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Centre for Criminal Justice and Police Studies

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Reviews of journal articles by members of SIPR and of interest to policing in Scotland, compiled by UWS Centre for Criminal Justice and Police Studies.

Daniel Donnelly and Kenneth Scott [eds.] (2010) *Policing Scotland*, 2nd edition. Abingdon: Willan Publishing.

The second edition of this standard textbook takes account of recent developments in Scottish policing against the backdrop of a dynamic political landscape and emerging fiscal constraints. It seeks to identify what is distinctively Scottish about policing in Scotland in terms of its own traditions and wider global trends. The book offers contributions from both academics and practitioners, many of whom are well-known within SIPR. The second edition provides thoroughly revised and updated chapters by the editors on key topics such as the organization of Scottish policing, policing in the community, and police accountabilities. For the first time the Scottish policing perspective on crime investigation (Tom Halpin), forensic science (Professor Jim Fraser), police unionism (Joe Grant) and the policing of violence (John Carnochan and Karyn McCluskey) is covered, whilst many themes from the first edition have been expanded and developed as they have become more prominent in discussions of policing. These include chapters on police resource management (Daniel Donnelly and Ken Scott), crime and disorder (Nick Fyfe), young people and the police (Jan Nicholson), and the police and ethnic minorities (Allan Burnett and Tom Harrigan). A reflective piece on myths and realities in the Scottish police is contributed by former HMICS, Malcolm Dickson. The book once again seeks to put Scotland on the map in terms of debates around policing internationally, as well as contributing to the current debates about the future of policing in Scotland.

Robert Smith (2010) 'Policing the changing landscape of rural crime: a case study from Scotland', *International Journal of Police Science and Management*, vol. 12, no. 3: 378-87.

Rob Smith argues that, although the notion of rural crime has an idyllic aura to it, crime occurs in a changing social landscape and is affected by demographic changes, changing crime trends and by the introduction of new policing practices. Similarly, exactly what constitutes rural crime is also open to debate and changes over time. Likewise, we only have a fuzzy notion of the stereotypical rural criminal and find it difficult to acknowledge the existence of a rural criminal underclass. As a result, crime in a rural context is more difficult to police than crime in an urban landscape because it requires a different set of skills and practices from policing the urban landscape. The closure of rural police stations and the reallocation of scarce policing resources to urban hotspots have inevitably led to a deskilling of the archetypal 'country bobby'. Consequently, this quasi-longitudinal case study examines changes in policing practices in a (fictionalised) subdivision in rural Scotland over a 40-year period. This enables consideration of the changing rural landscape of crime and from this mapping process implications and conclusions in relation to good practice on rural policing can emerge.

Andrew Millie (2010) 'Whatever Happened to Reassurance Policing?', *Policing*, vol. 4, no. 3: 225-32.

Reassurance policing was trialled in England from 2002 to 2005, emphasizing police visibility and public consultation on locally identified priorities. In this article, Andrew Millie (University of Glasgow) asks 'whatever happened to reassurance policing?' This may seem a strange question to ask. With the expansion of neighbourhood and citizen-focused policing, the policing pledge, and a single public confidence performance target, reassurance policing seems to be alive and well. However, by focusing on four early intentions for a reassurance approach, questions are raised about this assumption. Reassurance is found to be a part of British policing, but it could be much more. Contemporary examples where policing could, and perhaps should, be more reassuring are provided.

David Best, Elizabeth Aston, Geraldine O'Donnell et al. (2010) 'Assessing the impact of a high-intensity partnership between the police and drug treatment service in addressing the offending of problematic drug users' *Policing and Society* vol. 20, no. 3: 358-69.

While there is a considerable evidence base showing links between drug use and offending and clear evidence of the impact of treatment engagement on drug-related offending, there is a much smaller UK evidence base on 'what works' in treatment and criminal justice partnerships, particularly in the UK. The current study used police arrest data to measure changes in offending behaviour in 116 drug-using offenders who had tested positive for opiates or cocaine in custody suites on at least three occasions in the

previous year. Participants were assigned to either an intensive form of 'quasi-coercive' treatment (the High Crime Causing Users, HCCU) or to treatment as usual from the community Drug Interventions Programme team. The study compares changes in offending in a high-rate offending group with a standard treatment intervention. The assessment of the effectiveness of the intervention was based on arrest rates in the 12 months before and after engagement with the programme, supplemented by data collected from treatment case notes. Data analysis showed a significant reduction in offending in those engaged in the HCCU, who had higher pre-entry offending, but no change in offending for those accessing treatment as usual. There was some indication that greater retention in treatment was linked to better outcomes, and that medical sessions were associated with greater reductions in crime. The results provide some support for intensive partnership working between criminal justice drug services and the police, and suggest that intensive community work with high-rate drug-using offenders can be effective.

Jonathan Jackson and Ben Bradford (2010) 'What is Trust and Confidence in the Police?' *Policing*, vol. 4, no. 3: 241-48.

One of the first actions of the new Home Secretary was to scrap public confidence as the single performance indicator of policing in England and Wales. Yet public trust and confidence will remain important to policing policy and practice. Trust and confidence can (a) encourage active citizen participation in priority setting and the running of local services, (b) make public bodies more locally accountable and responsive, and (c) secure public cooperation with the police and compliance with the law. This paper from Jonathan Jackson (LSE) and Ben Bradford (SCCJR) analyses survey data from London, and finds that overall 'public confidence' condenses a range of complex and inter-related judgements concerning the trustworthiness of the police. It is argued that confidence summarizes a motive-based trust that is rooted in a social alignment between the police and the community. This social alignment is founded upon public assessments of the ability of the police to be a 'civic guardian' who secures public respect and embodies community values (Loader and Mulcahy 2003). By demonstrating their trustworthiness to the public, the police can strengthen their social connection with citizens and thus encourage more active civic engagement in domains of security and policing.

Kenneth B. Scott (2010/11) 'Selecting Scotland's Police Leaders: A 'Crisis' Revisited', *The Police Journal*, vol. 83, no. 4: 325-38.

Traditionally leadership in the senior ranks of the police organisation has been regarded as a key factor in producing effective police performance. The aim of this article is to

revisit Scott and Wilkie's (2001) analysis of whether or not there is a 'crisis' in Scottish policing regarding the appointments to top police jobs, especially at chief constable level. An update is provided of the background of current ACPOS (Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland) ranks, and comparisons are drawn between the situations in 2001 and 2010. Developments in Scottish policing which relate to senior leadership appointments are discussed, and a review of these developments is used to cast light on the extent to which there continues to be a 'crisis' in police leadership in Scotland.

Simon Mackenzie and Niall Hamilton-Smith, (2011) 'Measuring police impact on organised crime: Performance management and harm reduction', *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, vol. 34, no. 1: 7 – 30.

This paper aims to analyse and critique common performance indicators for the policing of organised crime, and to propose a new approach. The research, by two members of SCCJR based at Glasgow and Stirling respectively, is based on a review of literature in this area and key respondent interviews with staff at an organised crime-policing agency, namely the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency. Key Performance Indicators and other targets drive the policing of organised crime. Often these ultimately constitute numerical targets – such as the amount of drugs seized, and the number of key nominals arrested. These are often crude and are not supported by the research evidence base on the reduction or prevention of organised crime activity as being suitable measures of success. Success in contemporary organised crime policing is increasingly becoming defined in terms of 'harm reduction', often at the 'community' level. A new performance management framework for organised crime-policing agencies is proposed, which is more sensitive than traditional measures to harm reduction. The proposed model comprises three components: programme logic; a pathway approach; and the use of evaluation panels. The empirical research was only conducted in one organised crime agency and therefore provides a case study approach to performance management. The literature review suggests that the performance management framework of that agency was similar to other comparable agencies around the world, but more comparative research would be needed to confirm that. The analysis and modeling provided in this paper create the groundwork for the development of more effective performance indicators and targets in organised crime policing by tying business model drivers into policing in a way that is more sensitive to reducing the adverse social outcomes of organised crime. This differs from the traditional model which tends to create formal, rather than substantive, police interventions.