

SUPPORTING INTERNATIONALLY  
EXCELLENT, MULTI-DISCIPLINARY  
POLICING RESEARCH TO ENABLE  
EVIDENCE INFORMED POLICY  
AND PRACTICE.



# Professor Liz Aston

## SIPR Director

SIPR Engagement Event  
Wednesday 19th February 2025

# SIPR – Who we are



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH



1495  
UNIVERSITY OF  
ABERDEEN



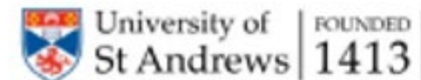
SCOTTISH POLICE  
AUTHORITY  
ÙGH DARRAS POILIS NA H-ALBA



Queen Margaret University  
EDINBURGH



POLICE  
SCOTLAND  
Keeping people safe



# Structure



## SIPR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Prof Liz Aston  
DIRECTOR



Monica Craig  
KE & BUSINESS MGR



Isla Kerr  
COMMUNICATIONS &  
ENGAGEMENT OFFICER



Dr Simon-Lewis Menzies  
ADMIN OFFICER



Prof Megan O'Neill  
A/DIRECTOR  
Police Community Relations



Dr Penny Woolnough  
A/DIRECTOR  
Evidence and Investigation



Prof Lesley McMillan  
A/DIRECTOR  
Public Protection



Dr Andrew Wooff and Dr Andrew Tatnell  
CO ASSOC DIRECTORS  
Organisational Development



Prof Kirsteen Grant  
ASSOC DIRECTOR  
Development



Esme O'Donnell  
POSTGRAD COORDINATOR

# about SIPR

*"SIPR's mission is to support internationally excellent, multi-disciplinary policing research to enable evidence informed policy & practice."*

## theme 1:

Policing and health, safety and well-being



## theme 2:

Technology and digital policing



## theme 3:

Policing systems capability and resilience



## OUR AIMS

### 1. RESEARCH



Facilitating internationally excellent, independent research of relevance to policing.

### 2. KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE



Engaging in a range of knowledge exchange activities to strengthen the evidence base on which policy and practice are improved & developed nationally and internationally.

### 3. LEARNING AND INNOVATION



Nurturing a culture of learning & innovation.

### 4. PARTNERSHIPS



Promoting the development of national & international partnerships with researcher, practitioner, and policing communities.

# SIPR Research Opportunities 2024-2025

## Main Grant



**£40,000** for “**Policing contemporary social harms and challenges**”

- Maximum of £20,000 per project
- Purposely broad in scope

## Responsive Research Fund



**£40,000** for research which explores subjects requested by or co-developed with policing partners.

- RRF “Good Practice in the Transfer of Care” awarded
- **Two more RRFs tbc. 2024-25**

## ‘Think Big’ Leverage Fund



£8,000 to support the generation of external research funding.

- **£2,000** per application can be used for a variety of purposes
- Rolling deadline – applications accepted throughout the year.

## Other research support



Provide letters of support for external funding applications

**Implementing Anti-Racism  
in the Context of Policing:  
A Systematic Review**

 Institute for  
Educational &  
Social Equity

 **SIPR** | Scottish Institute  
for Policing Research

# Main SiPR Grant Launch

## “Policing Contemporary Social Harms and Challenges”

- Broad scope e.g. policing of: minoritised groups (with consideration of intersectionality welcomed), people who use drugs, sex work and hate crime.
- £40,000 available (£20,00 max per application)
- NOI – 24 April; Deadline 29 May



# SIPR Knowledge Exchange 2024-2025



## Scottish International Policing Conference – 28 May 2025

'The Future of Policing and Technology; promise, peril, and pathways to justice'.

Co-chairs Dr Horgan (ENU) and Dr Collier (UoE)



## KE and Dissemination Fund

£5,000 allocated to support member HEIs in running KE events, travel, and dissemination.

- Rolling deadline – applications accepted all year



## Impact Awards

Formal recognition of individuals/ teams, whose research has made a significant contribution to policing, policy, and or/ practice.

\* £500 per award presented at SIPC



## Dissemination opportunities

- Reports/ briefing papers
- Social Media/ website
- Newsletters
- Seminars/ webinars
- Podcast



## Pathways to impact

SIPR is leading on work with policing partners and academics to maximise and document the impact of the research we support.

# KE and Dissemination Fund

- SIPR is providing £5,000 to support dissemination and impact efforts for policing research.
- A maximum of £1,000 is available per application.
- Applications are now open and will be considered on a rolling basis until funding is exhausted.
- Funds may be used to support the delivery and organisation of events, travel, KE and dissemination





# SIPR IMPACT AWARD NOMINATIONS – 7th May deadline

- Formally recognise individuals, or teams, whose research has made a significant contribution to policing, policy, and or/ practice.
- Nominate yourself, or your colleagues – individually or as a team – for SIPR's Impact Awards!
- There will be two prizes:
  - SIPR Impact Award (£500)
  - SIPR Early Career Researcher Impact Award (£500)



# SIPR Learning & Innovation 2024-2025



## Match funded PhDs – Award April 2024

Support two match funded PhDs (co-funded with host institute). PhD topic and selection of candidate determined by director of studies.



## PG Symposium– 27 May 2025

Encourages postgrads in a topic that is related to policing, to present their research (oral presentation or poster) in a supportive environment.



## Practitioner Fellowships

A fellowship available to police staff and practitioners to engage in policing related research with academic guidance



## ECR Grants - £9,000 awarded

Small research grants up to £3,000  
Support projects that are likely to lead to larger external grants. Can be used for multiple activities.



## Postgraduate Community

Supporting and building the next generation of policing researchers including enabling a supportive PG community

**Postgrad coordinator** shapes the future of the student network and develops key social/ learning activities

# SIPR Engagement Event



# THANK YOU

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