



This analysis looked at the re-offending behaviour of 44 women who were supported by Brighton Women’s Centre’s Inspire programme after receiving a community sentence. The overall results show that those who received support had a lower frequency of re-offending than those who did not. More people would need to be analysed in order to determine the way in which the programme affects the one year re-offending rate and time taken to re-offend, but this should not be taken to mean that the programme fails to affect it.


Brighton Women’s Centre aims to empower women and reduce inequality by promoting independence in safe, women-only spaces across Sussex. Their Inspire programme supports women with multiple vulnerabilities at all stages of involvement in the criminal justice system. Women who come to Inspire receive trauma informed, bespoke, integrated case work support from a multi-agency team.

This analysis of the Inspire programme measured proven re-offences in a one year period for a 'treatment group' of 44 offenders who received support from the Inspire programme as part of either a community order or a suspended sentence order, and a much larger 'comparison group' of similar offenders who did not receive support. These measurements were used to estimate the impact that the programme would be expected to have on the re-offending behaviour of any people who are similar to those in the analysis.



Overall measurements of the treatment and comparison groups

For any **100** typical people in the **treatment** group:


For any **100** typical people in the **comparison** group:

 **25** of the 100 people committed a proven re-offence within a one-year period (a rate of 25%), **4 people less** than in the comparison group

29 of the 100 people committed a proven re-offence within a one-year period (a rate of 29%)


 **39** proven re-offences were committed by  these 100 people during the year (a frequency of 0.4 offences per person), **53 offences fewer than** the comparison group

91 proven re-offences were committed by these 100 people during the year (a frequency of 0.9 offences per person)

 Time to first re-offence has not been included as a headline result due to low numbers of re-offenders, which could potentially provide misleading results.

Overall estimates of the impact of the intervention

For any **100** typical people who receive the intervention, compared with any **100** similar people who do not receive it:

 The number of people who commit a proven re-offence during one year after release could be **lower by as many as 17 people, or higher by as many as 10 people**.

 The number of proven re-offences committed during the year could be **lower by between 27 and 79 offences. This is a statistically significant result**

More people would need to be analysed in order to determine the direction of the difference in the number of people who commit a proven re-offence during one year after release. It is estimated that a treatment group of 2,056 people would be needed.

Please note: totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts, due to rounding.

What you can say about the one-year re-offending rate:

✓ "This analysis provides evidence that, for every 100 participants, Brighton Women's Centre's Inspire programme may decrease the number of proven re-offenders during a one-year period by up to 17 people, or may increase it by up to 10 people."

What you cannot say about the one-year re-offending rate:

✗ "This analysis shows that the Brighton Women's centre's Inspire programme increases/decreases/has no effect on the one-year proven re-offending rate of its participants."

What you can say about the one-year re-offending frequency:

✓ "This analysis provides evidence that, for every 100 participants, the Brighton Women's centre's Inspire programme may decrease the number of proven re-offences during a one-year period by between 27 and 79 re-offences."

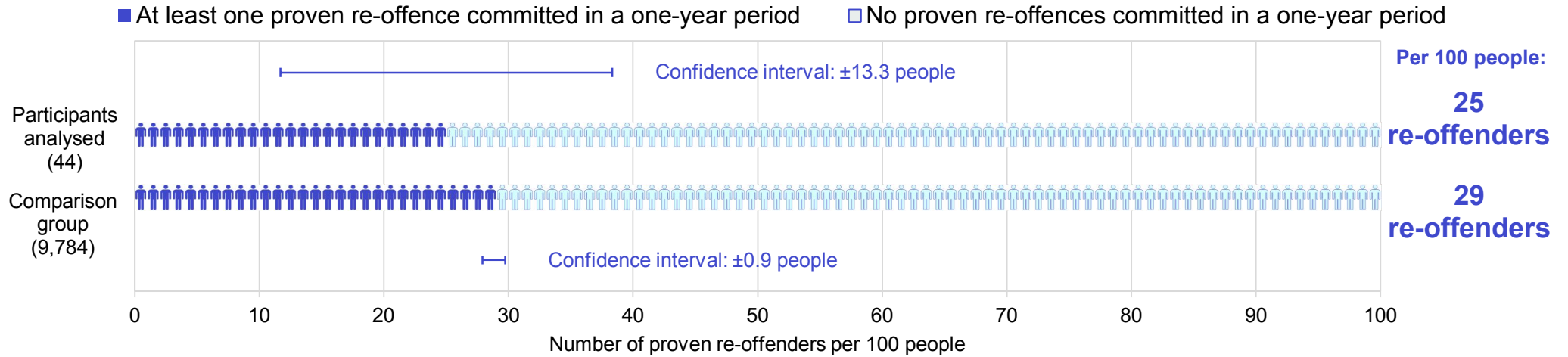
What you cannot say about the one-year re-offending frequency:

✗ "This analysis shows that the Brighton Women's centre's Inspire programme reduces the frequency of re-offending by 58%."

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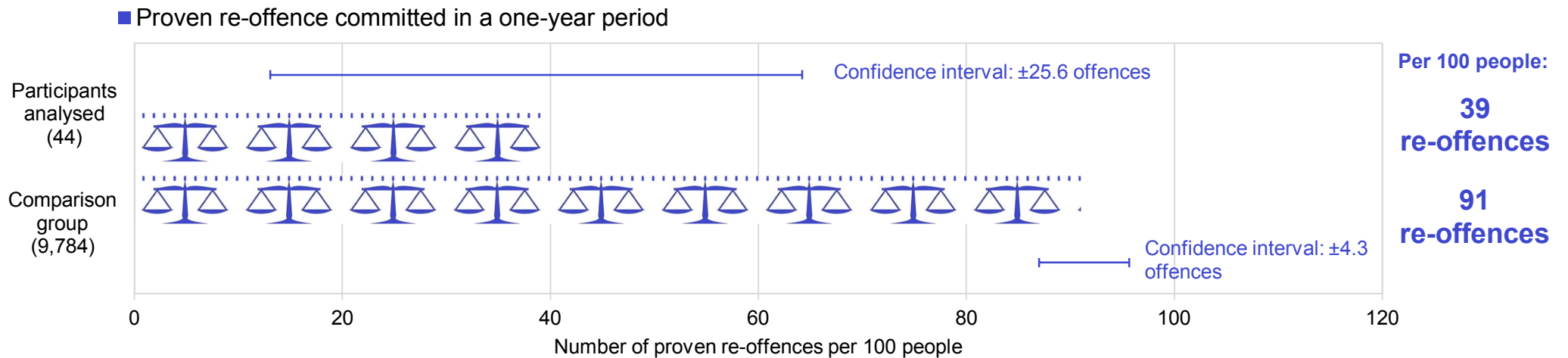
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One-year proven re-offending rate after participation in the Inspire programme



Non-significant difference between groups

One-year proven re-offending frequency after participation in the Inspire programme



Significant difference between groups

Brighton Women's Centre's Inspire programme: in their own words

“Brighton Women's Centre aims to empower women and reduce inequality by promoting independence in safe, women-only spaces across Sussex. Their Inspire programme supports women with multiple vulnerabilities at all stages of involvement in the criminal justice system. Women who come to Inspire receive trauma informed, bespoke, integrated case work support from a multi-agency team.

An Inspire Specified Activity Requirement (SAR) involves a specified number of sessions of between 3 and 20, with most clients receiving 10 sessions. All clients received an asset based assessment where their needs were identified and a support plan developed.

Inspire works across the full spectrum of needs. Many women chose to work on areas of accommodation and finance and then once trust has developed would disclose more sensitive areas of domestic and sexual abuse and needs around children and families. Additionally, most Inspire clients have mental health needs. Inspire was set up in direct response to the Corston Report (<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/docs/corston-report-march-2007.pdf>) and has been delivering services to women in the Criminal Justice System since 2009. Inspire works with women at all stages of involvement with the criminal justice system from arrest, through to community orders, in-reach and on release from prison. This was a full roll out for women initially in Brighton and later across Sussex. Inspire built capacity through developing a mentoring service and Re-Unite Sussex, a specific project supporting women to be re-united with their children.

Women were referred to Inspire through court orders and were offered a first appointment within five working days from sentence.”

Brighton Women's Centre's response to the Justice Data Lab analysis

“Brighton Women's Centre is delighted with the outcome of the Justice Data Lab analysis. The overall results show that those women who received support through our Inspire project had a lower frequency of re-offending than those who did not. We have long believed in and evidenced the benefit of holistic and integrated packages of support for women with multiple complex needs. We are also convinced of the cost effectiveness of the project having performed Social Return On Investment separately with NEF Consulting.

We are grateful to the Justice Data Lab for further evidencing the efficacy of Inspire through this report and it will greatly support the project to demonstrate it's excellent impact with stakeholders including Commissioners and funders.

We would very much like to further work with the Lab to follow up on the analyses of more women in order to determine the way in which the programme affects the one year re-offending rate.”

The results in detail

Two analyses were conducted in total. Each analysis controlled for offender demographics and criminal history and the following risks and needs: accommodation, employment history, education, relationships, drug and alcohol use, financial management, mental health and attitudes towards offending.

Analyses

- 1. National analysis:** treatment group matched to offenders across England and Wales using demographics, criminal history and individual risks and needs.
- 2. Regional analysis:** treatment group matched to offenders in the South East of England using demographics, criminal history and individual risks and needs.

The headline results in this report refer to the national analysis

Size of treatment and comparison groups for re-offending rate and frequency analyses provided below (the 'time to first re-offence' analyses focus on those who re-offend only):

Analysis	Controlled for region	Treatment Group Size	Comparison Group Size
National		44	9,784
Regional	X	42	976

In each analysis, the **three headline measures** of one-year re-offending were analysed (see results in Tables 1-3):

1. Rate of re-offending
2. Frequency of re-offending
3. Time to first re-offence

Further measures regarding the severity of re-offending and of re-offences resulting in custody have not been included in this report. This is because the numbers within each category were too small to make reliable estimates for these measures.

Significant results

- Both the national and regional analyses provide significant evidence that **participants commit fewer re-offences within a one-year period than non-participants** (Table 2).

Tables 1-3 show the overall measures of re-offending. Rates are expressed as percentages and frequencies are expressed per person. The average time to first re-offence includes re-offenders only.

Table 1: Proportion of people who committed a proven re-offence in a one year period after completing the Inspire programme, compared with matched comparison groups

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven re-offending rate				p-value
			Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)	Significant difference?	
National	44	9,784	25.0	28.8	-17 to +10	No	0.57
Regional	42	976	23.8	21.9	-12 to +16	No	0.78

Table 2: Number of proven re-offences committed in a one year period by people who completed the Inspire programme, compared with matched comparison groups

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven re-offending frequency (offences per person)				p-value
			Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference?	
National	44	9,784	0.4	0.9	-0.8 to -0.3	Yes	0.00
Regional	42	976	0.4	0.9	-0.9 to -0.2	Yes	0.00

Table 3: Average time to first proven re-offence in a one year period for people who completed the Inspire programme and who committed a proven re-offence, compared with matched comparison groups

The time to first re-offence between participants and the comparison group is based on a group of only 11 participants. A larger group of re-offenders (usually a minimum of 30) would be required to calculate a meaningful estimate of the time to first re-offence, and to more confidently determine any effect of the Inspire programme on this measure.

Area	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	Average time to first proven re-offence within a one-year period, for re-offenders only (days)				p-value
			Treatment group time	Comparison group time	Estimated difference	Significant difference?	
National	11	2,405	116.7	123.9	-63 to +48	No	0.78
Regional	10	214	119.3	109.3	-52 to +72	No	0.73

Profile of the treatment group

The majority of Brighton Women's Centre's Inspire work is carried out in the community and all those included in the analysis received either community orders or suspended sentences. As women were given a court order to attend the Inspire programme, they had to be offered a first appointment five working days from sentence.

The 44 people in the national treatment group all began their one year re-offending period in 2014. They were aged between 18 and 62 years old at the beginning of the period, with an average age of 35. All of the cohort were female, and, by ethnicity, at least 98% were white. Looking at the sentence types, 64% had received a community order and 36% had received a suspended sentence order

By comparison, 14 females who could not be included in the analysis (for whom sufficient information was available) at least 93% were white.

Information on individual risks and needs was available for 43 people in the national treatment group recorded near to the time of their original conviction. Among these people, it is estimated that:

- 44% had some or significant psychological problems
- 37% had some or significant problems with employment history
- 35% had some or significant problems with suitability of accommodation

Matching the treatment and comparison groups

Each of the two analyses matched a comparison group to the relevant treatment group. A summary of the matching quality is as follows:

- In the national analysis, most variables were well matched, and the groups were reasonably well matched on previous custodial sentences and in their attitudes towards employment.
- In the regional analysis, around a third of variables were well matched.

The groups were reasonably well matched for several variables including ethnicity, some previous offence types and some individual risks and needs.

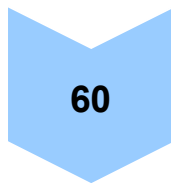
The groups were not well matched on a number of variables including some previous offence types and individual risks and needs. **As such, the national results should be referred to.**

Further details of group characteristics and matching quality, including risks and needs recorded by the Offender Assessment System (OASys), can be found in the Excel annex accompanying this report.

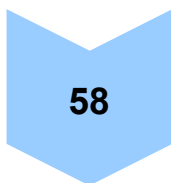
This report is also supplemented by a general annex, which answers frequently asked questions about Justice Data Lab analyses and explains the caveats associated with them.

Numbers of people in the treatment and comparison groups

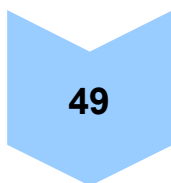
60 records were submitted for analysis by Brighton's Women Centre.



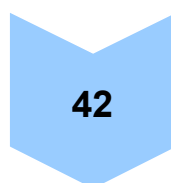
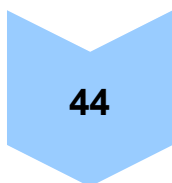
Two people (3%) were excluded because they could not be identified on the Police National Computer (PNC)



9 people (15%) were excluded because they did not have a record in the re-offending database that corresponded to their time period of participation in the Inspire programme.



Five people (10%) were excluded from the national analysis and seven from the regional analysis (14%) because they could not be matched to any individuals in the control groups. The national treatment group contained 73% of the participants originally submitted and the regional treatment group contained 70%.



National treatment group

(Comparison group: 9,784 records)

Regional treatment group

(Comparison group: 976 records)

Contact points

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www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/about-the-authority/uk-statistical-system

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