

Independent Evaluation of the fourth year of LCCS: July 2007- June 2008

Report on the national results

by Roger Grimshaw and Mariana Oliveira
Centre for Crime & Justice Studies, King's College London
for and on behalf of the LCCS National Steering Group

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Introduction

LCCS is a public education project about community sentences, now in its fourth year. Presentations are made to a series of audiences by pairs of magistrates and probation officers. The format for the presentation of the project materials remains as for the previous year. In addition to the 'You Decide!' questionnaire, audiences are given a news-style piece that gives the 'headlines' of the case as it might be read in a popular paper. After reading the newspaper mock-up -and on the basis of that information alone- the attendees are asked to decide whether the person should go to prison. A presentation about the offender, the circumstances, and the options available to the court is then given and the audience members are asked again whether they think the offender should be imprisoned. It is the group that initially opted for prison but later changed its mind which is seen as the primary target of success for the LCCS process.

The different case studies are designed to illustrate types of case that have all been regarded as on the cusp of custody (i.e., serious enough to attract a prison sentence, but also suitable for a community sentence). They are varied to ensure the representation of disability, gender and ethnicity among offenders, as well as introducing sensitive sentencing issues, such as offending against the elderly and minority groups. The case study on a particular day is selected by the coordinators and presenters to suit audience interests.

Coverage of the report

This report considers evidence about the impact of LCCS case study presentations based on questionnaires completed by 4610 attendees at 163 groups¹ in the following regions. Compared with the coverage of the previous year, Norfolk and London have withdrawn and Derbyshire has started to participate.

¹ There are 5 other groups which are not clearly distinguished from groups with similar names, possibly increasing the number of groups to 168.

Questionnaires, by region		
Region	N	%
LCCS Cheshire	105	2.3
LCCS Derbyshire*	37	0.8
LCCS Dyfed Powys	112	2.5
LCCS Humberside	472	10.5
LCCS Kent	887	19.6
LCCS Lancashire	288	6.4
LCCS Lincolnshire	519	11.5
LCCS North Wales	36	0.8
LCCS South Wales	264	5.8
LCCS Staffordshire	564	12.5
LCCS Suffolk	342	7.6
LCCS Thames Valley	769	17.0
LCCS Warwickshire	120	2.7
Total	4515	100.0

* New area

Base 4515, 95 missing

Audience composition

As last year, the audiences included a very large majority who claimed no connection with the criminal justice system - 80 per cent. Over a sixth claimed a connection, but when compared to last year the proportion decreased by 6 per cent. Not surprisingly it was the age groups likely to be employed that were more likely to claim a link. Minority ethnic groups were also more likely than whites to claim a link. These links were, as in 2007, varied - some occupational, some indirect.

The table below shows that the Neighbourhood Watch groups (with 234 people) represented the largest proportion of attendees connected to the criminal justice system, followed by the police groups (204 people). Prison and probation groups together numbered nearly 100 people, while other connections, which included groups of Fraud Investigators and YOTs (Youth Offending Teams), counted 27 people. There are 29 groups with clear connections to the criminal justice system, but a further 177 people claimed to also have connections.

Groups Connected With The Criminal Justice System – Summary Table		
Groups	N groups	N people
Neighbourhood Watch	10	234
Police	10	204
Probation	4	57
Prison	3	42
Other connections	2	27
Total	29	564

Base: 163 groups; 4610 people

Gender, age, and ethnicity

As last year, the audiences were divided into almost three fifths women (57 per cent) and two fifths men (43 per cent). There was a statistically significant difference between the gender distribution for the oldest and the youngest groups, with a predominance of males in the youngest group (843 males out of 1621 people) and of females in the oldest group (989 females out of 1580 people).

Gender of attendees		
	N	%
Female	2627	57.3
Male	1960	42.7
Total	4587	100.0

Base: 4587; 23 missing

The audiences predominantly consisted of the young and of much older sections of the population. There was a relatively low representation of young adults and the middle-aged. Those over 60 years formed over one-third of the audiences, as did those under 21 years. However, the group of those under 21 years increased substantially from last year, from 20 per cent to 36 per cent. All the other age groups formed together less than a third.

Ages of attendees		
Age groups	N	%
16-20 years	1624	36.0
21-25 years	216	4.8
26-30 years	126	2.8
31-40 years	240	5.3
41-60 years	727	16.1
over 60 years	1583	35.1
Total	4516	100.0

Base: 4516; 94 missing

About one in twenty of the attendees identified themselves as members of minority ethnic groups and these were significantly more likely to be in the youngest group and less likely to be over 40 years of age.

Ethnicity of attendees		
Ethnic groups	N	%
White	4362	95.6
Black-Caribbean	19	.4
Black-African	24	.5
Black-other black	9	.2
Indian	43	.9
Pakistani	21	.5
Bangladeshi	8	.2
Chinese	16	.4
Other Asian	16	.4
Other Ethnic Group	47	1.0
Total	4565	100.0

Base: 4565; 45 missing

Media consumption

Men were significantly more likely to have read a broadsheet newspaper while women were more likely to have read a local newspaper. People over 40 years of age were more likely to have read a broadsheet newspaper and to have read a local paper. Members of minority ethnic groups were slightly less likely to have read a tabloid or local newspaper.

Interest in law and order, and attitudes towards crime

The majority of the audience (almost two-thirds) was slightly or fairly interested in law and order issues. However, while only 4 per cent were not interested at all, almost a third (37 per cent) was very interested. Women were more likely than men to be fairly or very interested.

A quarter (24 per cent) was very concerned about being a victim of crime; two thirds (66 per cent) were slightly or fairly concerned. Concerns were significantly more frequently strong in the groups over 40 years of age and least frequently strong in the youngest group. Compared to last year, the proportion of those under 21 years of age who have no concerns at all about being a victim of crime almost doubled, from 36 per cent to 65 per cent.

Concerns about being a victim of crime, by age group							
	Age group						
Concerns	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-40	41-60	Over 60	All
Not concerned at all	310	24	14	15	52	65	480
	64.6%	5.0%	2.9%	3.1%	10.8%	13.5%	100.0%
Slightly concerned	605	97	52	90	264	500	1608
	37.6%	6.0%	3.2%	5.6%	16.4%	31.1%	100.0%
Fairly concerned	448	65	35	79	217	481	1325
	33.8%	4.9%	2.6%	6.0%	16.4%	36.3%	100.0%
Very concerned	237	29	24	54	191	512	1047
	22.6%	2.8%	2.3%	5.2%	18.2%	48.9%	100.0%
Total	1600	215	125	238	724	1558	4460
	35.9%	4.8%	2.8%	5.3%	16.2%	34.9%	100.0%

Base: 4460; 150 missing

Concerns were significantly more frequently found among women (62 per cent of those ‘very concerned’ and 36 per cent of those ‘not concerned at all’) while less concern was more frequently noted among men (38 per cent of those ‘very concerned’ and 64 per cent of those ‘not concerned at all’).

Concerns about being a victim of crime, by gender			
	Female	Male	All
Not concerned at all	174	314	488
	35.7%	64.3%	100.0%
Slightly concerned	945	698	1643
	57.5%	42.5%	100.0%
Fairly concerned	820	525	1345
	61.0%	39.0%	100.0%
Very concerned	652	401	1053
	61.9%	38.1%	100.0%
Total	2591	1938	4529
	57.2%	42.8%	100.0%

Base: 4529; 81 missing

Minority ethnic groups were also more likely than whites to indicate that they were very concerned.

Awareness of sentences

Less than 3 per cent claimed to be very knowledgeable about sentences; when compared to last year, this represents a decrease of nearly half (from 5 per cent to 2.7 per cent). Almost three-fifths of the audience (72 per cent) claimed that they were slightly knowledgeable or had no knowledge of sentences in criminal cases, representing an increase of 8 per cent in comparison to the previous year. Men were more likely than women to indicate that they were fairly or very knowledgeable about

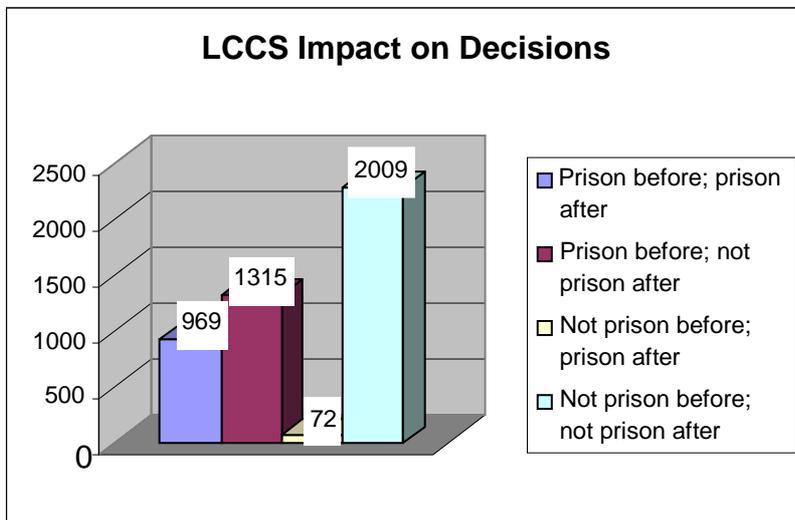
sentencing while those over 60 years of age were more likely than other age groups to indicate that they were not knowledgeable at all. Minority ethnic groups were also more likely than whites to indicate that they were fairly knowledgeable.

Impact of the LCCS Case studies

The attendees provided information about their views before and after the background report had been presented.

To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Graphical presentation of results:



- ❑ Over half – 55.8 per cent - (1315 out of 2284) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation.
- ❑ Almost half of all the attendees chose not to send the offender to prison at any stage.
- ❑ In contrast just 72 of the 2081 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment

(McNemar Test, chi square= 1112.159, asymptotic significance= 0.00).

Information outcomes for audiences at the groups

A further purpose of the groups was to promote public education about crime and justice.

- A majority of the respondents were aware that failure to complete a community sentence could lead to imprisonment but this proportion (61 per cent) was virtually the same as last year.
- The largest group (over two fifths) felt that the presentations had increased their confidence in community sentences to some extent.
- The pattern of responses was very similar to the previous year's, with more than a fifth reporting an increase 'to a large extent'.
- However, as last year, a significant proportion (20 per cent) did not answer the question.

Impact on confidence in community sentences		
Increase	N	%
Not at all	381	10.4
To a limited extent	730	19.9
To some extent	1611	43.8
To a large extent	798	21.7
To a very large extent	155	4.2
Total	3675	100.0

Base: 3675; 935 missing

As in the previous year, concerns about becoming a victim of crime had not changed for the great majority and slightly more of the attendees had become less concerned than had become more concerned.

Change in concern about becoming a victim of crime		
Change	N	%
No change	3550	82.8
Less concerned	411	9.6
More concerned	326	7.6
Total	4287	100.0

Base: 4287; 323 missing

APPENDIX
Key results - Cheshire

From this area, 105 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report-Cheshire		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	12	35
Not prison	3	49

Base 99; 6 missing

A large majority (35 out of 47) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Only 3 of the 52 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 25.289 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences -Cheshire cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	6	5.8
To a limited extent	21	20.4
To some extent	50	48.5
To a large extent	25	24.3
To a very large extent	1	1.0
Total	103	100.0

Base 103; 2 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. Almost half of the people thought the presentation was very good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, no such response was identified.

Ratings of presentations- Cheshire cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	0	0
Quite poor	0	0
Neither poor nor good	1	1.0
Quite good	55	53.4
Very good	47	45.6
Total	103	100.0

Base 103; 2 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively.

APPENDIX

Key results – Dyfed Powys

From this area, 112 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Dyfed Powys		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	25	35
Not prison	1	47

Base 108; 4 missing

A majority (35 out of 60) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Only one of the 48 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 30.250 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences - Dyfed Powys cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	8	7.8
To a limited extent	16	15.7
To some extent	51	50
To a large extent	20	19.6
To a very large extent	7	6.9
Total	102	100

Base 102; 10 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. More than half of the people thought the presentation was very good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of 'very poor' or 'quite poor'; however, only three such responses were identified.

Ratings of presentations- Dyfed Powys cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	1	0.9
Quite poor	2	1.9
Neither poor nor good	5	4.7
Quite good	48	44.9
Very good	51	47.7
Total	107	100

Base 107; 5 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively.

APPENDIX

Key results – Humberside

From this area, 472 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Humberside		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	121	155
Not prison	6	161

Base 443; 29 missing

A large majority (155 out of 276) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Six of the 167 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 136.050 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences – Humberside cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	57	12.7
To a limited extent	89	19.8
To some extent	184	41
To a large extent	103	22.9
To a very large extent	16	3.6
Total	449	100

Base 449; 23 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. More than a third of the people thought the presentation was very good, while half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out.

Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, only 13 such responses were identified.

Ratings of presentations- Humberside cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	7	1.5
Quite poor	6	1.3
Neither poor nor good	36	8
Quite good	226	50
Very good	177	39.2
Total	452	100

Base 452; 20 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively, except that one magistrate presenter did not consider his performance satisfactory at an event for 14 people.

APPENDIX
Key results – Kent

From this area, 887 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Kent		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	199	255
Not prison	14	384

Base 852; 35 missing

A majority (255 out of 454) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Fourteen of the 398 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 214.126 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences –Kent cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	91	10.9
To a limited extent	207	24.7
To some extent	384	45.8
To a large extent	131	15.6
To a very large extent	25	3
Total	838	100

Base 838; 49 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. Almost a fourth of the people thought the presentation was very good, while more than half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried

out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, only 5.7 per cent of responses were identified as such.

Ratings of presentations- Kent cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	20	2.3
Quite poor	29	3.4
Neither poor nor good	115	13.5
Quite good	498	58.3
Very good	192	22.5
Total	854	100

Base 854; 33 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively. Nevertheless, one magistrate presenter did not consider his performance satisfactory at a group of 28 people, despite the fact that the large majority of the participants rated the presentation as quite good. Another magistrate presenter did not consider the presentation satisfactory at a group of 48 people, however only 4 participants considered it very poor

APPENDIX
Key results – Lancashire

From this area, 288 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Lancashire		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	56	65
Not prison	2	145

Base 268; 20 missing

More than half (65 out of 121) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Only 2 of the 147 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 57.373 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences –Lancashire cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	23	8.3
To a limited extent	51	18.4
To some extent	142	51.3
To a large extent	53	19.1
To a very large extent	8	2.9
Total	277	100

Base 277; 11 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. Almost a third of the people thought the presentation was very good, while more than half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried

out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, only 5.4 per cent of the responses were identified as such.

Ratings of presentations- Lancashire cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	6	2.2
Quite poor	9	3.2
Neither poor nor good	30	10.8
Quite good	151	54.1
Very good	83	29.7
Total	279	100

Base 279; 9 missing

Magistrate presenters rated their own performances and the events positively. However there is no information about probation officers’ opinions.

APPENDIX
Key results – Lincolnshire

From this area, 519 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Lincolnshire		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	77	159
Not prison	3	238

Base 477; 42 missing

A large majority (159 out of 236) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Only 3 of the 241 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 148.302 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences – Lincolnshire cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	45	11
To a limited extent	76	18.6
To some extent	172	42.2
To a large extent	87	21.3
To a very large extent	28	6.9
Total	408	100

Base 408; 111 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. Over four in ten of the people thought the presentation was very good, while half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out.

Problematic responses were defined as ratings of 'very poor' or 'quite poor'; however, only 6 such responses were identified.

Ratings of presentations- Lincolnshire cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	3	0.6
Quite poor	3	0.6
Neither poor nor good	22	4.5
Quite good	246	50.8
Very good	210	43.4
Total	484	100

Base 484; 35 missing

There is no information about presenters' opinions about their own performances and the events.

APPENDIX

Key results – South Wales

From this area, 264 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- South Wales		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	55	63
Not prison	2	139

Base 259; 5 missing

A majority (63 out of 118) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Only 2 of the 141 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 55.385 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area, although over a third said their confidence did not increase or increased to a limited extent.

Increase in confidence in community sentences –South Wales cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	35	14
To a limited extent	54	21.6
To some extent	96	38.4
To a large extent	57	22.8
To a very large extent	8	3.2
Total	250	100

Base 250; 14 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. Nearly half of the people thought the presentation was very good, while a similarly large proportion thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations

was carried out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, only 4 such responses were identified.

Ratings of presentations- South Wales cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	2	0.8
Quite poor	2	0.8
Neither poor nor good	9	3.6
Quite good	114	45.6
Very good	123	49.2
Total	250	100

Base 250; 14 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively.

APPENDIX

Key results – Staffordshire

From this area, 564 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Staffordshire		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	176	241
Not prison	4	130

Base 551; 13 missing

A majority (241 out of 417) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Only 4 of the group initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 227.331 p=0.00).

As last year, no data on increases in confidence in community sentences were available.

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. Almost a fourth of the people thought the presentation was very good, while half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of 'very poor' or 'quite poor'; and 45 such responses (almost a tenth) were identified.

Ratings of presentations- Staffordshire cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	13	2.7
Quite poor	32	6.6
Neither poor nor good	79	16.3
Quite good	242	49.8
Very good	120	24.7
Total	486	100

Base 486; 78 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively. However one probation officer did not consider either his performance or the event satisfactory at a group of 7 people.

APPENDIX
Key results – Suffolk

From this area, 342 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Suffolk		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	90	92
Not prison	1	134

Base 317; 25 missing

Over half (92 out of 182) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Only one of the 135 initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 87.097 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences –Suffolk cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	25	8.3
To a limited extent	49	16.2
To some extent	143	47.2
To a large extent	68	22.4
To a very large extent	18	5.9
Total	303	100

Base 303; 39 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. A third of the people thought the presentation was very good, while more than half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, only 6 such responses were identified.

Ratings of presentations- Suffolk cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	4	1.3
Quite poor	2	0.7
Neither poor nor good	21	6.9
Quite good	174	57.4
Very good	102	33.7
Total	303	100

Base 303; 39 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively.

APPENDIX

Key results – Thames Valley

From this area, 769 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Thames Valley		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	129	140
Not prison	30	414

Base 713; 56 missing

Over half (140 out of 269) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Thirty of the 444 (6.7 per cent) initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 69.888 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences –Thames Valley cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	71	10.1
To a limited extent	114	16.2
To some extent	295	42
To a large extent	189	26.9
To a very large extent	33	4.7
Total	702	100

Base 702; 67 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. More than a third of the people thought the presentation was very good, while more than half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, only 3.1 per cent of responses were identified as such.

Ratings of presentations- Thames Valley cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	9	1.2
Quite poor	14	1.9
Neither poor nor good	71	9.8
Quite good	369	51.2
Very good	258	35.8
Total	721	100

Base 721; 48 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively.

APPENDIX

Key results – Warwickshire

From this area, 120 questionnaires were returned for analysis.

The impact of the report was measured by comparing opinions before and after the case report. To test if any changes of view were significant statistically, the McNemar Test for binary variables in non-parametric related samples was applied.

Decisions before and after the report- Warwickshire		
	Decision after report	
Initial decision	Prison	Not prison
Prison	15	39
Not prison	5	60

Base 119; 1 missing

A large majority (39 out of 54) of those who initially chose the prison option changed their minds after the report presentation. Five of the 65 (7.7 per cent) initially against the prison option switched later to imprisonment. The changes were statistically significant (McNemar Test. Chi-square 24.750 p=0.00).

Increases in confidence in community sentences were found among most of the sample in the area.

Increase in confidence in community sentences – Warwickshire cases only		
Increase in confidence	N	%
Not at all	15	13.8
To a limited extent	25	22.9
To some extent	43	39.4
To a large extent	20	18.3
To a very large extent	6	5.5
Total	109	100

Base 109; 11 missing

The performances were rated by the audiences positively. More than a third of the people thought the presentation was very good, while almost half thought it was quite good. To explore the impact of the presentation further, an analysis of the responses of the audiences to the presentations was carried out. Problematic responses were defined as ratings of ‘very poor’ or ‘quite poor’; however, only 4 such responses were identified.

Ratings of presentations- Warwickshire cases only		
Ratings	N	%
Very poor	1	0.9
Quite poor	3	2.8
Neither poor nor good	15	13.9
Quite good	49	45.4
Very good	40	37
Total	108	100

Base 108; 12 missing

Presenters rated their own performances and the events positively.