Launch Event
Secondary analysis of data collected over a 20 year period by HM Inspectorate of Prisons

23rd February 2022
4-5 pm
Welcome
Welcome

1. Welcome
2. Address from HMCIP Charlie Taylor
3. Introduction to the Project
4. Building the Foundations
5. Project Outcomes
6. The Survey
7. The Data’s Potential
8. Questions and Remarks
HMCIP Charlie Taylor
Introduction to HM Inspectorate of Prisons
About the Inspectorate

• Publish approximately 80 reports a year.
• Thematic reviews:
  – Reading thematic (ongoing)
  – Black prisoners thematic (ongoing)
  – Neurodiversity in the criminal justice system (published)
  – What happens to prisoners in a pandemic? (published)
Recent findings and themes

- Recovery from Covid-19
- Length of tenure, quality and pipeline for prison leaders
- Levels of violence
- Women’s Prisons
Analysing 20 years of prisoners’ surveys
Importance of our data

1. We listen to the experiences and perceptions of the detainee

2. Helps us ask the right questions on inspections

3. Informs our inspection findings

4. Evidence-driven advice
Using our surveys to inform inspections

Safety

From our Prisoner Survey:

Do you feel unsafe now?

Styal: **19%**

Foston Hall: **30%** - statistically significantly **higher** than other women’s local prisons
Using our surveys to inform inspections

Purposeful Activity

From our Prisoner Survey:

Do you usually spend LESS than 2 hrs out of your cell on a typical Saturday and Sunday?

Altcourse: 53% - statistically significantly lower than other men’s local prisons

Chelmsford: 82%
Prisoners feel safer the more time they spend out of their rooms

Do you feel unsafe now?

- Yes
- No

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>% Yes</th>
<th>% No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1 hour</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 hours</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-6 hours</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;6 hours</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>12%</td>
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</table>

Under the current regime, how long do you usually spend out of your cell per day?
What we will get from the project

1. Understanding more about prisoners and how their experiences of prison differ according to their characteristics, sentences, operational and policy changes, etc.

2. Inform the work of practitioners and policy makers

3. Make our data more accessible to other researchers
An Introduction to the Project...

- **20 years** of HMIP prison inspections and surveys
- Historic survey data from at least **100,000 respondents**
- More than **10 million** analysable responses
- Collected from every **prison** and **Young Offender Institution** in England and Wales
An Introduction to the Project...

- Identify prisoners’ **self-reported characteristics** (incl. age, gender, ethnicity) and **experiences** with regard to key elements of their treatment and conditions

- Inform and open up wider conversations about
  - Prison safety
  - Purposeful activities
  - Reoffending

- Insight into the impact of **organisational** and **policy changes** over the past 20 years

- Contribute to promoting and enabling **data access** for future research
An Introduction to the Project...

- **Summary of key aims**
  
  - *Identify* prisoners’ self-reported characteristics and experiences of imprisonment with regard to key elements of their treatment and conditions.
  
  - *Understand* how these perceptions differ according to prisoners’ characteristics and circumstances, sentence type, and changes in the external environment.
  
  - *Use* this knowledge to inform the work of practitioners and policy makers.
  
  - *Produce* data maps for all types of detention that have been surveyed (male and female prisons, juvenile custody, military and immigration detention).
  
  - *Prepare* aspects of the database for use by other academic researchers, teachers and policy makers.
Feasibility Study
Building the Foundations...

- **The Feasibility Study**
  - Initial exploration of prisoner survey responses over the last 20 years
  - Conducted February – June 2020
  - In partnership between RHUL and HMIP

- **Set out to...**
  - Establish the *extent* of the survey data held,
  - The *ethical* and *practical* problems involved in accessing and using it and
  - Included undertaking the initial *pilot study*.
Building the Foundations...

- **Methods**
  - **Focus groups** with currently serving prisoners (prior to the Covid-19 lockdown)
  - Solicitation of the advice and support of **key actors**, such as Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service and the Ministry of Justice’s Data First team

- **Database**
  - Surveys conducted in **adult prisons** and **Young Offender Institutions**

- **Research Questions**
  - **Management** of the data
  - Governance and **ethics**
  - **Investigation** of prisoner experiences of interactions with prison staff
Building the Foundations...

- **Outcomes:** Three peer-reviewed *academic papers* co-authored by RHUL and HMIP
Building the Foundations...

- **Impact:**
  - Evidence of the project’s **relevance**, its **feasibility**, and the original **contribution** that it promises to the areas of prison research, survey methodologies and open data derived from administrative and operational datasets.
Project Outcomes
Project Outcomes...

Generating Policy Impact...
- Research questions, future papers and practitioner guides
- Impact on policy and practice

Advancing Knowledge...
- Accessible data for future research
- User manual for guidance
Generating policy impact and advancing knowledge...

- 3 distinct but overlapping streams to the work

Stream 1:
Data cleansing and sorting for all survey types

Stream 2:
Addressing the research questions

Stream 3:
Legacy work
Advancing Knowledge...

- **Accessible data** for future research
  - Generation of a **database** for use by other academic researchers, teachers and policy makers
  - Deposition of the data with the **UK Data Service**
  - Creation of accompanying **technical reports** and **user guidance**
User manual for guidance

To explain

- The format and quantity of the survey data held,
- The consistency of specific questions within the last 20 years and
- Any caveats which need to be considered in the analysis.

Clear instructions about where the data can be accessed and explanations about ethics and informed consent
The Detainee Survey...

- Surveyed **institutions**: prisons, Young Offender Institutions, Secure Training Centres, Immigration Removal Centres, and Military Detention Centres

- Survey is handed out to a **representative sample** of the prison population; sample size is calculated to ensure that findings reflect the experience of the entire establishment population

- Survey **can** be conducted in form of an **interview** if participants are not able to read or write, or if there are language barriers

- Overall **response rate** between 75% and 85%
The Detainee Survey...

- Questions follow the **detainee’s journey** and seek to ascertain the **detainee’s perspective** on how they are treated

- **Themes:**

  - Background information
  - Arrival and reception
  - On the wing
  - First night and induction
  - Food and canteen
  - Time out of cell
  - Relationship with staff
  - Health care
  - Safety
  - Education
  - Contact with family and friends
  - Behaviour Management
  - Planning and progression
  - Faith
  - Support needs
  - Alcohol and drugs
  - Preparation for release
  - Likelihood of reoffending
  - Planning and progression
The Detainee Survey...

- Current survey version (men): 20 pages, 20 thematic sections, 115 questions
The Detainee Survey...

- **Data allow for**
  - Comparing detainees’ experiences in the *inspected establishment* to the experiences of detainees in *similar establishments*,
  - Comparing *current experiences* of detainees in the inspected establishment to those reported in *previous inspections* in the same establishments, and
  - Conducting *sub-group analyses* to compare characteristics and experiences of different populations (age, gender, ethnicity, functional type, etc.)
The Data and its Potential
**Example:** Over time...

**THE QUALITY OF FOOD FROM 2006 TO 2017.**

- **2006:** 3.24
- **2007:** 3.33
- **2008:** 3.45
- **2009:** 3.36
- **2011:** 3.50
- **2012:** 3.42
- **2013:** 3.44
- **2014:** 3.56
- **2015:** 3.53
- **2016:** 3.32
- **2017:** 3.43
Example: ...by prison functional type.

DID YOU FEEL SAFE ON YOUR FIRST NIGHT HERE? (2019-20)

- OPEN: 89% yes, 8% no
- SEX OFFENDERS: 81% yes, 16% no
- CAT C TRAINING: 80% yes, 16% no
- WOMEN: 70% yes, 25% no
- CAT B TRAINING: 70% yes, 24% no
- YOUNG ADULTS: 68% yes, 24% no
- LOCALS: 63% yes, 33% no
Example: ...by prison functional type and over time

LOCALS: DID YOU FEEL SAFE ON YOUR FIRST NIGHT HERE?

- yes
- no

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>33%</td>
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</table>
**Example:** Prisoners who report that their experiences in prison made them less likely to **offend** in the future are those who report visiting the **library** most regularly.
### Example: Prison design and staff-prisoner relationships.

**DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU ARE TREATED AS AN INDIVIDUAL IN THIS PRISON**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prison</th>
<th>2019 Year</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HMP A</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMP B</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMP C</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMP D</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMP E</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMP F</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Example: Women and Mental Health (2019-20)

35% of women did not report any mental health problems when they first arrived.

Of those: Do you [Now] have any mental health problems?
Get Involved...

What would **you** like to see investigated?
What are **you** interested in?

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