

Project 360: Preliminary report I summary



The following summarizes the main findings from the first preliminary analysis of Project 360. For details please see *Project 360: Preliminary report I*.

The *integration* secondary responders with Leicestershire police is a key feature of Project 360. This may be important for three reasons:

- **Enhanced information:** Engagement workers have access to all information previously recorded by police with respect to victims and perpetrators.
- **Rapid response:** New cases are updated daily. The intervention often begins within 24 hours.
- **Embedding of services with police:** Victims may believe the police are better able to assist than other non-police support agencies giving extra authority to the engagement workers.

At the time of this writing 1,009 cases have been covered by Project 360. The random allocation of cases to treatment ensures that the quantitative analysis estimates a causal effect of the program. The preliminary report analyses the one-month victim survey. The survey covers 214 victims (117 from the treatment group and 97 from the control group). The term “initial incident” refers to the police callout which lead to the addition of a case to the subject pool. To summarize the main findings:

- **The intervention is associated with greater victim stress in the short run.** Relative to just before the initial incident, victims in the treatment group are 31% less likely to report improved *stress levels* and 40% more likely to report worsening *stress levels*, than are victims in the control group. Victims in the treatment group are also more likely to report a worsening of *sleep*, and poorer outcomes for *life control* and *mental health*.
- **The intervention is associated with improved family life and quality of life overall.** Despite the findings for stress, measures of *quality of family life* and *quality of life overall* both significantly improve for the treatment group relative to the control group.
- **Victims receiving the intervention are significantly more likely to take actions to change their situation.** Relative to the control group, the treatment group are significantly more likely to have visited their GP or A&E, are more likely to have

accessed a domestic violence support service since, and are 24% less likely to be in current contact with the perpetrator.

- **Police satisfaction increases for victims receiving the intervention.** 40% fewer victims in the treatment group report being dissatisfied with the police handling of the case associated with the initial incident. Victim opinion of the police overall is significantly more likely to improve and less likely to worsen as a result of the initial incident for the treatment group relative to the control group.
- **Victims receiving the intervention are significantly more likely to report future incidents.** The treatment group is 68% more likely than the control group to say their willingness to report a future incident has increased.

These survey results suggest that the Project 360 intervention has a positive effect on victim outcomes. The finding that stress increases for the treatment group is not surprising if one considers that some victims who receive the intervention will take steps to separate from an abusive partner or make other major life changes.

Although promising, we caution that these results reflect *subjective* and self-reported measures from the victim survey. As such we cannot rule out the possibility that the intervention changed victim reporting without having a meaningful impact on the underlying outcomes of interest. For this reason, moving forward we will be looking at a number of *objective* outcomes such as future police reporting, filing and retraction of victim statements.

Project researchers

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