., 2014).

- **Study Design**

There have been a range of study designs employed in the evaluation of domestic violence interventions, ranging from qualitative approaches (Gondolf, 2000) to randomised controlled trials (Feder et al., 2011). As the evaluation literature continues to develop, there are growing debates about the most appropriate study designs that should be used to assess the effectiveness of criminal justice interventions in domestic violence (Dobash and Dobash, 2000; Feder et al., 2011). Studies in the field of domestic violence have not widely adopted experimental research approaches and so there are concerns that drawing conclusions about ‘what works’ has been difficult due to the methodological limitations of the empirical studies (Feder et al., 2011). This view is supported by systematic reviews which comment on the lack of higher quality evaluation designs, such as randomised controlled trials or quasi-experimental approaches (Akoensi et al., 2013; Smedlsund et al., 2011). Yet, there are key objections to the use of experimental designs in domestic violence evaluations in terms of ethics, feasibility and intention to treat analysis (Feder et al., 2011). It is difficult to conduct a true experiment because, for example, the involvement of the legal system makes random assignment difficult and a non-treatment group could be considered unethical, given the potential negative consequences for the victim (Bowen, 2011a; Sartin et al., 2006). There are, however, techniques available to address these issues and arguments for developing experiments in the field (Bowen, 2011a; Feder et al., 2011).

- **Outcomes**

Within the evaluation literature there is much debate about what it means for a domestic violence intervention to ‘work’. There are three main issues: ‘what, when and how to assess the outcome?’ (Gondolf, 2004: 608).

What outcome?

There are many potential outcomes that could be measured in assessing the impact of criminal justice interventions in domestic abuse. Attitudes, emotional control, behaviour, and quality of life, for example, would all be valid outcomes that could enable us to draw conclusions about the effect of a given intervention. Evaluation research in the area of domestic violence, however, has tended to focus mainly on behavioural outcomes and acts of physical violence (Bowen, 2011a; Gondolf, 2004). There are debates about what forms of abusive behaviour should be measured (e.g. physical, sexual, emotional) and concerns that solely focusing on violent behaviour narrowly judges effectiveness on the basis of single incidents of abuse. This outcome, it is argued, does not adequately consider the pattern of abuse and coercive control that is integral to intimate partner violence (Westmarland et al., 2010). Most evaluation studies tend to measure success on the basis of the cessation of violence (Gondolf, 2004) but there are debates about what should constitute clinically meaningful change. Babcock et al (2004), for example, suggest that clinicians identify cessation of violence as a more appropriate measure than a decrease in frequency or severity of violence acts. Westmarland et al (2010), however, found that a minority of practitioners argued that less ambitious changes and reductions in abuse could be seen

as some level of success. Ideally, the intervention would prevent any further violence but it is helpful to be able to recognise that an intervention that reduces the amount of severity of violence is somewhat effective (Sartin et al., 2006).

There is a growing body of literature recommending that interventions be judged on multiple outcomes that extend beyond simply 'ending the violence'. It is apparent that different stakeholders measure the success of an intervention in domestic violence in different ways (Westmarland et al., 2010). This would suggest that 'multiple outcomes, which include different levels and patterns of abuse, are the ideal' (Gondolf, 2004: 608). Measurement should be able to encompass a broad range of behaviours (e.g. controlling behaviour, verbal abuse) as well as physical violence (Bowen, 2011a; Gondolf, 2004). Broader quality of life measures and women's wellbeing need to be considered (Gondolf, 2004; Westmarland et al., 2010).

How to assess the outcome?

As mentioned above, most evaluation research has focused on the intervention's impact on violent behaviour. Multiple data sources have been used in an attempt to establish a reliable and valid measure of repeat violence. Bowen (2011) has usefully categorised these into three indices of post-conviction behaviour: 1) Domestic violence reconviction, 2), Domestic violence reoffending, 3) Domestic violence recidivism.

1) Reconviction refers to official records of conviction (such as police or court records) following a previous conviction for domestic abuse. These can be a preferred measure of violent behaviour because it provides an official and comparable measure of violence whilst capturing the impacts of an intervention for the criminal justice system (Miller et al., 2013). This measurement, however, is problematic for a number of reasons. In the current UK context, domestic violence is not a crime so it is difficult to systematically identify convictions specific to this type of abuse. Moreover, the under-reporting of abuse to the criminal justice system and the pre-trial attrition rates mean that only the most serious or persistent offenders will be identified (Bowen, 2011a).

2) Domestic violence reoffending refers to subsequent illegal behaviour that can be identified via police call-out data, perpetrator or victim self-reports. Each data source provides challenges to identifying a reliable measure of abuse. Police call-out data may only reflect a proportion of the reoffending, due to under-reporting, or provide an inaccurate record (e.g. if the police are called out but no offence is identified) (Bowen, 2011a). Further call-out data may actually provide an indication of the victim's willingness to contact the police rather than an accurate measure of repeat abuse (Davis et al., 2008). Caution is advised when using perpetrator self-reports due to under-reporting, fear of repercussions and other factors influencing the likelihood of reporting (Bowen, 2011a). For these reasons, the sole use of perpetrator self-reports may not be considered a sufficiently rigorous outcome measure (Babcock et al., 2004; Feder et al., 2008). Victim self-reports are also influenced by a range of factors that influence reporting.

3) Domestic violence recidivism is typically gauged through victim self-reports. These are viewed as the 'gold standard' outcome measure because they are seen to provide the most sensitive report of partner abuse. Concerns with this source of data focus on the potential for bias through self-selection bias, problems with recall, and

social desirability (Bowen, 2011a). Evaluations can seek to reduce aspects of bias by ensuring that most of the victims provide a response (Miller et al., 2013). As discussed above, there is no consensus on the most appropriate methods and tools to access and measure victim views. The definition of recidivism varies widely across studies. It is therefore often difficult to compare results across studies (Sartin et al., 2006).

There is continuing disagreement about which data sources are the most reliable indicator of violence and abuse (Akoensi et al., 2013). Ideally, evaluations would obtain reports of many types of abusive behaviour, ‘triangulating’ data from different sources (Akoensi et al., 2013; Bowen, 2011a)

When?

The most appropriate time to measure the impact of an intervention is debated in the literature. Some studies allude to a ‘honeymoon period’ following an intervention and so advise against drawing conclusions from evaluations that only present end-of-treatment assessments (Feder et al., 2008). Other approaches suggest that outcomes taken at different stages should be categorised by the length of the follow-up period. Inferences can then be based on short, intermediate or long term outcomes (Smedlsund et al., 2007).

- **Programme Theory**

As discussed above, there is a strong theoretical tradition in the domestic violence literature. Within evaluation studies, however, there has been limited analysis of the underpinning principles or programme theories for criminal justice intervention in domestic violence. Evaluations of perpetrator programmes, for example, have typically focused on one outcome measure (official recidivism) without fully considering the relationship between the mechanisms of change and the resultant impact on behaviour (Bowen, 2011a). In other fields, notably health, there is a growing scholarly interest in the theoretical underpinnings of interventions in domestic abuse (Bacchus et al., 2007). A range of authors recognise the value of examining the programme theory/ philosophy/ orientation of criminal justice programmes as part of their evaluation (e.g. Bowen, 2011a; Dobash and Dobash, 2000).

#### **1.4 Review questions and approach**

This systematic review seeks to identify and understand the effects of criminal justice interventions for perpetrators or victims of domestic violence. The review aims to identify the outcomes of criminal justice interventions and understand the intended principles and actual mechanisms that result in those outcomes. Essentially, this review is interested in identifying and understanding ‘what works, for whom and how?’

The specific questions that the review addresses are:

1. What is the nature of the empirical research evaluating criminal justice interventions for perpetrators or victims of domestic violence?
2. What is the effect of different criminal justice interventions for perpetrators or victims of domestic violence?

3. What are the main principles that underpin criminal justice interventions in domestic violence?
4. What is the evidence of the relative impact of different criminal justice interventions in relation to different principles?

In order to address these questions, the review will undertake a map and series of syntheses using empirical evaluation studies. The review will be undertaken in two broad stages. The first stage will identify empirical studies that evaluate criminal justice interventions in domestic violence. This will map out the evaluation literature in this field. The second, in-depth review stage will extract, appraise and synthesise the data from these studies. This data will feed into two parallel syntheses. An aggregative synthesis will bring together data on the effectiveness of different criminal justice interventions for perpetrators or victims of domestic violence. A configurative synthesis will identify and analyse the underlying principles and programme theories for these criminal justice interventions. The aggregative and configurative syntheses will then be analysed together to examine if particular theories/ principles are associated with particular outcomes.

## **1.5 Scope and definitional issues**

### **Domestic Violence**

It is widely agreed that a single definition of domestic violence is required in order to clarify, communicate and deliver policy and practice in this area. However, it is important to recognise that multiple definitions of domestic violence are employed and debated within both a legal and academic context. These raise significant concerns about the remit of the ‘domestic’ and the characteristics of the ‘violence’ (Bowen, 2011a; Groves and Thomas, 2014).

The definition of domestic violence in the criminal justice system is hindered by the fact that in England and Wales, ‘domestic violence’ is not a criminal act per se. The arrest and charging of perpetrators need to be based on those behaviours that are currently considered as criminal acts. Common criminal acts invoked by the police in domestic violence cases include, for example, common assault, actual or grievous bodily harm, harassment, and/or breach of peace (Hester, 2013). Historically, criminal justice agencies have therefore typically adopted their own bespoke definition of ‘domestic violence’. It is only relatively recently that these agencies have agreed to adopt and apply the same Home Office definition (Bowen, 2011a) (See Box 1). The definition was expanded in three ways in March 2013: 1) to include the term ‘abuse’ in the name (previously, the definition only referred to ‘domestic violence’) (Groves and Thomas, 2014) 2) to cover a young population group, including 16 and 17 year olds, 3) addition of ‘coercive control’ as a new form of behaviour recognised by the definition (Home Office 2013)

Domestic violence and abuse is:

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

Controlling behaviour

Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour

Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

Home Office, 2013

It is the Home Office (2013) understanding that will be used as the working definition for this systematic review. The comprehensive nature of the Home Office definition has raised concerns from scholars of domestic violence. It is argued that such a broad definition insufficiently recognises or differentiates between different forms of domestic violence. By encompassing multiple forms of intimate partner violence, it is argued, such a definition may be unable to recognise different causes or different potential modes of intervention (Bowen, 2011a). With this in mind, the review will solely focus on abuse between intimate partners (thus excluding other forms of violence considered to be family abuse or between family members who are not intimate partners) and exclude particular forms of abuse that are covered by the Home Office definition such as “honour” based violence, Female Genital Mutilation, and forced marriage.

This review recognises that different studies and agencies may define the boundaries of ‘domestic violence and abuse’ differently. The review will seek to identify and unpack these definitions as they are operationalised by the included studies.

A note on terminology: The terms ‘domestic violence’, ‘domestic abuse’, and ‘intimate partner violence’ are commonly used within the literature and will be used interchangeably within this protocol. Whilst ‘intimate partner violence’ is frequently used in North American studies, ‘domestic violence’ is typically more common in UK context so will be the primary term employed in this report (Groves and Thomas, 2014).



## **Population: Victims and Perpetrators of Domestic Violence in the Criminal Justice System**

A central debate within the literature, inherent to the gender symmetry debate outlined above, is the gendered framing of victims and perpetrators in domestic violence. This review aims to include interventions that work with all and any victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, irrelevant of their sex. However, it is important to recognise that male violence against women is the dominant framing of domestic violence within the UK context. Current UK policy and practice is targeted at reducing the abuse committed by male perpetrators against female victims and so it is likely that the majority of criminal justice interventions will frame domestic violence in this way (Bowen, 2011a; HM Government 2013). Therefore, it is likely that the perpetrators within the system have a particular profile: male perpetrators who have engaged in severe or repeated acts of violence against women (Bowen, 2011a). This means that current interventions may be unable to identify and treat a heterogeneous sample of perpetrators (Holtzworth-Munroe and Stuart, 1994) and so be ill suited to address female perpetrators or different types of domestic violence (Bowen, 2011a). Moreover, existing reviews suggest that there is a limited body of research that examines alternative framings of domestic violence. Same-sex intimate partner violence, for example, is under-represented in the literature (Capaldi et al., 2012).

## **Intervention: Criminal Justice Interventions with Perpetrators or Victims of Domestic Violence**

This review will examine criminal justice system interventions. This is defined as:

‘the system of law enforcement that is directly involved in apprehending, prosecuting, defending, sentencing, and punishing those who are suspected or convicted of criminal offenses’ Oxford English Dictionary

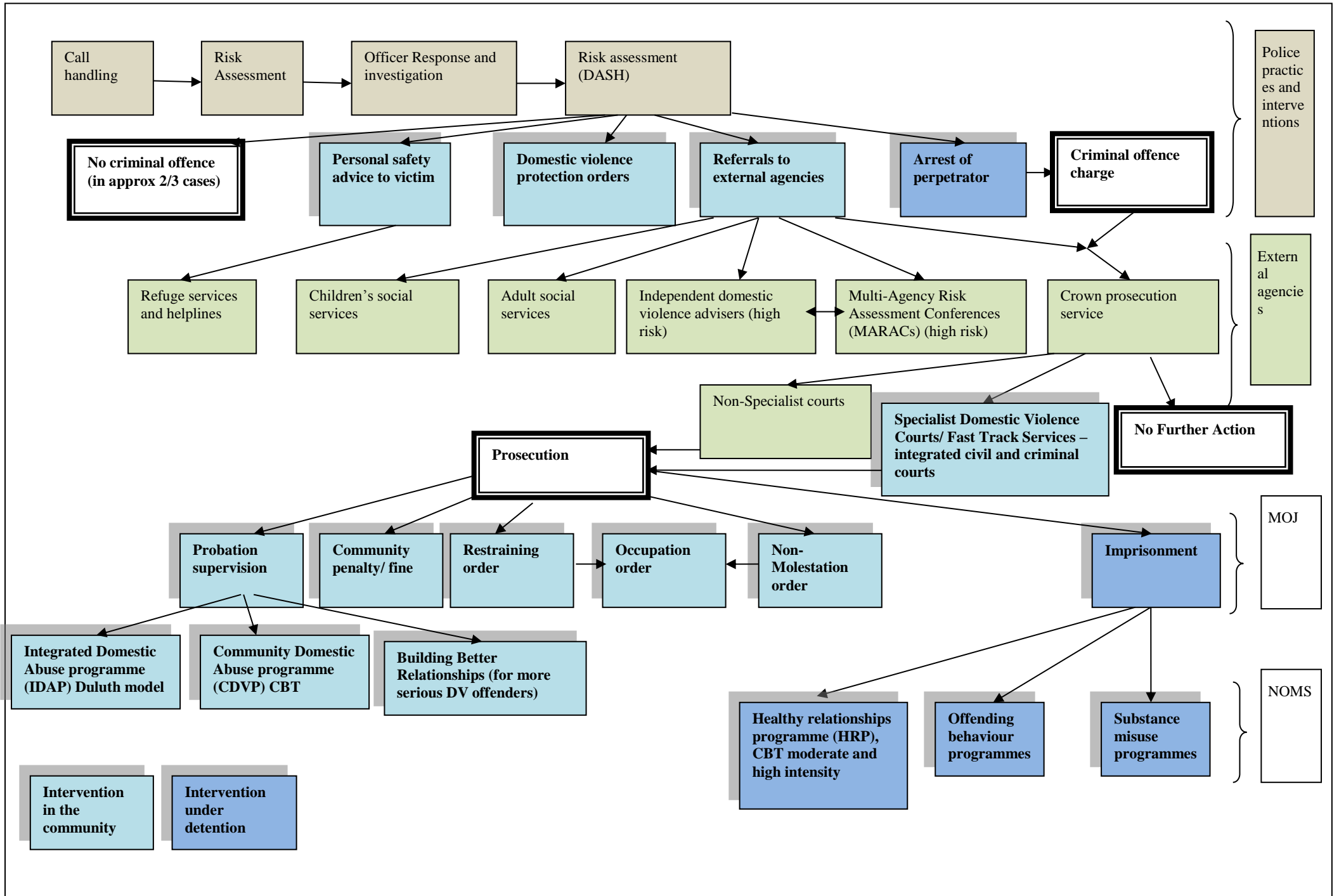
The criminal justice system is composed of many different agencies including the police, crown prosecution service, the courts, the probation service and National Offender Management Service. The figure overleaf outlines the range of criminal justice agencies and interventions available to target domestic violence. It also illustrates a pathway through the criminal justice system for a case of domestic violence.

The focus on criminal justice interventions in this review is based on the following rationale:

- The criminal justice system is tasked with responding to, and addressing incidents of domestic violence within modern Western societies (Barner and Carney, 2011; HM Government 2013). Whilst many sectors intervene in the lives of victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, it is criminal justice agencies that provide the dedicated and visible response. Historically, for example, the police have evolved as the first unit of response to reports of violence and abuse in the home.
- There is growing policy and practitioner interest in the role and effectiveness of criminal justice agencies in addressing domestic violence (Longstaff, 2013; HMIC, 2014).
- Distinct types of interventions are delivered by the criminal justice system to perpetrators or victims of domestic violence. Interventions in domestic violence have been conceptualised as operating on three different levels:

Primary interventions aim to prevent the initiation or onset of abuse (e.g. public awareness campaigns), Secondary programmes target ‘at risk’ groups (e.g. provision of information about support services for domestic violence victims), Tertiary interventions focus on preventing convicted offenders committing further abuse (e.g. perpetrator programmes) (Bowen, 2011a). Primary interventions tend to fall within the remit of health and social services whereas secondary and tertiary programmes are more likely to be administered and delivered by criminal justice services.

- Particular secondary and tertiary interventions are, and can only be, directly administered by the criminal justice system, e.g. arrest, charge, protection/ exclusion/ restraining orders, specialist domestic violence courts. Some secondary and tertiary interventions involve the criminal justice system together with other agencies outside of the sector, e.g. victim advocacy and support through the criminal justice system, perpetrator programmes, multi-agency forums.
- Recent systematic reviews have drawn together the evidence on the effectiveness of primary interventions (British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Women’s Health, 2013; Guy et al., 2014). There are few systematic reviews examining secondary and tertiary interventions. Of those that do exist, systematic reviews in this field have tended to focus on particular interventions, e.g. perpetrator programmes, and have produced mixed or inconclusive findings.
- Examples of criminal justice interventions with perpetrators include: arrest, conviction, exclusion orders; perpetrator programmes (HMIC 2014; Westmarland et al, 2014).
- Examples of criminal justice interventions focused on victims include: risk assessments, evidence gathering (e.g. body worn cameras) MARACs, domestic violence disclosure scheme, specialised police units/ task forces supporting victims, legal advice and support through the criminal justice system (European Institute for Gender Equality, 2012; HMIC 2014; Westmarland et al, 2014).



### **Outcomes and measurement of domestic violence**

At the initial stages of the review (searching for, screening and mapping the evidence base), all outcome measures will be included. This inclusive approach intends to recognise and map the full range of potential outcomes used to assess domestic violence interventions. Specific outcomes and their measurement do not, therefore, inform the search strategy or screening process of the mapping stage of the review. It is anticipated that a focus on particular outcomes will drive the latter later stages of the review (in-depth data extraction and synthesis), following discussions with stakeholders.

At the mapping stage, this review will not exclude evaluations studies on the basis of the outcomes that have been used. The in-depth review stage will aim to recognise the debates outlined above regarding outcome measures. Therefore, studies with more rigorous outcome data and longer follow-up will be weighted more highly in the quality appraisal.

This review will not exclude studies on data collection instruments or sampling frame but aim to systematically record and assess the range of data collection methods reported by the included studies.

### **1.6 Authors, funders, and other users of the review**

The authors of the review are Karen Schucan Bird, Carol Vigurs and David Gough.

The ESRC and College of Policing are funding this systematic review as part of the What Works Centre for Crime Reduction.

There are multiple intended users of the review: policy makers, practitioners and researchers in the field of domestic violence and criminal justice, third sector organisations and activists that address domestic violence, and academic researchers in a range of disciplines that examine domestic violence or systematic reviews.

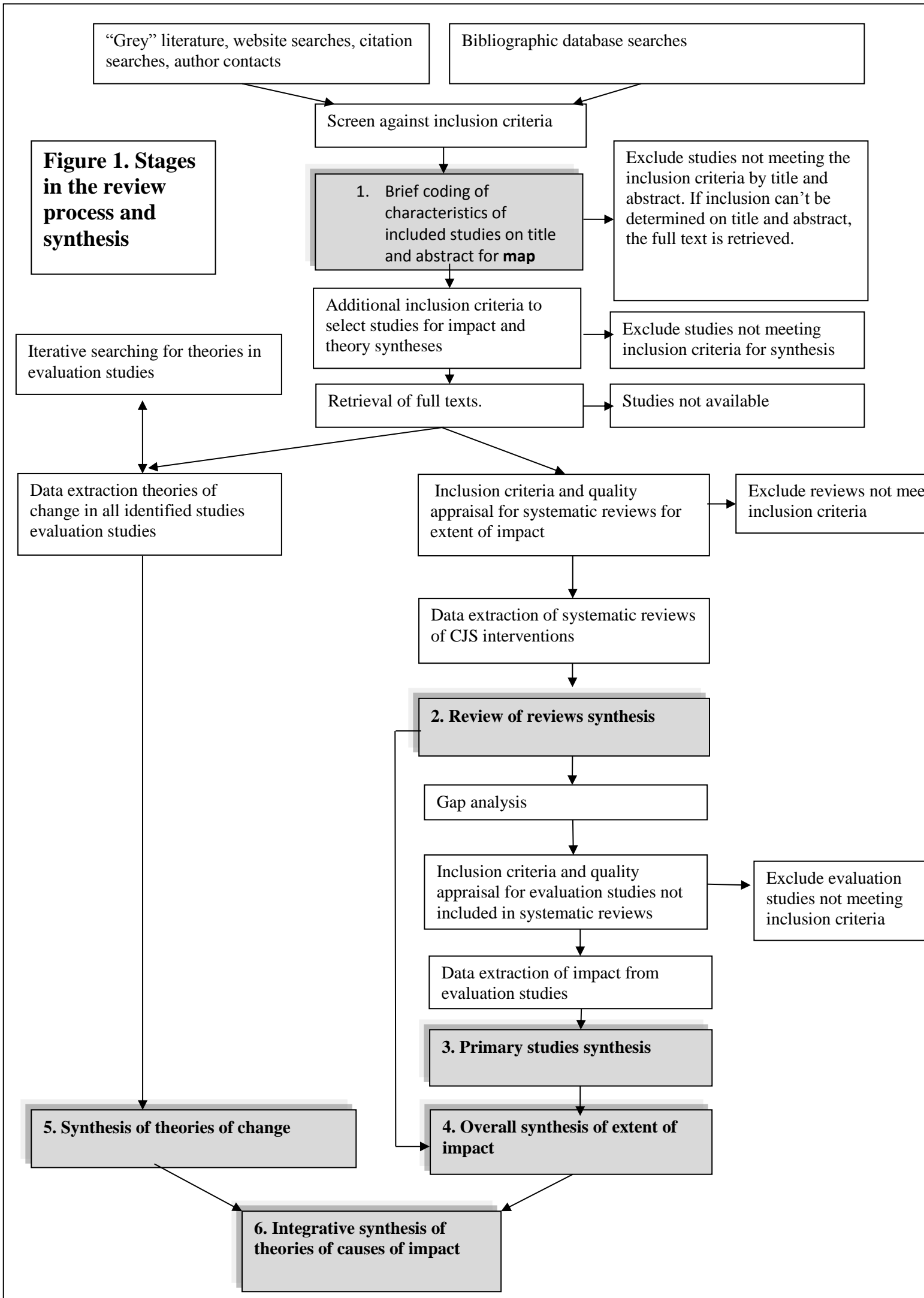
## 2. METHODS

### 2.1 Type of review

This review is a multi-component mixed methods review with following stages:

1. Systematic map of reviews and primary evaluation studies of criminal justice interventions for domestic violence
2. A synthesis of the impact of criminal justice interventions using systematic reviews (aggregative and configurative synthesis)
3. A synthesis of the impact of criminal justice interventions, using primary studies where no evidence is present from systematic reviews (aggregative synthesis)
4. An overall synthesis of the impact of criminal justice interventions, using reviews and primary studies
5. A synthesis of the theories of change underpinning criminal justice interventions, using primary studies (configurative synthesis)
6. A integrative syntheses of the above (2, 3, 4, 5) comparing the main principles and the evidence of extent of impact

There are six main components of the review (see Figure 1). The initial searching and screening process will identify reports for a systematic map of systematic reviews and primary studies evaluating criminal justice interventions in domestic violence (1). This mapping stage will collect descriptive information about these studies. From this map of the literature, the review will then separate out into two streams. The first stream will draw together study findings about the impact of criminal justice interventions. To do so, additional inclusion criteria will be applied to identify relevant systematic reviews. These reviews will be combined to examine type and extent of impact (2). A gap analysis of these systematic reviews will identify areas where evidence is partial, outdated or missing. Where this is the case, the findings from primary studies will be used to draw conclusions about the impacts of criminal justice interventions in domestic violence (3). These two syntheses will then be combined to show the overall extent of impact (4). The second stream of the review will identify and explore the main principles underpinning criminal justice intervention in domestic violence. Studies that explicitly report theories of change for criminal justice interventions will be identified. Additional iterative searching may be undertaken. The theoretical frameworks presented in the included studies will be combined in a configuring, narrative synthesis (5). The relationship between evidence of impact and theory of change will be analysed by combining and comparing the evidence of extent of impact and the relationship to the theories of change (6).



## 2.2 User involvement

In order to ensure that the review is relevant to policy and practice, it has been informed by a range of stakeholders/ user groups that have an interest in the results. Representatives from these groups constitute the stakeholder group, the review team and the advisory group. Users have been identified from the list of attendees of the fourteenth annual Oxford Policing Policy Forum held in November 2013 which discussed the question: “Are we doing enough of the right things to tackle Domestic abuse?” Multiple stakeholders were approached, via email, to engage with the project. Other perspectives have been invited from academic researchers in the area of domestic violence identified from the literature, front line police officers, women’s refuge volunteers and activists, police commissioners and referrals from members of the advisory group.

There are multiple intended users of this review (see Appendix 1.2 for details):

1. Policy and decision makers that are funding and/or implementing domestic violence interventions
2. Individuals and organizations implementing and/or designing interventions to prevent or reduce incidence of domestic violence
3. Academic researchers

We will engage with potential users of this review in a number of ways including:

- circulating this review protocol for feedback
- requesting any relevant literature for inclusion in the review
- consultation with users to prioritize areas of interest for in depth review
- inviting feedback on our draft report
- disseminating our final review.

### 2.2.1 Identifying and describing studies

*Defining relevant studies: Inclusion and exclusion criteria*

As illustrated in Figure 1, there will be different sets of inclusion/ exclusion criteria for different stages of the review. These are outlined below (with a reference to the review stage in brackets).

#### **Criteria for the Systematic Map (1)**

Studies must meet all of the following inclusion criteria to be eligible for inclusion:

##### Population

- Adults (aged over 16) who are or have been victims or perpetrators of domestic violence.
- Domestic violence is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or

over who are, or have been, intimate partners (regardless of gender or sexuality).

#### Intervention

- Interventions delivered by the Criminal Justice System (i.e. police, Crown Prosecution Service, the courts, the probation service, National Offender Management Service, the Ministry of Justice)
- Interventions that are directly delivered by the criminal justice system prior to a conviction for domestic violence OR programmes that target convicted perpetrators.
- Secondary (targets 'at risk' groups ) OR Tertiary criminal justice Interventions (preventing convicted offenders committing further abuse)
- Multi-agency interventions that include an element of involvement from the criminal justice system.

#### Study type

- a) Systematic review (i.e. describes search strategies and inclusion criteria used) that includes outcome, economics and/ or process evaluation  
OR
- b) Primary study (reports empirical data, either numerical or textual, on the outcome, economics and/ or process evaluation of the intervention)

#### Language

- Published in English

#### Geographical location

- Systematic review includes studies OR primary study where data has been collected from OECD countries (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxemburg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States)

#### **Criteria for the review of reviews synthesis (2)**

Studies will be selected from the map on the basis of the following criteria:

- Systematic review (i.e. describes search strategies and inclusion criteria used) that includes outcome, economics and/ or process evaluation

#### **Criteria for the Primary Studies Synthesis (3)**

Studies will be selected from the map on the basis of the following criteria:

- The primary study will be an evaluation of a criminal justice intervention and have a measure of the impact of the intervention on a domestic violence outcome
- Will not already be included in the systematic reviews selected for the review of reviews synthesis

#### **Criteria for the Synthesis of theories of change (5)**

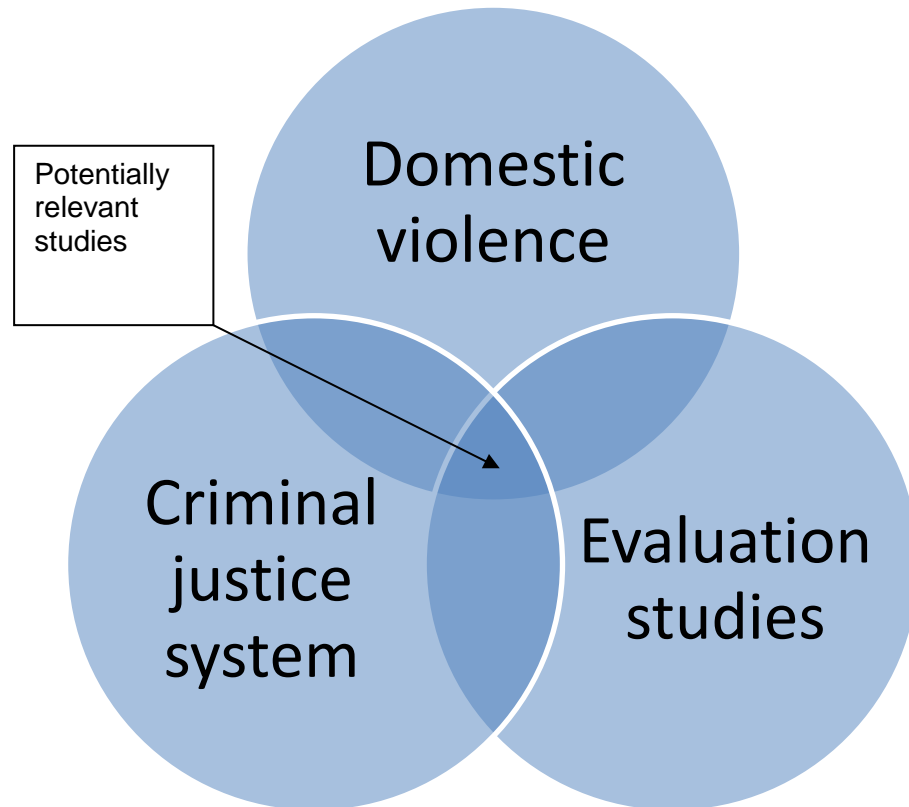
Studies will be selected from the map on the basis of the following criteria:

- Primary study with an explicit theory of change/ logic model or programme theory for the intervention evaluated.



### 2.2.2 Identification of potential studies: Search strategy

The search strategy has several components: the main effort is invested in the search of bibliographic databases and this is supplemented by a search of relevant websites, grey literature and handsearches of relevant journals. The literature we are searching for is the intersection of three main components domestic violence, the criminal justice system and evaluation studies as shown in the figure below.



#### *Bibliographic databases*

The search strategy for bibliographic databases combines search terms to describe domestic violence with search terms for criminal justice. Key terms identified from existing systematic reviews in criminal justice and domestic violence will be used to develop a search string that will then be piloted and tested.

There are two ways of identifying terms for domestic violence. There are specific terms to describe domestic violence, and there are terms to describe violence between people who are or who have been in an intimate partner relationship. We will combine these terms with those that describe the institutions, activities and actors of the criminal justice system. In practice it is difficult to search for study type in the databases as the study design may not be explicitly stated in the title or abstract or the study type filter may be inconsistently indexed (Hammerstrøm 2010). For this reason the search strategy will be restricted to the two concepts of domestic violence and criminal justice. The search strategy will use different subject terms for each bibliographic database as these vary by database and discipline, combined with free

text terms (or natural language) used consistently across all databases (see Appendix 2.2).

The bibliographic databases that will be searched are listed below

Criminology

Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse  
Criminal Justice Abstracts (CJA)  
National Criminal Justice Reference Service Abstracts Database (NCJRS)  
Campbell Library C2 SPECTR  
National Police Library

Psychology

PsycArticles  
PsycINFO

Social Science

ASSIA  
EconLit  
Social Policy and Practice  
Social Science Citation Index

Systematic reviews

Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials  
Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews  
DARE (Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness)  
WP1 database

Gender studies

Contemporary Women's Issues  
Family & Society Studies Worldwide  
LGBT Life  
Studies on Women & Gender Abstracts  
Safety-Lit  
Violence and Abuse Abstracts  
Women's Studies International

*Grey literature and website searching*

Our comprehensive search strategy will include “grey” literature to capture data that may not be available in peer reviewed periodicals.

Grey literature databases

- 1) CrimDoc Criminology Library Grey Literature
- 2) Google and Google Scholar
- 3) VAW Prevention Scotland
- 4) SCOPUS
- 5) Social Programs That Work

### *Website searches*

We will screen reports and documents published on the following websites:

Association of chief police officers <http://www.acpo.police.uk/>

Australian Institute of Criminology <http://www.aic.gov.au/>

CAADA (Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse) <http://www.caada.org.uk/>

Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit <http://www.cwasu.org/>

Center for Evidence Based Crime Policy <http://cebc.org/>

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) <http://www.hmic.gov.uk/>

Home Office <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office>

Ministry of Justice <https://www.justice.gov.uk/>

National Offender Management Service <http://www.justice.gov.uk/about/noms>

NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence <http://www.nice.org.uk/>

National Institute of Justice, <http://www.nij.gov/Pages/welcome.aspx>

Refuge <http://refuge.org.uk/>

The United States Department of Justice <http://www.justice.gov/cjs/>

Washington State Institute for Public Policy <http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/>

Women's Aid <http://www.womensaid.org.uk/>

WHO World Health Organisation <http://www.who.int/en/>

In addition, bibliographies of included studies will be scanned for other potentially relevant studies. As bibliographic databases do not always have more recent journals indexed, key journals below will be hand searched for relevant articles.

- Violence Against Women: (VAW). Sage Publications, Inc.
- Journal of Interpersonal Violence: concerned with the study and treatment of victims and perpetrators of physical and sexual violence. Sage Publications, Inc.
- Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma. Routledge.

### **2.2.3 Screening studies: applying inclusion and exclusion criteria**

Results from the searches will be uploaded into the EPPI-Centre's dedicated software EPPI-Reviewer 4. (Thomas J, Brunton J, Graziosi S (2010) and any duplicates will be removed.

The inclusion criteria will be applied to the studies that we have identified in the search. Inclusion for the systematic map will be determined using the title and abstract of the studies. Studies that have insufficient information to determine inclusion will be marked for query and investigated further after the initial mapping stage should time and resources allow.

The application of inclusion criteria for the in-depth reviews will be undertaken using the full text of the reports.

#### **2.2.4 Characterising included studies for the systematic map**

Studies that meet the inclusion criteria for the systematic map will be coded with a set of keywords. These will map the characteristics of the studies based on the titles and abstracts of the reports (see Appendix 2.4.1 for details of the tool).

This stage will describe or ‘map’ the overall field of research in the area of criminal justice interventions for domestic violence. Keywords will encompass several dimensions of the studies reviewed including:

- Type of study: Systematic review, Primary study.
- Geographical location
- Type of intervention
- Name of programme (if intervention has a formal name)
- Criminal justice system agency involved in the intervention

#### **2.2.5 Identifying and describing studies: quality assurance process**

A sample of the titles and abstracts will be screened by two reviewers against the inclusion and exclusion criteria and compared. Discrepancies will be discussed and resolved by a third reviewer until a high level of consistency is reached. We will maintain a record of the selection process for all screened material.

Two reviewers will independently extract data from a sample of studies meeting the initial inclusion criteria. Where the two authors disagree, they will meet to discuss this and, if possible, reach a consensus. If the reviewers cannot reach consensus regarding the particulars of data extraction for a specific study, judgement will be referred to a third reviewer.

### **2.3 In-depth review**

#### **2.3.1 Moving from broad characterisation (mapping) to in-depth review**

Following the systematic map of the literature, we may consult with users to prioritise areas of interest for the in-depth reviews.

The in-depth review has three main components, first there is a synthesis of the evidence on impact of interventions, this is being undertaken through a review of reviews of impact studies, plus a synthesis of primary studies for areas not covered by the reviews. The second component is a review of the theories of cause of impact and the third component is an integration of the evidence of impact and the theories proposed to explain impact.

The data extraction for the in-depth review provides more detailed information necessary for the assessment of impact, or the description of the underlying theories of change, quality assessment and synthesis.

*Review of reviews*

The full texts of these studies will be retrieved and data extracted to capture detailed information from the systematic review on the

- Review question
- Inclusion criteria
- Outcomes, Results & Conclusions
- AMSTAR: measurement tool to assess the methodological quality of systematic reviews (Shea et al. 2007) (See appendix 2.4.2)

#### *Review of primary studies*

The primary studies not covered in the systematic reviews will have data extracted on:

- Study Aims and Rationale
- Actual sample
- Programme or Intervention description
- Outcomes, Results & Conclusions
- Study Method
- Methods-treatment of groups
- Methods - Sampling strategy
- Methods - recruitment and consent
- Methods - Data Collection
- Methods - data analysis
- Methods - Economic Analysis
- Quality of study – reporting

#### *Synthesis of Theories of change*

The primary studies with a stated theory of change will have data extracted on:

- Study Aims and Rationale
- Actual sample
- Programme or Intervention description
- Outcomes, Results & Conclusions
- Steps on the causal chain from intervention to impact

### **2.3.2 Assessing quality and relevance of studies**

#### *Review of reviews*

The systematic reviews selected from the map of the literature will be assessed for its methodological quality using the AMSTAR review quality checklist (Shea 2007). Systematic reviews that report an explicit inclusion criteria and a search strategy incorporating more one bibliographic database will be included.

#### *Review of primary studies*

Individual primary studies not in the systematic reviews will be assessed for methodological quality and risk of bias using the Maryland Scientific Methods Scale (Sherman 1997). This is designed to critically appraise the quality of criminological evaluations (See appendix 2.4.2). For each study, two reviewers will independently assign a score between one and five on four categories of study design and the extent

to which the study attempts to minimise threats to internal validity and the relevance to the review. In cases of disagreement, the reviewers will meet to establish consensus but where the two authors cannot reach consensus regarding categorisation for risk of bias for a specific study, they will refer judgement to a third reviewer.

#### *Synthesis of theories of change*

Quality and relevance judgements will not inform the synthesis of theories of change.

## **2.4 Synthesis of evidence**

### **2.4.1 Synthesis of impact**

#### *Review of reviews*

The analyses in the systematic reviews that refer to effectiveness of criminal justice interventions will be combined by type of outcome or type of intervention. Given the likely heterogeneity of outcomes in systematic reviews, the findings will be combined in a narrative summary of the numerical and contextual data.

#### *Gap analysis and review of primary studies*

The included systematic reviews will be configured to identify criminal justice interventions that have not been subject to a systematic review. In those areas identified, primary studies will be synthesized to fill these gaps in the knowledge base. Where possible, statistical meta-analysis will be used to determine pooled estimates of effect size for the impact evaluations. Where this is not appropriate a narrative summary of numerical and contextual data will be presented. The results from the review of reviews and the individual impact studies synthesis will be combined to an overall synthesis of evidence of extent of impact.

### **2.4.2 Synthesis of theories of change**

The synthesis aims to understand the underpinning principles and theories of change associated with criminal justice interventions in domestic violence. This will provide a conceptual understanding of the models, approaches and mechanisms that drive such interventions. The data used for this synthesis will come from included studies (systematic reviews and primary studies) that provide an explicit theory of change for the evaluated intervention. The anticipated process of synthesis will encompass the following:

- Studies will be grouped by intervention type
- For each intervention, reviewers will read, summarise and extract data on the theory of change mechanisms from each study
- On the basis of the extracted data from the first study, a basic conceptual framework will be developed.
- This conceptual framework will be further developed by comparing data from each further study with the existing model. This process will consider whether the data refutes, confirms or adds new data to the existing theoretical framework.

- This will constitute a ‘rolling’ or ‘constant comparative’ method of synthesis, which has been used in other EPPI-Centre systematic reviews (Brunton et al., 2011; Caird et al., 2010; O’Mara-Eves et al., 2013).
- The emerging conceptual framework will be read and discussed by the review team and presented to the advisory group.

#### **2.4.3 Comparison and integration of review of extent of impact and theories of causes of impact**

A synthesis will integrate the findings from the synthesis of extent of impacts with the synthesis of theories of change. To do so, the studies will be grouped according to intervention type. Evidence of impact from the relevant studies will be mapped against different stages of the theories of change. This will provide an analytical account of the evidence of impact down causal pathways.

#### **2.5 Deriving conclusions/ implications**

Evidence from the systematic reviews and the impact studies will be presented in evidence tables showing which interventions “work”, those shown to be promising, those that do not show evidence of effectiveness and how these relate to the principles and theories of change.

The draft report will be circulated for discussion amongst the advisory group for discussion of the interpretation of the results and implications.

The review will also be sent for formal peer review.

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## Appendices

**Appendix 1.1: Authorship of this report**

**Appendix 1.2 Details of user involvement**

**Appendix 2.1: Inclusion and exclusion criteria**

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**Appendix 2.3.1 Draft Key-wording tool for the map**

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### Appendix 1.1: Authorship of this report

The authors of the protocol are Karen Schucan Bird, Carol Vigurs and David Gough.

### Appendix 1.2 Details of user involvement

Details of the membership of the Advisory Group

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Lis Bates	Head of Research and Evaluation	CAADA
Simon Kerss	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Manager	Cambridgeshire Safer Communities Partnership Team
Hilary Fisher	Director of Policy, Voice and Membership	Women's Aid
Anon	Anon	College of Policing

Details of the membership of the stakeholder consultation group

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Hedy Cleaver	Professorial Research Fellow	Royal Holloway
Ms Clyde	Women's activist and founder of Women's refuges in the Clyde area, Scotland	Scotland
Liz Hughes	Staff Officer to Louisa Rolfe	ACPO
David Morran	Lecturer in Social Work	University of Stirling
Ian Sturgess	Domestic abuse and sexual violence coordinator	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk
PC York (anon)	Police Officer	Yorkshire

## Appendix 2.1: Inclusion and exclusion criteria for the map

Criteria	Inclusion	Exclusion
<b>1. Language</b>	Published in English	Published in any language other than English
<b>2. Focus of report/ population of study</b>	<p>Adults (aged 16 or over) who are or have been victims or perpetrators of domestic violence.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Personnel who are working or have worked with victims or perpetrators of domestic violence.</p> <p>Domestic violence is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners (regardless of gender or sexuality).</p> <p>Where studies include a mixed population (e.g. samples of adults and children; or samples of victims of dv and with victims of other forms of abuse), the sample should include a majority of the population group we are interested in and/ or present separate data for those different groups. If there is not sufficient information in the abstract to make this judgement, be inclusive at the mapping stage (and code this for those studies that are included).</p>	<p>Populations that are not or have not been victims of perpetrators of domestic violence</p> <p>NOR</p> <p>Personnel who are working or have worked with victims or perpetrators of domestic violence. (Exclude Reports without data on victims or perpetrators of domestic violence OR without data on personnel who have worked with or work with victims or perpetrators of domestic violence)</p> <p>Population groups who are under 16.</p> <p>Victims or perpetrators of family abuse or abuse between family members who are not intimate partners</p> <p>Victims or perpetrators of child abuse, elder abuse, “honour” based violence, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and forced marriage.</p> <p>Assault, abuse or violence that does not explicitly refer to domestic violence.</p>
<b>3. Intervention</b>	Victims or perpetrators have come in contact	Victims or perpetrators have NOT come in contact

	<p>with the criminal justice system/ interventions:</p> <p>Interventions delivered by the Criminal Justice System (i.e. police, Crown Prosecution Service, the courts, the probation service, National Offender Management Service, the Ministry of Justice)</p> <p>Interventions that are directly delivered by the criminal justice system prior to a conviction for domestic violence OR programmes that target convicted perpetrators.</p> <p>Secondary (targets ‘at risk’ groups ) OR Tertiary criminal justice Interventions (preventing convicted offenders committing further abuse)</p> <p>Include provision of routine services (policing, courts etc).</p> <p>Include multi-agency interventions include an element of involvement from the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Include specific following interventions:          -Arrest          -Disclosure scheme          -Exclusion orders          -Independent Domestic Violence Advisors          -Integrated Services          -Multi-agency forums/ partnerships          -Perpetrator Programmes</p>	<p>with criminal justice system/ interventions:</p> <p>Exclude interventions that are NOT delivered by Criminal justice system (i.e. police, Crown Prosecution Service, the courts, the probation service, National Offender Management Service, the Ministry of Justice).</p> <p>Exclude interventions delivered by other public sectors (e.g. NHS), or the voluntary or third sector (e.g. Women’s Aid) that have NOT been funded by the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Exclude interventions that are NOT directly delivered by the criminal justice system prior to a conviction for domestic violence NOR are they programmes that target convicted perpetrators</p> <p>Exclude primary interventions aimed at preventing the initiation or onset of domestic violence</p> <p>Exclude interventions that take place within the military system or/ for military personnel.</p>
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	<p>-Protection Orders          -Restorative Justice          -Risk assessment          -Second-responder programmes          -Specialist Domestic Violence Courts</p>	
<p><b>4. Study type</b></p>	<p>Systematic review (i.e. describes search strategies and inclusion criteria used) that includes outcome, economics and/ or process evaluation</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Primary study that examine the impact of CJS interventions in domestic violence or the mechanisms/ process by which the CJS is intervening in domestic violence (reports empirical data, either numerical or textual)</p>	<p>Literature review or narrative review without explicit methods detailing search strategy and inclusion criteria</p> <p>Systematic review of primary studies that do not include empirical data</p> <p>Exclude primary studies without empirical data, either numerical or textual</p> <p>Commentaries, position papers, policy documents (i.e. reports without empirical data), methodological papers (e.g. validation of measurement tools), historical analyses (before WW II), student textbooks without explicit reference to empirical research.</p> <p>Exclude studies that do not tell us about the impact of CJS intervention in domestic violence or the mechanism/ process of this intervention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclude prevalence studies- those that</li> </ul>

		<p>only identify or describe the prevalence of domestic violence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclude studies that only investigate risk factors for involvement in domestic violence.</li> <li>• Exclude studies that use perpetrators/ victims as a convenience sample for the study (e.g. to identify behavioural traits of offenders/ victims)</li> </ul>
<b>5. Geography</b>	<p>Systematic review includes studies OR primary study where data has been collected from OECD countries (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxemburg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States)</p>	<p>Systematic review includes studies from non-OECD countries. Primary studies collect data from non-OECD countries.</p>
<b>6. No Abstract</b>		<p>If no abstract is provided, please undertake a quick google search for the abstract.</p>

		Exclude studies where it is not possible to easily locate an abstract or summary of the report.
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## Appendix 2.2: Search strategy for electronic databases

1. SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Domestic violence") ("Battered women")
2. SU.EXACT("Assault") OR SU.EXACT("Violence") OR SU.exact("abuse") OR SU.exact("physical trauma")
3. (SU.EXACT("Battered women") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Elderly husbands" OR "Ex-wives" OR "Former spouses" OR "Husbands" OR "Spouses" OR "Wives") OR SU.EXACT("Family relationships") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Abusive relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Functional relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Intimate relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Interpersonal relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Dyadic relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Marital relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Hierarchical relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Heterosexual relationships") OR SU.EXACT("Dual relationships"))
4. SU.EXACT("Criminal justice") OR SU.EXACT("Criminal offences") OR SU.EXACT("Criminal sanctions") OR SU.EXACT("Criminal policy") OR SU.EXACT("Criminal justice policy") EXACT("Criminal law") OR SU.EXACT("Criminal justice system") OR "Criminal courts" OR SU.EXACT("Police authorities") OR SU.EXACT("Police officers") OR SU.EXACT("Police") OR SU.EXACT("Police projects") SU.EXACT("Prisons") OR SU.EXACT("Prison service") OR SU.EXACT("Remand prisons") SU.EXACT("Probation service") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Victims") OR SU.EXACT("Victimology") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Perpetrators") OR SU.EXACT.EXPLODE("Dangerous offenders" OR "Disabled young offenders" OR "Drunken offenders" OR "Ex-offenders" OR "Ex-prisoners" OR "Juvenile offenders" OR "Juvenile sex offenders" OR "Learning disabled young offenders" OR "Long term prisoners" OR "Maximum security prisoners" OR "Murderers" OR "Offenders" OR "Prisoners" OR "Probationers" OR "Recidivists" OR "Remand offenders" OR "Remand prisoners" OR "Sex offenders" OR "Suspected juvenile offenders" OR "Suspected offenders" OR "Violent juvenile offenders" OR "Violent offenders" OR "Violent sex offenders" OR "Violent suspected offenders" OR "Violent young offenders" OR "Young adult offenders" OR "Young offenders") OR SU.EXACT("Ex-offenders") OR "Defendants"
5. ti("domestic violence" OR "domestic abuse" OR "interpersonal violence" OR "intimate violence" IPV OR DV OR batter\*) OR ab("domestic violence" OR "domestic abuse" OR "interpersonal violence" OR "intimate violence" IPV OR DV OR batter\*)
6. ti(abuse OR assault\* OR violence OR attack OR aggress") OR ab(abuse OR assault\* OR violence OR attack OR aggress") TI("intimate partner\*" OR spous\* OR partner OR relationship\* OR girlfriend\* or boyfriend\* or dating OR famil\* OR wife OR wives or husband\* or "ex-partner\*" OR ex-boyfriend\* OR ex-girlfriend OR married OR marital OR interpersonal OR intimate) OR
7. AB("intimate partner\*" OR spous\* OR partner OR relationship\* OR girlfriend\* or boyfriend\* or dating OR famil\* OR wife OR wives or husband\* or "ex-partner\*" OR ex-boyfriend\* OR ex-girlfriend OR married OR marital OR interpersonal OR intimate)

Ti(“intimate partner\*” OR spous\* OR partner OR relationship\* OR girlfriend\* or boyfriend\* or dating OR famil\* OR wife OR wives or husband\* or “ex-partner\*” OR ex-boyfriend\* OR ex-girlfriend OR married OR marital OR interpersonal OR intimate)

8. Ti(crime OR criminal OR justice OR court\* OR prosecut\* or judg\* OR hearing OR trial OR police OR warrant OR probation OR parole OR mandat\* OR sentanc\* OR convict\* remand OR prison OR law OR legal\* OR offen\* OR felony OR Indict\* OR misdemeanor OR perpetrator OR accuse\*) OR ab(crime OR criminal OR justice OR court\* OR prosecut\* or judg\* OR hearing OR trial OR police OR warrant OR probation OR parole OR mandat\* OR sentanc\* OR convict\* remand OR prison OR law OR legal\* OR offen\* OR felony OR Indict\* OR misdemeanor OR perpetrator OR accuse\*)

## Appendix 2.4.1: Draft keywording tool

### Domestic violence review keywording strategy DRAFT

#### Section A: Core keywords

A.1 What kind of printed material does it concern?	A.1.1 Book A.1.2 Journal article A.1.3. Report A.1.3 other
A.2 What is the status of the report?	A.2.1 published A.2.2 in press A.2.3 unpublished (including ongoing project, communication from author etc) A 2.4 conference presentation
A.3 Which language is the study in?	English Other (add free text)
A.4 How were the keywords allocated?	A.4.1 abstract A.4.2 full report A.4.3 title
A.5 What type of study does this report describe?	A.5. 1. Systematic review a.5. 2. Evaluation study a.5. 3. OTHER
A.6 . In what country/countries was the study undertaken? (For a review or systematic review which includes studies form more than one country – code on the basis of which country lead reviewer was based in).	A.6.1. USA A.6.2. UK A.6.3. Republic of Ireland A.6.4. Canada A.6.5. Australia A.6.6. New Zealand A.6.7. Europe Other (add to text box) A.6.8. Africa (add to text box)
A.7. What date was the study conducted	A.7.1. ADD
A.8 Characteristics of the study population  Use however many apply.	A.8.1 Women A.8.2 Men A.8.3 Adults A.8.4 Fathers A.8.5. Mothers

	<p>A.8.6. Victims (gender not specified)</p> <p>A.8.7. Perpetrators (gender not specified)</p> <p>A.8.8. Older people</p> <p>A.8.9. Families</p> <p>A.8.10. BME (add free text description using authors words)</p> <p>A.8.11. LGBTQ</p> <p>A.8.12. SES (add free text description using authors words)</p> <p>A.8.13 Asylum seeker / refugee</p> <p>A.8.14. Physical disability</p> <p>A.8.15. Learning disability</p> <p>A.8. 16. Alcohol or substance misuse</p> <p>A.8.17. Ex-Offender</p> <p>A.8.18. Repeat offender</p>
A.9. Named programme?	A.9.1 ADD
A.10.1 Role of the Criminal Justice System in the intervention	<p>A.10.1 Delivery</p> <p>A.10.2. Referral (to external agency , social services, health services)</p> <p>A.10.3. Funds (commissions and funds NGO to deliver programme)</p> <p>A.10.4. Working with other agencies</p>

## Appendix 2.4.2: Draft coding tool

### Section A: Administrative details

*Use of these guidelines should be cited as: EPPI-Centre (2007) Review Guidelines for Extracting Data and Quality Assessing Primary Studies for Home Office Offender reviews. Version 1.0 London: EPPI-Centre, Social Science Research Unit.*

A.1 Name of the reviewer	A.1.1 Details
A.2 Date of the review	A.2.1 Details
<p>A.3 Please enter the details of each paper which reports on this item/study and which is used to complete this data extraction.</p> <p><i>(1): A paper can be a journal article, a book, or chapter in a book, or an unpublished report.</i></p>	<p>A.3.1 Paper (1) <i>Fill in a separate entry for further papers as required.</i></p> <p>A.3.2 Unique Identifier:</p> <p>A.3.3 Authors:</p> <p>A.3.4 Title:</p> <p>A.3.5 Paper (2)</p> <p>A.3.6 Unique Identifier:</p> <p>A.3.7 Authors:</p> <p>A.3.8 Title:</p>
<p>A.4 Main paper. Please classify one of the above papers as the 'main' report of the study and enter its unique identifier here.</p> <p><i>NB(1): When only one paper reports on the study, this will be the 'main' report.</i></p> <p><i>NB(2): In some cases the 'main' paper will be the one which provides the fullest or the latest report of the study. In other cases the decision about which is the 'main' report will have to be made on an arbitrary basis.</i></p>	<p>A.4.1 Unique Identifier:</p>
<p>A.5 Please enter the details of each paper which reports on this study but is NOT being used to complete this data extraction.</p> <p><i>NB A paper can be a journal article, a book, or chapter in a book, or an unpublished report.</i></p>	<p>A.5.1 Paper (1) <i>Fill in a separate entry for further papers as required.</i></p> <p>A.5.2 Unique Identifier:</p> <p>A.5.3 Authors:</p> <p>A.5.4 Title:</p> <p>A.5.5 Paper (2)</p> <p>A.5.6 Unique Identifier:</p>



	<p>A.5.7 Authors:</p> <p>A.5.8 Title:</p>
<p>A.6 If the study has a broad focus and this data extraction focuses on just one component of the study, please specify this here.</p>	<p>A.6.1 Not applicable (whole study is focus of data extraction)</p> <p>A.6.2 Specific focus of this data extraction (please specify)</p>
<p>A.7 Identification of report (or reports) <i>Please use AS MANY KEYWORDS AS APPLY.</i></p>	<p>A.7.1 Citation <i>Please use this keyword if the report was identified from the bibliographic list of another report.</i></p> <p>A.7.2 Contact <i>Please use this keyword if the report was found through a personal/professional contact.</i></p> <p>A.7.3 Hand search <i>Please use this keyword if the report was found through hand searching a journal.</i></p> <p>A.7.4 Unknown <i>Please use this keyword if it is unknown how the report was found.</i></p> <p>A.7.5 Electronic database <i>Please use this keyword if the report was found through searching on an electronic bibliographic database.</i></p>
<p>A.8 Status <i>Please use ONE keyword only</i></p>	<p>A.8.1 Published <i>Please use this keyword if the report has an ISBN or ISSN number.</i></p> <p>A.8.2 Published as a report or conference paper <i>Please use this code for reports which do not have an ISBN or ISSN number (eg. 'internal' reports; conference papers)</i></p> <p>A.8.3 Unpublished <i>e.g. thesis or author manuscript</i></p>

## Section B: Study Aims and Rationale

<p>B.1 What are the broad aims of the study?  <i>Please write in authors' description if there is one. Elaborate if necessary, but indicate which aspects are reviewers' interpretation. Other, more specific questions about the research questions and hypotheses are asked later.</i></p>	<p>B.1.1 Explicitly stated (please specify)  B.1.2 Implicit (please specify)  B.1.3 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>B.2 What is the purpose of the study?  <i>N.B. This question refers only to the purpose of a study, not to the design or methods used.</i></p> <p><i>A: Description  Please use this code for studies in which the aim is to produce a description of a state of affairs or a particular phenomenon, and/or to document its characteristics. In these types of studies there is no attempt to evaluate a particular intervention programme (according to either the processes involved in its implementation or its effects on outcomes), or to examine the associations between one or more variables. These types of studies are usually, but not always, conducted at one point in time (i.e. cross sectional). They can include studies such as an interview of head teachers to count how many have explicit policies on continuing professional development for teachers; a study documenting student attitudes to national examinations using focus groups; a survey of the felt needs of parents using self-completion questionnaires, about whether they want a school bus service.</i></p> <p><i>B: Exploration of relationships  Please use this code for a study type which examines relationships and/or statistical associations between variables in order to build theories and develop hypotheses. These studies may describe a process or processes (what goes on) in order to explore how a particular state of affairs might be produced, maintained and changed.</i></p>	<p>B.2.1 A: Description  B.2.2 B: Exploration of relationships  B.2.3 C: What works?  B.2.4 D: Methods development  B.2.5 E: Reviewing/synthesising research</p>

<p><i>These relationships may be discovered using qualitative techniques, and/or statistical analyses. For instance, observations of children at play may elucidate the process of gender stereotyping, and suggest the kinds of interventions which may be appropriate to reduce any negative effects in the classroom. Complex statistical analysis may be helpful in modelling the relationships between parents' social class and language in the home. These may lead to the development of theories about the mechanisms of language acquisition, and possible policies to intervene in a causal pathway.</i></p> <p><i>These studies often consider variables such as social class and gender which are not interventions, although these studies may aid understanding, and may suggest possible interventions, as well as ways in which a programme design and implementation could be improved. These studies do not directly evaluate the effects of policies and practices.</i></p> <p><i>C: What works</i>  <i>A study will only fall within this category if it measures effectiveness - i.e. the impact of a specific intervention or programme on a defined sample of recipients or subjects of the programme or intervention.</i></p> <p><i>D: Methods development</i>  <i>Studies where the principle focus is on methodology.</i></p> <p><i>E: Reviewing/Synthesising research</i>  <i>Studies which summarise and synthesise primary research studies.</i></p>	
<p>B.3 Do authors report how the study was funded?</p>	<p>B.3.1 Explicitly stated (please specify)</p> <p>B.3.2 Implicit (please specify)</p> <p>B.3.3 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>

<p>B.4 When was the study carried out? <i>If the authors give a year, or range of years, then put that in. If not, give a 'not later than' date by looking for a date of first submission to the journal, or for clues like the publication dates of other reports from the study.</i></p>	<p>B.4.1 Explicitly stated (please specify ) B.4.2 Implicit (please specify) B.4.3 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>B.5 What are the study research questions and/or hypotheses? <i>Research questions or hypotheses operationalise the aims of the study. Please write in author's description if there is one. Elaborate if necessary, but indicate which aspects are reviewers' interpretation.</i></p>	<p>B.5.1 Explicitly stated (please specify) B.5.2 Implicit (please specify) B.5.3 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>

### Section C: Actual sample

*If there are several samples or levels of sample, please complete for each level*

<p>C.2 What was the total number of participants in the study (the actual sample)? <i>if more than one group is being compared, please give numbers for each group</i></p>	<p>C.2.1 Not applicable (e.g study of policies, documents etc) C.2.2 Explicitly stated (please specify) C.2.3 Implicit (please specify) C.2.4 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>C.5 What is the sex of the individuals in the actual sample? <i>Please give the numbers of the sample that fall within each of the given categories. If necessary refer to a page number in the report (e.g. for a useful table).</i></p> <p><i>If more than one group is being compared, please describe for each group.</i></p>	<p>C.5.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents etc) C.5.2 Single sex (please specify) C.5.3 Mixed sex (please specify) C.5.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify) C.5.5 Coding is based on: Authors' description C.5.6 Coding is based on: Reviewers' inference</p>
<p>C.6 What is the socio-economic status of the individuals within the actual sample? <i>If more than one group is being compared, please describe for each group.</i></p>	<p>C.6.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents etc) C.6.2 Explicitly stated (please specify) C.6.3 Implicit (please specify) C.6.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>

<p>C.7 What is the ethnicity of the individuals within the actual sample? <i>If more than one group is being compared, please describe for each group.</i></p>	<p>C.7.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents etc) C.7.2 Explicitly stated (please specify) C.7.3 Implicit (please specify) C.7.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>C.8 What is known about the special educational needs of individuals within the actual sample? <i>e.g. specific learning, physical, emotional, behavioural, intellectual difficulties.</i></p>	<p>C.8.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents etc) C.8.2 Explicitly stated (please specify) C.8.3 Implicit (please specify) C.8.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>C.9 Please specify any other useful information about the study participants.</p>	<p>C.9.1 Details</p>

#### Section D: Programme or Intervention description

<p>D.1 Country where intervention carried out</p>	<p>D.1.1 Canada D.1.2 United Kingdom <i>Please state which Country (England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales)</i> D.1.3 United States of America D.1.4 Other (please State) D.1.5 Unclear/ Not stated</p>
<p>D.2 Location of intervention</p>	<p>D.2.1 Correctional Institution <i>Please use if the study takes place in a correctional institution e.g. Young Offender Institution</i> D.2.2 Not in correctional institution D.2.3 Unstated /not clear</p>
<p>D.3 Type of Interventions (in Correctional institutions) <i>Please answer this question if the intervention was located in a correctional institution.</i></p>	<p>D.3.1 N/A Intervention not in correctional institution D.3.2 Interventions to deal with specific mental health problems D.3.3 Restorative Justice <i>Use where focus of intervention is bringing victim and offender together so that offender is made to confront what they have done</i></p>

	<p>D.3.4 Counselling (all types)</p> <p>D.3.5 Educational and/or Vocational skills programmes</p> <p>D.3.6 Drug and alcohol treatment</p> <p>D.3.7 Anger/ aggression management programmes or similar</p> <p>D.3.8 Multi-systemic/ Comprehensive <i>Use where interventions adopts a number of the elements outlined above (please also tick the individual elements)</i></p> <p>D.3.9 Other (please state)</p> <p>D.3.10 Not stated / unclear</p>
<p>D.4 Type of intervention (not in correctional institution) <i>Answer these questions where the intervention is undertaken outside of a correctional institution</i></p>	<p>D.4.1 N/A intervention takes place in a correctional institution</p> <p>D.4.2 Social Inclusion <i>use if intervention focuses on reintegrating offenders into the wider community</i></p> <p>D.4.3 Community mobilization <i>Use where intervention focuses on the engagement and mobilization of communities to reduce offending</i></p> <p>D.4.4 Opportunities provision <i>Use where intervention is focused on providing new long term opportunities for offenders e.g. housing, employment</i></p> <p>D.4.5 Diversion <i>Use where intervention is an activity designed to turn offenders away from crime e.g recreational activities</i></p> <p>D.4.6 Pre-court diversion schemes delivered by CJS <i>Use where intervention occurs prior to court appearance and is provided by agency within the criminal justice system</i></p> <p>D.4.7 Probation <i>Use where intervention is to be given a probation order as a sentence</i></p>

	<p>D.4.8 Legal <i>Use this codes where intervention = changes in law and/or legal procedure e.g effective sentencing guidelines</i></p> <p>D.4.9 Enforcement <i>Use this code for interventions that enforce sanctions e.g. Curfews, restraint or control orders, tagging</i></p> <p>D.4.10 Interventions to deal with specific health problems <i>e.g. mental health</i></p> <p>D.4.11 Drug/alcohol treatment programmes</p> <p>D.4.12 Anger / aggression management programmes or similar</p> <p>D.4.13 Counselling (Not CBT)</p> <p>D.4.14 Cognitive behavioural therapy</p> <p>D.4.15 Organization and management <i>use where the intervention is change in organization and management of services provided to offenders e.g. reduction caseload or introduction of case management approaches</i></p> <p>D.4.16 Educational/ vocational training <i>Use for any intervention that focuses on developing general educational level or specific skills of participants including mentoring programmes</i></p> <p>D.4.17 Restorative Justice <i>Use where focus of intervention is bringing victim and offender together so that offender is made to confront what they have done</i></p> <p>D.4.18 Multi-systemic/ Comprehensive <i>Use where interventions adopts a number of the elements outlined above (please also tick the individual elements)</i></p> <p>D.4.19 Other (please state)</p> <p>D.4.20 Unstated/ Not clear</p>
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<p>D.5 If a programme or intervention is being studied, does it have a formal name?</p>	<p>D.5.1 Not applicable (no programme or intervention)</p> <p>D.5.2 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>D.5.3 No (please specify)</p> <p>D.5.4 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>D.6 Content of the intervention package <i>Describe the intervention in detail, whenever possible copying the authors' description from the report word for word. If specified in the report, also describe in detail what the control/ comparison group(s) were exposed to.</i></p>	<p>D.6.1 Details</p>
<p>D.7 Aim(s) of the intervention</p>	<p>D.7.1 Not stated</p> <p>D.7.2 Not explicitly stated (Write in, as worded by the reviewer)</p> <p>D.7.3 Stated (Write in, as stated by the authors)</p>
<p>D.8 Year intervention started <i>Where relevant</i></p>	<p>D.8.1 Details</p>
<p>D.9 Duration of the intervention <i>Choose the relevant category and write in the exact intervention length if specified in the report</i></p> <p><i>When the intervention is ongoing, tick 'OTHER' and indicate the length of intervention as the length of the outcome assessment period</i></p>	<p>D.9.1 Not stated</p> <p>D.9.2 Not applicable</p> <p>D.9.3 Unclear</p> <p>D.9.4 One day or less (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.5 1 day to 1 week (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.6 1 week (and 1 day) to 1 month (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.7 1 month (and 1 day) to 3 months (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.8 3 months (and 1 day) to 6 months (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.9 6 months (and 1 day) to 1 year (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.10 1 year (and 1 day) to 2 years (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.11 2 years (and 1 day) to 3 years (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.12 3 years (and 1 day) to 5 years (please specify)</p>



	<p>D.9.13 more than 5 years (please specify)</p> <p>D.9.14 Other (please specify)</p>
D.10 Intensity of the Intervention	<p>D.10.1 Daily</p> <p>D.10.2 1-2 per week</p> <p>D.10.3 2-4 per week</p> <p>D.10.4 less than weekly (give frequency)</p> <p>D.10.5 Unclear/ not stated</p>
D.11 Person providing the intervention (tick as many as appropriate)	<p>D.11.1 Counsellor</p> <p>D.11.2 Health professional (please specify)</p> <p>D.11.3 parent</p> <p>D.11.4 peer</p> <p>D.11.5 Psychologist</p> <p>D.11.6 Researcher</p> <p>D.11.7 Social worker</p> <p>D.11.8 Teacher/lecturer</p> <p>D.11.9 Probation service</p> <p>D.11.10 Prison staff</p> <p>D.11.11 Court worker</p> <p>D.11.12 Police Officer</p> <p>D.11.13 Other (specify)</p> <p>D.11.14 Unstated/ not clear</p>
D.12 Was special training given to people providing the intervention? <i>Provide as much detail as possible</i>	<p>D.12.1 Not stated</p> <p>D.12.2 Unclear</p> <p>D.12.3 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>D.12.4 No</p>
D.13 What treatment/ intervention did the control/comparison group receive	<p>D.13.1 No control group <i>Use this code if participants acted as own control e.g. in pre-post test design</i></p> <p>D.13.2 treatment as usual (please specify)</p> <p>D.13.3 alternative intervention (please specify)</p>

	D.13.4 Not stated/ unclear
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## Section E: Results & Conclusions

<p>E.1 What are the results of the study as reported by authors?  <i>Please give as much detail as possible and refer to page numbers in the report(s) of the study, where necessary (e.g. for key tables).</i></p> <p><i>Please use facility for extracting data/ outcomes where appropriate</i></p>	E.1.1 Details
<p>E.2 Where economic analysis completed what are the results  <i>Please give all relevant data</i></p> <p><i>All data relating to costs</i></p> <p><i>All data relating to benefits</i></p> <p><i>For studies where costs and benefits compared between two alternatives please report all costs and benefits for both alternatives</i></p>	<p>E.2.1 N/A No economic analysis</p> <p>E.2.2 Details</p>
<p>E.3 For cost benefit analysis financial costs are lower in</p>	<p>E.3.1 N/A No economic analysis</p> <p>E.3.2 The experimental or intervention group</p> <p>E.3.3 The control group</p>
<p>E.4 For cost benefit analysis benefits are lower or harm greater in</p>	<p>E.4.1 N/A No economic analysis</p> <p>E.4.2 The experimental (intervention) group</p> <p>E.4.3 The Control (or comparison group)</p>
<p>E.5 Are there any obvious shortcomings in the reporting of the data?</p>	<p>E.5.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>E.5.2 No</p>
<p>E.6 Do the authors report on all variables they aimed to study as specified in their aims/research questions?  <i>This excludes variables just used to describe the sample.</i></p>	<p>E.6.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>E.6.2 No</p>

<p>E.7 What do the author(s) conclude about the findings of the study?  <i>Please give details and refer to page numbers in the report of the study, where necessary.</i></p>	<p>E.7.1 Details</p>
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## Section F: Study Method

<p>F.1 Study Timing  <i>Please indicate all that apply and give further details where possible</i></p> <p><i>-If the study examines one or more samples but each at only one point in time it is cross-sectional</i></p> <p><i>-If the study examines the same samples but as they have changed over time, it is a retrospective, provided that the interest is in starting at one time point and looking backwards over time</i></p> <p><i>-If the study examines the same samples as they have changed over time and if data are collected forward over time, it is prospective provided that the interest is in starting at one time point and looking forward in time</i></p>	<p>F.1.1 Cross-sectional</p> <p>F.1.2 Retrospective</p> <p>F.1.3 Prospective</p> <p>F.1.4 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>F.2 when were the measurements of the variable(s) used as outcome measures made, in relation to the intervention  <i>Use only if the purpose of the study is to measure the effectiveness or impact of an intervention or programme i.e its purpose is coded as 'What Works' in Section B2 -</i></p> <p><i>If at least one of the outcome variables is measured both before and after the intervention, please use the 'before and after' category.</i></p>	<p>F.2.1 Not applicable (not an evaluation)</p> <p>F.2.2 Before and after</p> <p>F.2.3 Only after</p> <p>F.2.4 Other (please specify)</p> <p>F.2.5 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>F.3 What is the method used in the study?  <i>NB: Studies may use more than one method please code each method used for which data extraction is being completed and the respective outcomes for each method.</i></p>	<p>F.3.1 A=Random experiment with random allocation to groups</p> <p>F.3.2 B=Experiment with non-random allocation to groups</p> <p>F.3.3 C=One group pre-post test</p>

<p><i>A=Please use this code if the outcome evaluation employed the design of a randomised controlled trial. To be classified as an RCT, the evaluation must:</i></p> <p><i>i). compare two or more groups which receive different interventions or different intensities/levels of an intervention with each other; and/or with a group which does not receive any intervention at all</i></p> <p><i>AND</i></p> <p><i>ii) allocate participants (individuals, groups, classes, schools, LEAs etc) or sequences to the different groups based on a fully random schedule (e.g a random numbers table is used). If the report states that random allocation was used and no further information is given then please keyword as RCT. If the allocation is NOT fully randomised (e.g allocation by alternate numbers by date of birth) then please keyword as a non-randomised controlled trial</i></p> <p><i>B=Please use this code if the evaluation compared two or more groups which receive different interventions, or different intensities/levels of an intervention to each other and/or with a group which does not receive any intervention at all BUT DOES NOT allocate participants (individuals, groups, classes, schools, LEAs etc) or sequences in a fully random manner. This keyword should be used for studies which describe groups being allocated using a quasi-random method (e.g allocation by alternate numbers or by date of birth) or other non- random method</i></p> <p><i>C=Please use this code where a group of subjects is tested on outcome of interest before being given an intervention which is being evaluated. After receiving the intervention the same test is administered</i></p>	<p>F.3.4 D=one group post-test only</p> <p>F.3.5 E=Cohort study</p> <p>F.3.6 F=Case-control study</p> <p>F.3.7 G=Statistical survey</p> <p>F.3.8 H=Views study</p> <p>F.3.9 I=Ethnography</p> <p>F.3.10 J=Systematic review</p> <p>F.3.11 K=Other review (non-systematic)</p> <p>F.3.12 L=Case study</p> <p>F.3.13 M= Document study</p> <p>F.3.14 N=Action research</p> <p>F.3.15 O= Methodological study</p> <p>F.3.16 P=Secondary data analysis</p>
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*again to the same subjects. The outcome is the difference between the pre and post test scores of the subjects.*

*D=Please use this code where one group of subjects is tested on outcome of interest after receiving the intervention which is being evaluated*

*E=Please use this code where researchers prospectively study a sample (e.g learners), collect data on the different aspects of policies or practices experienced by members of the sample (e.g teaching methods, class sizes), look forward in time to measure their later outcomes (e.g achievement) and relate the experiences to the outcomes achieved. The purpose is to assess the effect of the different experiences on outcomes.*

*F=Please use this code where researchers compare two or more groups of individuals on the basis of their current situation (e.g 16 year old pupils with high current educational performance compared to those with average educational performance), and look back in time to examine the statistical association with different policies or practices which they have experienced (e.g class size; attendance at single sex or mixed sex schools; non-school activities etc).*

*G= please use this code where researchers have used a questionnaire to collect quantitative information about items in a sample or population e.g parents views on education*

*H= Please use this code where the researchers try to understand phenomenon from the point of the 'worldview' of a particular, group, culture or society. In these studies there is attention to subjective meaning, perspectives and experience'.*

*I= please use this code when the researchers present a qualitative description of human social phenomena, based on fieldwork*

*J= please use this code if the review is explicit in its reporting of a systematic strategy used for (i) searching for studies (i.e it reports which databases have been searched and the keywords used to search the database, the list of journals hand searched, and describes attempts to find unpublished or 'grey' literature; (ii) the criteria for including and excluding studies in the review and, (iii) methods used for assessing the quality and collating the findings of included studies.*

*K= Please use this code for cases where the review discusses a particular issue bringing together the opinions/findings/conclusions from a range of previous studies but where the review does not meet the criteria for a systematic review (as defined above)*

*L= please use this code when researchers refer specifically to their design/ approach as a 'case study'. Where possible further information about the methods used in the case study should be coded*

*M=please use this code where researchers have used documents as a source of data e.g newspaper reports*

*N=Please use this code where practitioners or institutions (with or without the help of researchers) have used research as part of a process of development and/or change. Where possible further information about the research methods used should be coded*

*O=please use this keyword for studies which focus on the development or discussion of methods; for example*

<p><i>discussions of a statistical technique, a recruitment or sampling procedure, a particular way of collecting or analysing data etc. It may also refer to a description of the processes or stages involved in developing an 'instrument' (e.g an assessment procedure).</i></p> <p><i>P= Please use this code where researchers have used data from a pre-existing dataset e.g The British Household Panel Survey to answer their 'new' research question.</i></p>	
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### Section G: Methods-treatment of groups

<p>G.1 If Comparisons are being made between two or more groups*, please specify the basis of any divisions made for making these comparisons <i>Please give further details where possible</i></p> <p><i>*If no comparisons are being made between groups please continue to Section I (Methods - sampling strategy)</i></p>	<p>G.1.1 Not applicable (not more than one group)</p> <p>G.1.2 Prospective allocation into more than one group <i>e.g allocation to different interventions, or allocation to intervention and control groups</i></p> <p>G.1.3 No prospective allocation but use of pre-existing differences to create comparison groups <i>e.g. receiving different interventions or characterised by different levels of a variable such as social class</i></p> <p>G.1.4 Other (please specify)</p> <p>G.1.5 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>G.2 How do the groups differ?</p>	<p>G.2.1 Not applicable (not in more than one group)</p> <p>G.2.2 Explicitly stated (please specify)</p> <p>G.2.3 Implicit (please specify)</p> <p>G.2.4 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>G.3 Number of groups <i>For instance, in studies in which comparisons are made between group, this may be the number of groups into which the dataset is divided for analysis (e.g social class, or form size), or the</i></p>	<p>G.3.1 Not applicable (not more than one group)</p> <p>G.3.2 One</p> <p>G.3.3 Two</p>

<p><i>number of groups allocated to, or receiving, an intervention.</i></p>	<p>G.3.4 Three G.3.5 Four or more (please specify) G.3.6 Other/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>G.4 If prospective allocation into more than one group, what was the unit of allocation? <i>Please indicate all that apply and give further details where possible</i></p>	<p>G.4.1 Not applicable (not more than one group) G.4.2 Not applicable (no prospective allocation) G.4.3 Individuals G.4.4 Groupings or clusters of individuals (e.g classes or schools) please specify G.4.5 Other (e.g individuals or groups acting as their own controls - please specify) G.4.6 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>G.5 If prospective allocation into more than one group, which method was used to generate the allocation sequence?</p>	<p>G.5.1 Not applicable (not more than one group) G.5.2 Not applicable (no prospective allocation) G.5.3 Random G.5.4 Quasi-random G.5.5 Non-random G.5.6 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>G.6 If prospective allocation into more than one group, was the allocation sequence concealed? <i>Bias can be introduced, consciously or otherwise, if the allocation of pupils or classes or schools to a programme or intervention is made in the knowledge of key characteristics of those allocated. For example, children with more serious reading difficulty might be seen as in greater need and might be more likely to be allocated to the 'new' programme, or the opposite might happen. Either would introduce bias.</i></p>	<p>G.6.1 Not applicable (not more than one group) G.6.2 Not applicable (no prospective allocation) G.6.3 Yes (please specify) G.6.4 No (please specify) G.6.5 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>G.7 Study design summary <i>In addition to answering the questions in</i></p>	<p>G.7.1 Details</p>



<p><i>this section, describe the study design in your own words. You may want to draw upon and elaborate on the answers already given.</i></p>	
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## Section H: Methods - Sampling strategy

<p>H.1 What is the sampling frame (if any) from which the participants are chosen? <i>e.g. telephone directory, electoral register, postcode, school listings etc.</i></p> <p><i>There may be two stages - e.g. first sampling schools and then classes or pupils within them.</i></p>	<p>H.1.1 Not applicable (please specify)</p> <p>H.1.2 Explicitly stated (please specify)</p> <p>H.1.3 Implicit (please specify)</p> <p>H.1.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>H.2 Which method does the study use to select people, or groups of people (from the sampling frame)? <i>e.g. selecting people at random, systematically - selecting, for example, every 5th person, purposively, in order to reach a quota for a given characteristic.</i></p>	<p>H.2.1 Not applicable (no sampling frame)</p> <p>H.2.2 Explicitly stated (please specify)</p> <p>H.2.3 Implicit (please specify)</p> <p>H.2.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>H.3 How representative was the achieved sample (as recruited at the start of the study) in relation to the aims of the sampling frame? <i>Please specify basis for your decision.</i></p>	<p>H.3.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents, etc.)</p> <p>H.3.2 Not applicable (no sampling frame)</p> <p>H.3.3 High (please specify)</p> <p>H.3.4 Medium (please specify)</p> <p>H.3.5 Low (please specify)</p> <p>H.3.6 Unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>H.4 If the study involves studying samples prospectively over time, what proportion of the sample dropped out over the course of the study? <i>If the study involves more than one group, please give drop-out rates for each group separately. If necessary, refer to a page number in the report (e.g. for a useful table).</i></p>	<p>H.4.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents, etc.)</p> <p>H.4.2 Not applicable (not following samples prospectively over time)</p> <p>H.4.3 Explicitly stated (please specify)</p> <p>H.4.4 Implicit (please specify)</p> <p>H.4.5 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>H.5 For studies that involve following samples prospectively over time, do the authors provide any information on</p>	<p>H.5.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents, etc.)</p>

whether, and/or how, those who dropped out of the study differ from those who remained in the study?	H.5.2 Not applicable (not following samples prospectively over time) H.5.3 Not applicable (no drop outs) H.5.4 Yes (please specify) H.5.5 No
H.6 If the study involves following samples prospectively over time, do authors provide baseline values of key variables, such as those being used as outcomes, and relevant socio-demographic variables?	H.6.1 Not applicable (e.g. study of policies, documents, etc.) H.6.2 Not applicable (not following samples prospectively over time) H.6.3 Yes (please specify) H.6.4 No

### Section I: Methods - recruitment and consent

I.1 Which methods are used to recruit people into the study? <i>e.g. letters of invitation, telephone contact, face-to-face contact.</i>	I.1.1 Not applicable (please specify) I.1.2 Explicitly stated (please specify) I.1.3 Implicit (please specify) I.1.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify) I.1.5 Please specify any other details relevant to recruitment and consent
I.2 Were any incentives provided to recruit people into the study?	I.2.1 Not applicable (please specify) I.2.2 Explicitly stated (please specify) I.2.3 Not stated/unclear (please specify)
I.3 Was consent sought? <i>Please comment on the quality of consent, if relevant.</i>	I.3.1 Not applicable (please specify) I.3.2 Participant consent sought  I.3.3 Other consent sought I.3.4 Consent not sought I.3.5 Not stated/unclear (please specify)

### Section J: Methods - Data Collection

J.1 Which methods were used to collect the data? <i>Please indicate all that apply and give further detail where possible</i>	J.1.1 Criminal Justice System records <i>Please state e.g. court records</i> J.1.2 Focus group interview
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	<p>J.1.3 One-to-one interview (face to face or by phone)</p> <p>J.1.4 Observation</p> <p>J.1.5 Self-completion questionnaire</p> <p>J.1.6 self-completion report or diary</p> <p>J.1.7 Examinations</p> <p>J.1.8 Clinical test</p> <p>J.1.9 Practical test</p> <p>J.1.10 Psychological test (e.g I.Q test)</p> <p>J.1.11 Hypothetical scenario including vignettes</p> <p>J.1.12 Secondary data such as publicly available statistics</p> <p>J.1.13 Other documentation</p> <p>J.1.14 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p> <p>J.1.15 Please specify any other important features of data collection</p> <p>J.1.16 Coding is based on: Author's description</p> <p>J.1.17 Coding is based on: Reviewers' interpretation</p>
<p>J.2 Details of data collection instruments or tool(s). <i>Please provide details including names for all tools used to collect data, and examples of any questions/items given. Also, please state whether source is cited in the report</i></p>	<p>J.2.1 Explicitly stated (please specify)</p> <p>J.2.2 Implicit (please specify)</p> <p>J.2.3 Not stated/ unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>J.3 Do the authors' describe any ways they addressed the repeatability or reliability of their data collection tools/methods? <i>e.g test-re-test methods</i></p> <p><i>(where more than one tool was employed, please provide details for each)</i></p>	<p>J.3.1 Details</p>
<p>J.4 Do the authors describe any ways they have addressed the validity or trustworthiness of their data collection</p>	<p>J.4.1 Details</p>

<p>tools/methods?  <i>e.g mention previous piloting or validation of tools, published version of tools, involvement of target population in development of tools.</i></p> <p><i>(Where more than one tool was employed, please provide details for each)</i></p>	
<p>J.5 Was there a concealment of which group that subjects were assigned to (i.e. the intervention or control) or other key factors from those carrying out measurement of outcome - if relevant?  <i>Not applicable - e.g analysis of existing data, qualitative study.</i></p> <p><i>No - e.g assessment of reading progress for dyslexic pupils done by teacher who provided intervention</i></p> <p><i>Yes - e.g researcher assessing pupil knowledge of drugs - unaware of whether pupil received the intervention or not.</i></p>	<p>J.5.1 Not applicable (please say why)</p> <p>J.5.2 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>J.5.3 No (please specify)</p>

### Section K: Methods - data analysis

<p>K.1 Which methods were used to analyse the data?  <i>Please give details of of approach methods including statistical methods.</i></p>	<p>K.1.1 Explicitly stated (please specify)</p> <p>K.1.2 Implicit (please specify)</p> <p>K.1.3 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p> <p>K.1.4 Please specify any important analytic or statistical issues</p>
<p>K.2 Did the study address multiplicity by reporting ancillary analyses, including sub-group analyses and adjusted analyses, and do the authors report on whether these were pre-specified or exploratory?</p>	<p>K.2.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>K.2.2 No (please specify)</p> <p>K.2.3 Not applicable</p>
<p>K.3 Do the authors describe strategies used in the analysis to control for bias from confounding variables?</p>	<p>K.3.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>K.3.2 No</p> <p>K.3.3 Not applicable</p>

<p>K.4 For evaluation studies that use prospective allocation, please specify the basis on which data analysis was carried out.</p> <p><i>'Intention to intervene' means that data were analysed on the basis of the original number of participants, as recruited into the different groups.</i></p> <p><i>'Intervention received' means data were analysed on the basis of the number of participants actually receiving the intervention.</i></p>	<p>K.4.1 Not applicable (not an evaluation study with prospective allocation)</p> <p>K.4.2 'Intention to intervene'</p> <p>K.4.3 'Intervention received'</p> <p>K.4.4 Not stated/unclear (please specify)</p>
<p>K.5 Were appropriate steps taken to establish reliability/validity of analysis e.g. assumptions for statistical analysis met triangulation in qualitative analysis</p>	<p>K.5.1 Not appropriate/needed</p> <p>K.5.2 Yes appropriate steps taken (please specify)</p> <p>K.5.3 No appropriate steps not taken (please specify) <i>If you use his code please specify what you think should have been done</i></p> <p>K.5.4 No stated/ unclear</p>

## Section L: Methods - Economic Analysis

<p>L.1 What economic analysis was completed</p> <p><i>Cost of intervention = Where total cost or cost per unit of output only given</i></p> <p><i>Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) = All costs and all benefits of intervention are identified and weighed against each other in common units (normally £)</i></p> <p><i>Cost Effectiveness Analysis (CEA) = All costs and all benefits identified in intervention and compared with other possible interventions to achieve the same goal – usually requires the same standard outcome measure for example cost per n reduction in arrests</i></p> <p><i>Cost Utility Analysis (CUA) = Can be either CBA or CEA but in addition outcomes are converted into measure which takes account of their quality or utility for example Quality Adjusted Life</i></p>	<p>L.1.1 None</p> <p>L.1.2 Cost of intervention only</p> <p>L.1.3 Cost Benefit analysis</p> <p>L.1.4 Cost effectiveness analysis</p> <p>L.1.5 Cost Utility analysis</p> <p>L.1.6 Coding is based on: Authors' description</p> <p>L.1.7 Coding is based on: Reviewers' inference</p>
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<p><i>Years (QALYS)</i></p> <p><i>Please use codes F.4.6 or F.4.7 to indicate whether your answer is based on author report or your interpretation</i></p>	
<p>L.2 Are estimates given as marginal costs/benefits <i>i.e. the additional cost /benefit that would be gained/ lost over and above what might usually be provided / might be the usual outcome</i></p>	<p>L.2.1 N/A No economic analysis L.2.2 Details</p>
<p>L.3 What inputs and or outcomes are measured in financial terms <i>Please report all items that are included reporting inputs and outcomes separately</i></p>	<p>L.3.1 N/A No economic analysis L.3.2 Details</p>
<p>L.4 What are the sources of data for the financial estimates <i>Please describe for inputs and outcomes included in the analysis</i></p> <p><i>If not given please state</i></p>	<p>L.4.1 N/A No economic analysis L.4.2 Details</p>
<p>L.5 How are the financial values given for inputs and outputs derived <i>Example of direct financial cost is budget of service per year</i></p> <p><i>Example of costs where monetary value has to be estimated = cost of practitioner training</i></p> <p><i>Example of benefit where monetary value has to be estimated = value to community of reduction in crime</i></p> <p><i>Please describe for all relevant costs and benefits reported</i></p> <p><i>Please state if not given</i></p>	<p>L.5.1 N/A No economic analysis L.5.2 details</p>
<p>L.6 What adjustments are made for differential timing in realization of costs and benefits <i>If none, Not applicable or not given please state</i></p> <p><i>Data should be given as constant values adjusted to the same year for costs and benefits</i></p>	<p>L.6.1 N/A No economic analysis L.6.2 details</p>

<p><i>Example 1: Service costs may be expressed as cost of service based on its expenditure during operation. Benefits may be expressed financial savings that would accrue from e.g. reduction in crime. However the savings from reduction in crime will occur at a future point in time and adjustments should be made for this.</i></p> <p><i>Example 2: Data on costs and/or benefits maybe based on projections which are derived from previous similar exercises for example projected annual earnings. Data maybe adjusted to take into account changes in average earnings over the period of time between the source data and the study</i></p>	
<p>L.7 What sensitivity analysis was undertaken to estimate the effect of uncertainty in costs of inputs/outcomes <i>Where costs or benefits are based on estimates sensitivity analysis maybe undertaken to test the effect on the results that changing some of the parameters of the estimates makes.</i></p> <p><i>Where costs or benefits are based on a client outcome the outcome will be a point estimate which should have a a confidence interval the economic analysis should reflect this</i></p>	<p>L.7.1 N/A No economic analysis</p> <p>L.7.2 Details</p>

### Section M: Quality of study - reporting

<p>M.1 Is the context of the study adequately described? <i>Consider your previous answers to these questions (see Section B):</i></p> <p><i>why was this study done at this point in time, in those contexts and with those people or institutions? (B3)</i></p> <p><i>Was the study informed by, or linked to</i></p>	<p>M.1.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>M.1.2 No (please specify)</p>
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<p><i>an existing body of empirical and/or theoretical research? (B4)</i></p> <p><i>Which groups were consulted in working out the aims to be addressed in this study? (B5)</i></p> <p><i>Do the authors report how the study was funded? (B6)</i></p> <p><i>When was the study carried out? (B7)</i></p>	
<p>M.2 Are the aims of the study clearly reported? <i>Consider your previous answers to these questions (See module B):</i></p> <p><i>What are the broad aims of the study? (B1)</i></p> <p><i>What are the study research questions and/or hypothesis? (B8)</i></p>	<p>M.2.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>M.2.2 No (please specify)</p>
<p>M.3 Is there an adequate description of the sample used in the study and how the sample was identified and recruited? <i>Consider your answer to all questions in sections D (Actual Sample), I (Sampling Strategy) and J (Recruitment and Consent).</i></p>	<p>M.3.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>M.3.2 No (please specify)</p>
<p>M.4 Is there an adequate description of the methods used in the study to collect data? <i>Consider your answers to the following questions (See Section K)</i></p> <p><i>What methods were used to collect the data? (K3)</i></p> <p><i>Details of data collection instruments and tools (K4)</i></p> <p><i>Who collected the data? (K5)</i></p> <p><i>Where were the data collected? (K9)</i></p>	<p>M.4.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>M.4.2 No (please specify)</p>
<p>M.5 Is there an adequate description of the methods of data analysis? <i>Consider your answers to previous questions (see module L)</i></p>	<p>M.5.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>M.5.2 No (please specify)</p>



<p><i>Which methods were used to analysis the data? (L2)</i></p> <p><i>What statistical method, if any, were used in the analysis? (L3)</i></p> <p><i>Did the study address multiplicity by reporting ancillary analyses (including sub-group analyses and adjusted analyses), and do the authors report on whether these were pre-specified or exploratory? (L4)</i></p> <p><i>Do the authors describe strategies used in the analysis to control for bias from confounding variables? (L5)</i></p>	
<p>M.6 Is the study replicable from this report?</p>	<p>M.6.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>M.6.2 No (please specify)</p>
<p>M.7 Do the authors avoid selective reporting bias? (e.g. do they report on all variables they aimed to study, as specified in their aims/research questions?)</p>	<p>M.7.1 Yes (please specify)</p> <p>M.7.2 No (please specify)</p>

### Maryland scale of scientific methods

Adapted for domestic violence on the Home Office Offender review coding v.0.1

#### Section Q2: Quality of the study – Maryland Scientific Methods Scale

<p>F.4 What is the quality of the study according to the Maryland Scale?*</p>	<p>F.4.1 Level 1 A correlation observed between the domestic violence programmes and the domestic violence outcome measure (intervention group with no comparison group)</p> <p>F.4.2 Level 2 Expected recidivism compared to actual recidivism rates. Eg; Partner reports of reduced incidences of violence following programme (risk predictor with no comparison group)</p> <p>F.4.3 Level 3 Comparison group present without demonstrated comparability to intervention group (unmatched comparison group)</p> <p>F.4.4 Level 4 Comparison group matched to intervention group on theoretically relevant factors e.g.risk of reconviction (well-matched comparison group)</p> <p>F.4.5 Level 5 Random assignment of offenders to the intervention and control conditions (randomised control trial)</p>
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#### Section Q1: Assessing the quality of a systematic review - AMSTAR

<p><b>N.1 Was an 'a priori' design provided?</b> <i>The research question and inclusion criteria should be established before the conduct of the review.</i></p>	<p>N.1.1 Yes N.1.2 No N.1.3. Can't answer N.1.4. Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.3 Was there duplicate study selection and data extraction?</b> <i>There should be at least two independent data extractors and a consensus procedure for disagreements should be in</i></p>	<p>N.2.1 Yes N.2.2 No N.2.3 Can't answer N.2.4 Not applicable</p>

<i>place</i>	
<p><b>N.3 Was a comprehensive literature search performed?</b>  <i>At least two electronic sources should be searched. The report must include years and databases used (e.g. Central, EMBASE, and MEDLINE). Key words and/or MESH terms must be stated and where feasible the search strategy should be provided. All searches should be supplemented by consulting current contents, reviews, textbooks, specialized registers, or experts in the particular field of study, and by reviewing the references in the studies found.</i></p>	<p>N.3.1 Yes  N.3.2 No  N.3.3 Can't answer  N.3.4 Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.4 Was the status of publication (i.e. grey literature) used as an inclusion criterion?</b>  <i>The authors should state that they searched for reports regardless of their publication type. The authors should state whether or not they excluded any reports (from the systematic review), based on their publication status, language etc.</i></p>	<p>N.4.1 yes  N.4.2 No  N.4.3 Can't answer  N.4.4 Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.5 as a list of studies (included and excluded) provided?</b>  <i>A list of included and excluded studies should be provided.</i></p>	<p>N.5.1 Yes  N.5.2 No  N.5.3 Can't answer  N.5.4 Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.6 Were the characteristics of the included studies provided?</b>  <i>In an aggregated form such as a table, data from the original studies should be provided on the participants, interventions and outcomes. The ranges of characteristics in all the studies analysed e.g. age, race, sex, relevant socioeconomic data, disease status, duration, severity, or other diseases should be reported.</i></p>	<p>N.6.1 Yes  N.6.2 No  N.6.3 Can't answer  N.6.4 Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.7 Was the scientific quality of the included studies assessed and documented?</b>  <i>'A priori' methods of assessment should be provided (e.g., for effectiveness</i></p>	<p>N.7.1 Yes  N.7.2 No  N.7.3 Can't answer  N.7.4 Not applicable</p>

<p><i>studies if the author(s) chose to include only randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled studies, or allocation concealment as inclusion criteria); for other types of studies alternative items will be relevant.</i></p>	
<p><b>N.8 Was the scientific quality of the included studies used appropriately in formulating conclusions?</b>  <i>The results of the methodological rigor and scientific quality should be considered in the analysis and the conclusions of the review, and explicitly stated in formulating recommendations.</i></p>	<p>N.8.1 Yes  N.8.2 No  N.8.3 Can't answer  N.8.4 Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.9 Were the methods used to combine the findings of studies appropriate?</b>  <i>For the pooled results, a test should be done to ensure the studies were combinable, to assess their homogeneity (i.e. Chisquared test for homogeneity, I2). If heterogeneity exists a random effects model should be used and/or the clinical appropriateness of combining should be taken into consideration (i.e. is it sensible to combine?).</i></p>	<p>N.9.1 Yes  N.9.2 No  N.9.3 Can't answer  N.9.4 Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.10 Was the likelihood of publication bias assessed?</b>  <i>An assessment of publication bias should include a combination of graphical aids (e.g., funnel plot, other available tests) and/or statistical tests (e.g., Egger regression test).</i></p>	<p>N.10.1 Yes  N.10.2 No  N.10.3 Can't answer  N.10.4 Not applicable</p>
<p><b>N.12 Was the conflict of interest stated?</b>  <i>Potential sources of support should be clearly acknowledged in both the systematic review and the included studies</i></p>	<p>N.11.1 Yes  N.11.2 No  N.11.3 Can't answer  N.11.4 Not applicable</p>

