

**THE CRIME
STATISTICS
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

FOREWORD BY CHAIR

This is the first annual report of the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee, created in late 2011, to which I was appointed as Chair by the Jil Matheson, the National Statistician. The impetus for the creation of the Committee was the National Statistician's Review of Crime Statistics in England and Wales, a commission from the Home Secretary.

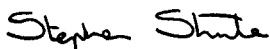
I very much welcome the establishment of the Committee that acts as a high-level strategic committee, independent of government. It has the important role of offering independent advice to the Home Secretary, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) on matters related to the measurement of crime and the collection and presentation of crime data for England and Wales. I am confident, given the high calibre of my fellow members and the expertise which they bring, that it will discharge its role with propriety, authority and purpose. From the outset, the Committee agreed that its business will be transparent and that it will consult on any changes whenever the opportunity presents itself.

I am in no doubt about the importance of the Committee's work. Crime statistics is an area of statistics with room for improvement. The two main statistical sources on crime, the crime figures recorded by the police and the results of the (now renamed) British Crime Survey have their known limitations. As I see it, the challenge for professional statisticians in government is to find ways to communicate better the information from these two sources, The aim should be to make crime statistics comprehensible and accessible and for the public to have increased trust and confidence in them.

The Committee has not wasted any time getting its teeth into its role. At its first meeting it established a set of fundamental principles which will inform its work and, only a month later, at a specially convened meeting, it discussed changes to classifications of police recorded crime. I subsequently wrote to the Home Secretary on behalf of the Committee with its recommendations which were accepted by the Home Secretary.

Under my leadership I expect the Committee to keep the system under careful review and not be afraid to recommend bold changes where these are needed so long as they are in keeping with our overarching principles.

I commend the Committee's first annual report to you all.



Professor Stephen Shute
Chair of the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee

ORIGINS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Crime Statistics Advisory Committee (the Committee) has its origins in the National Statistician's Review of Crime Statistics in England and Wales (the Review), the report of which was published on 6 June 2011¹ following the Home Secretary's acceptance of its recommendations.
2. In December 2010 the Home Secretary announced that the publication of crime statistics covering England and Wales would be moved out of the Home Office to promote greater public trust and demonstrate their independence. The Home Secretary invited the National Statistician to conduct an independent Review to:
 - consider gaps, discrepancies and discontinuities within crime statistics;
 - recommend the best future location for the publication of crime statistics, and their associated data collection systems; and,
 - produce an action plan for the implementation of recommendations from the UK Statistics Authority's report *Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics: England and Wales* published in May 2010.
3. The National Statistician's key findings were that:
 - the presentation of crime statistics needs further improvement to provide clarity about the coverage of the two sources of crime statistics – the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime – and to maximise the benefits of complementary sources to provide a fuller picture of crime;
 - there should be transparent decision-making on changes that affect the published crime statistics;
 - hence, the National Statistician should establish an independent Advisory Committee to advise:
 - (a) the Home Secretary on any changes to the data requirements from the police needed for crime statistics, and on any changes to the Home Office Counting Rules; and
 - (b) the producer body on changes to coverage, definitions or methodology and on the handling of any such changes; and,
 - the Office for National Statistics (ONS) should assume responsibility for the independent reporting and publication of crime statistics.
4. The report also contained a recommendation that quality assurance of police recording of crime should be re-focused by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) on risk areas in terms of the statistical quality of the data.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

5. The National Statistician decided that the non-statutory Committee should comprise a mix of officials from government departments, representatives from key stakeholder organisations and a majority of 'non-executive' members representing academia, users and the like. Members of the Committee are subject to a Code of Practice (Annex 1).
6. Advertisements for a Chair and non-executive members were placed in the national online media in October 2011 using procedures similar to those required by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Non-executive appointments were made in early November with Stephen Shute, Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice at the University of Sussex,

¹ [National Statisticians Review of Crime Statistics for England and Wales](#)

chosen as Chair. There are seven other non-executive members. A full list of members is at Annex 2 with brief biographies.

HOW THE COMMITTEE OPERATES

7. The Committee functions as a strategic, high level advisory body offering independent advice to the Home Secretary, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) on matters related to the measurement of crime and the collection and presentation of crime data for England and Wales. It advises on how best to ensure that official statistics on crime for England and Wales are accurate, clearly presented, comprehensive, transparent and trustworthy taking account of the needs of users and providers.
8. In carrying out its functions the Committee has due regard to the needs of users and providers of data; the Code of Practice for Official Statistics; the legal framework in which it operates; the wider affordability of proposals for change; burden or bureaucracy in respect of Police Recorded Crime and on the public who provide survey data; and international developments and obligations.
9. At its first meeting in December 2011 the Committee adopted its Terms of Reference and resolved to meet three times a year. It aims to be a wholly transparent Committee and has arranged its own web presence².

CHANGES IN THE CLASSIFICATION OF POLICE RECORDED CRIME

10. The Review noted a concern that the existing classifications of police recorded crime were overly complex and burdensome on the police and concluded that there may be some scope to reduce the number of crime categories used for their reporting and collection. In response to the Review, the Home Office published a consultation document "Consultation on changes to recorded crime classifications and categories" in October 2011. The proposals put forward in the consultation were intended as a step towards reducing burdens associated with crime recording. The consultation period of twelve weeks ended in January 2012.
11. A meeting of the Committee was specially convened in January 2012 to discuss the outcome of the consultation and possible changes to police recorded crime classifications and categories in order that it could advise the Home Secretary. The Committee reached a consensus view on the proposals for change. An exchange of correspondence between the Chair and the Home Secretary followed. The Home Secretary agreed the Committee's recommendations. The correspondence is at Annex 3.

FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

12. The Committee has identified some of the key issues that it plans to explore both in the immediate future and over the long term. Some of these issues warrant attention, while for others it will keep a permanent watching brief. Hence, the work programme has been split into two categories, communication and methods.

Communication

- Developing the publication strategy, with the aim of improving the presentation of the statistics to give users and the public a clearer understanding of the overall

² [Crime Statistics Advisory Committee : UK Statistics Authority](#)

picture of crime – High priority

- Support further research on publishing recorded incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) alongside crime statistics in order to improve measurement issues – Medium priority
- Support further research on publishing Ministry of Justice National Statistics on non-notifiable summary offences alongside crime statistics in order to improve measurement issues – Medium priority
- Develop proposals for further reductions in existing bureaucracy and data burden – Medium priority

Methods

- Support and advise on the work to incorporate information on crimes against 10-15 year olds developed from the recent extension of the Crime Survey for England and Wales in order to address a significant gap in the crime statistics – High priority
- Support and advise on the work on instigating a further collection of data on crime against businesses in order to address a significant gap in the crime statistics identified by many users – Medium priority
- Support and advise on the work to incorporate new data streams on fraud into the National Statistics picture and considering measurement issues in relation to e-Crime or cyber crime in order to provide a fuller picture – Medium priority
- Considering the potential use of baskets or indices of crime – Low priority.
- Support the investigation of the feasibility of improving the availability of data on repeat victimisation in order to fill gaps in the statistics – Medium priority.

13. Any programme of developments will be dependent on relevant resources being identified in ONS and Home Office. Due regard will also be given to the demands upon the police service. The Committee acknowledges that, at a time of scarce resources, it is important that all resources are used to the best purpose. The Committee's views on priorities are therefore key to making informed decisions, with priority to be given to reducing burden and moving forward as quickly as possible. It is noted that responsibility for setting and delivering a work programme rests with the relevant departments.

LIST OF ANNEXES

Annex 1	Code of Practice
Annex 2	List of members, biographies, photographs
Annex 3	Correspondence between Chair and Home Secretary

Crime Statistics Advisory Committee (England & Wales)

(CSAC)

Code of Practice

Author

CSAC Secretariat, National Statistician's Office

Date

December 2011

Code of Practice

Introduction

1. This document sets out the Code of Practice for the independent Crime Statistics Advisory Committee (CSAC) and any associated working groups or sub-groups. It is a working document, subject to periodic review by the Committee subsequent to:-
 - feedback from members
 - feedback from stakeholders
 - new or updated guidance from Government.
2. Both CSAC members and individuals who may be appointed, or co-opted, to working groups or sub-groups for short periods of time, are expected to comply at all times with this Code of Practice.

Role and Remit

3. CSAC is a non-statutory body established by the National Statistician. The Committee was established following a recommendation from the National Statistician's Review of Crime Statistics: England and Wales (published 6 June 2011) to establish an independent advisory committee on crime statistics. The Committee's Terms of Reference can be found in Annex One.

Code of Conduct

4. Members of the Committee are responsible for ensuring that it fulfils its role as set out in the Committee's Terms of Reference.
5. To ensure its accountability in carrying out its duties, the Committee will seek to work as openly as possible.
6. Members are required to observe the Seven Principles of Public Life endorsed by the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life and to comply with this Code of Practice. See Annex A.
7. Each member must at all times act in good faith and observe the highest standards of impartiality, integrity and objectivity in relation to the conduct of the Committee's business. In particular, members should:
 - familiarise themselves with the Terms of Reference of the Committee;
 - undergo any required induction training;
 - declare any personal or business interest which may, or may be perceived (by a reasonable member of the public), to influence their judgement. This should include, as a minimum, personal direct and indirect pecuniary interests, and should normally also include such interests of close family members and of people living in the same household;
 - not participate in the discussion or determination of matters in which they have a personal or business interest, and should normally withdraw from the meeting (even if held in public) if their interest is direct and pecuniary;

- make a declaration of interest at any Committee meeting if it relates specifically to a particular issue under consideration, for recording in the minutes (whether or not a Committee member withdraws from the meeting);
 - not misuse information gained in the course of their public service for personal gain or for political purpose, nor seek to use the opportunity of public service to promote their private interests or those of connected persons, firms, businesses or other organisations;
 - not hold any paid, or high profile unpaid, posts in a political party, and not engage in specific party political activities on matters directly affecting the work of the Committee. When engaging in other political activities, members should be conscious of their public role and exercise proper discretion.
8. Committee members may be personally liable if, in the performance of their Committee duties, they make a fraudulent or negligent statement which results in a loss to a third party.
9. In accepting this Code of Practice members accept that they will not disclose any information or documents if they are marked "Restricted" and not disclose any subsequent comments about material which has been marked "Restricted". Members also undertake not to make copies of any such documents, and to follow the advice provided by the Chair and Secretariat about the handling of such documents.

Responsibility and Role of the Chair

10. The Chair of CSAC is appointed as an individual to fulfil the role of the Committee, not as a representative of their particular profession, employer or interest group, and has a duty to act in the public interest. The Chair is appointed on a personal basis, even if they are a member of one or more stakeholder groups. If a Chair declares an organisation's views rather than a personal view, he/she should make it clear at the time of declaring that view.
11. The Chair is expected to attend all CSAC meetings.
12. The Chair has responsibility for providing effective leadership and :
- ensuring that every member of CSAC has the opportunity to be heard and that no view is overlooked or ignored;
 - setting the strategic direction for CSAC;
 - ensuring that CSAC meets at the appropriate intervals;
 - ensuring that any significant diversity of opinion among CSAC members is fully explored and discussed;
 - representing CSAC to the public or the media as arranged. The Chair will be responsible for speaking on behalf of CSAC to the press or to be interviewed by journalists and broadcast media;
 - publicly reporting CSAC's advice to the Home Secretary, Office for National Statistics and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary;

- ensuring that CSAC acts in accordance with this Code of Practice.

Role of Members

13. Non-executive, non-permanent members of CSAC are appointed as individuals to fulfil the role of the Committee, not as representatives of their particular profession, employer or interest group, and have a duty to act in the public interest. Non-executive members are appointed on a personal basis, even if they are members of one or more stakeholder groups. If a non-executive member declares an organisation's views rather than a personal view, he/she should make it clear at the time of declaring that view.
14. Executive, permanent members of CSAC are appointed to represent the views of their employer organisation and will sit on the Committee for the duration of their holding of that post designated as a seat on the Committee.
15. A member's role on the Committee is not circumscribed by the expertise or perspective he or she was asked to bring to CSAC. Any report or advice belongs to the Committee as a whole. Members should regard themselves as free to question and comment on the information provided or the views expressed by any of the other members, notwithstanding that the views or information may not relate to their own area of expertise.
16. Members are expected to make every endeavour to attend all meetings. Executive members can delegate attendance in exceptional circumstances to persons with the appropriate authority to represent them; this should first be discussed with the Secretariat. Meetings will be held providing a quorum can be achieved at the discretion of the Chair.
17. Members should satisfy themselves that CSAC's advice is comprehensible from the point of view of a lay person and that the implications of any uncertainties concerning the basis of CSAC's advice are fully explained.
18. All members have the responsibility for:
 - acting in the public interest;
 - contributing at CSAC meetings;
 - examining and challenging, if necessary, the assumptions on which advice is formulated;
 - ensuring that CSAC has the opportunity to consider contrary views and where appropriate the concerns and values of stakeholders before a decision is taken;
 - sharing in the general responsibility to consider the wider context in which their expertise is employed;
 - acting with a presumption of openness and ensuring that they act in accordance with this Code of Practice.

Communications with the Media

19. The Chair of CSAC will be the spokesperson for any contacts with the media unless other specific arrangements have been made by the Chair and Secretariat.

20. If a member receives an approach for an interview on behalf of CSAC the request must be referred to the Secretariat for advice.
21. If a member is speaking or writing in a personal or professional capacity to the media (which they are entitled to do) and they are identified as a member of CSAC, it should be made clear that the individual's view is not necessarily that of CSAC.
22. All media inquiries to members should, when relevant to CSAC business, be routed through the Secretariat who will liaise with the National Statistician's Media Relations Team and the Chair.
23. Any media appearances that members have been asked to undertake on behalf of CSAC, or which specifically cover the work of CSAC, should be reported beforehand to the Secretariat, who will liaise with the National Statistician's Media Relations Team and the Chair.
24. Any requests for articles, letters or other comments relating to the work of CSAC that are intended for publication should be referred to the Secretariat and a copy of the text made available to the Secretariat as early as possible prior to its publication.

The Seven Principles of Public Life

The 'Seven Principles of Public Life' are expected to apply to all in the public service. These are:

Selflessness

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.

Integrity

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Openness

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

List of Crime Statistics Advisory Committee Members

Committee Chair

Professor Stephen Shute - Head of the School of Law, Politics and Sociology and Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, University of Sussex



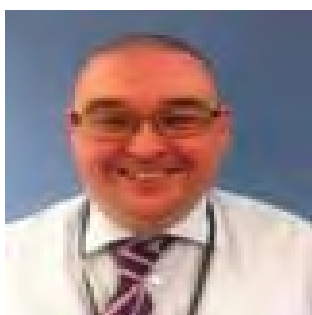
Professor Stephen Shute became Head of the School of Law, Politics and Sociology at the University of Sussex in October 2009. Before moving to Sussex he spent 15 years at the University of Birmingham where he served as Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Arts and Social Sciences and was part of the Vice-Chancellor's Senior Management Team and a member of the University's Strategic Management Committee. Prior to moving to Birmingham, he was a Fellow and Tutor in Law at Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

Stephen's academic work focuses on criminal law and criminal justice and he has published extensively in this area. Between 2007 and 2011 he was a member of the Ministerial Advisory Board on Joint Inspection in the Criminal Justice System which advised the five HM Chief Inspectors and the three Criminal Justice Ministers. In 2008 the Attorney General invited him to serve as a Non-Executive Member of the Management Board of HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate.

In 2009 he was appointed by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Justice and by Ministers of State of the other two sponsoring Departments, the Home Office and the Department of Health, to serve as a member of the Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody. Between 2003 and 2004 he was Chair of the Home Office's Technical Advisory Group for Section 95 Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System.

Permanent Members

Chief Statistician – Ministry of Justice (Iain Bell)



Iain is Head of Profession for Statistics in Ministry of justice. He is responsible for the statistics produced by Ministry of Justice which cover: out of court disposals; criminal courts and sentencing; prison, probation and re-offending as well as civil and family justice. He has been Head of Profession since 2009.

Chief Statistician – Home Office (David Blunt)



David was appointed to the Senior Civil Service as Head of Profession for Statistics in the Home Office in September 2007. His role was broadened to become the department's Chief Statistician in April 2008 when this post was created to coincide with the launch of the UK Statistics Authority.

David's career working in statistics started in August 1984 when he joined the Central Statistical Office (CSO) after graduating from York University. After completing the Institute of Statisticians Graduate Diploma, he became

an Assistant Statistician in 1988 and continued his career in the CSO. In his 23 years in the CSO and the Office for National Statistics, he held nine different posts including senior statistician responsible for labour market statistics, lead statistician working on the Retail Prices Index, four posts working on the National Accounts. He also has as experience working on the Family Expenditure Survey, Social Trends and Survey Control.

Chief Statistician – Welsh Government (Kate Chamberlain)

Kate gained her first degree in Statistics and Management Science with the University of Wales in Cardiff in 1985. She then went on to study for a PhD in Mathematical Statistics which she gained in 1991.



Kate has been with the civil service in the Welsh Government for eight years. Starting as Chief Statistician she now also manages specialist services in Economics, Social Research, Operational Research, Geographic Information Services, Library and Archive Services. Previously she has worked for a range of public sector organisations including; British Gas, the Audit Commission and the Local Government Data Unit.

ONS Executive Director with responsibility for crime statistics (Guy Goodwin)



As the Director overseeing Population, Health and Regional Statistics at ONS, Guy has oversight of several of the office's key outputs, including: population estimates, projections and migration statistics; life event data releases, such as births, deaths and marriages data; the Neighbourhood Statistics website and sub-national statistics; as well as the cross-government migration statistics improvement programme.

The publication of crime statistics moved into Guy's Directorate when the responsibility moved from the Home Office to ONS in April 2012. His remit also includes the Beyond 2011 programme, which is examining and developing a number of options for producing key population and socio-demographic statistics after the 2011 Census.

Guy has spent over 20 years in the Government Statistical Service across various Government Departments, including at the former Department of Education and Science, as Head of Profession for Statistics at the Office for Standards in Education and as Director of Social Survey Division within ONS. He is a graduate and postgraduate of the London School of Economics where he studied statistics and is a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society (RSS). During his time in the National Statistician's policy area, Guy was responsible for drafting the white paper, 'Building Trust in Statistics', and he retains a close interest in statistical policy issues including leading a cross-departmental group that is responding to the Government's open data agenda.

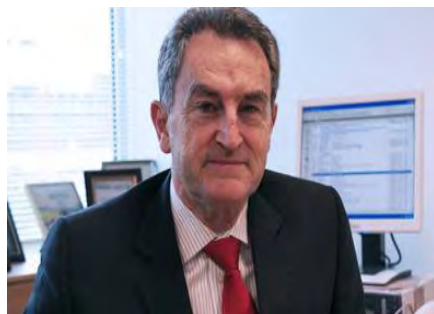
National Statistician (Jil Matheson)



Jil Matheson was appointed National Statistician, Head of the Government Statistical Service and Chief Executive of the UK Statistics Authority in September 2009. Jil's career in statistics began in 1975 at the then Office for Population Census and Surveys. Jil subsequently worked as a researcher, analyst and project manager for a number of different social surveys. In 1998 Jil became a Deputy Director in the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

In 2001 Jil was elected as a fellow of the Academy of Learned Societies in Social Science. In 2002 Jil took the lead in the introduction of the National Statistics Code of Practice, and in 2003 moved to run the ONS Census Division. In 2004 Jil was appointed Executive Director of Census, Demographic and Regional Statistics, and in 2008 became Director General for Statistics Delivery at ONS.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) (Sir Denis O'Connor)



Sir Denis O'Connor is Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary. Before joining the Inspectorate, he was Chief Constable of Surrey between 2000 and 2004. He has a Bachelor's degree in Education from Southampton University and a MSc in Social Policy from the Cranfield Institute of Technology.

Sir Denis began his career with the Metropolitan Police, eventually becoming Assistant Chief Constable in Surrey in 1991. He was later appointed the role of Deputy Chief of Kent, and then in 1997 took on the position of Assistant Commissioner in London where he led the Metropolitan Police Service development strategy following the Stephen Lawrence Enquiry. In 1996,

Sir Denis was awarded the Queen's Police Medal and later received a CBE in 2002 for his service to policing. He received a knighthood in 2010 in the Queen's Birthday Honours. Prior to becoming Vice President of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) in 2003, he chaired the ACPO Performance Management Business Area and led the piloting of the National Reassurance Policing Programme; the pre-cursor to Neighbourhood Policing. Over the years, Sir Denis has reviewed the fitness of the current police force structure, which resulted in the publishing of the 2005 report 'Closing the Gap'.

Other reviews undertaken during his tenure include 'Intercepting Terrorism,' a review published in October 2006 on police capabilities for counter terrorism, and 'Getting Organised,' a report published in October 2008 on serious and organized crime. Other significant analysis, commentary and reviews overseen by Sir Denis include the issues arising from the death of Baby P, the Lessons to be Learned from Stockwell, a review of the policing of public protests in the context of G20; Value for Money in the police service and a review of Anti-Social Behaviour.

His team have provided support to the Olympics Programme and recent studies have been undertaken into police availability and the preparedness of police forces and authorities for the spending period; undercover policing; police relationships with the media and other parties; and the policing of the August 2011 disorders.

Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) (Douglas Paxton)



Douglas Paxton joined Suffolk Constabulary in 1989. In 1991 he entered the Police Staff College Accelerated Promotion Course and by 2001 rose to the rank of Superintendent, serving as Deputy Area Commander for the west of Suffolk. He moved to West Midlands Police in 2002 where, for three years, he was in charge of a large division in Birmingham city centre which included a match commander's role at Aston Villa. He also served for two years as head of the Professional Standards and Anti-corruption Department.

Douglas joined Staffordshire Police in April 2007 as Assistant Chief Constable and in 2010 became the Deputy Chief Constable. Douglas is currently the ACPO Lead on Interpreters and Language Services (Criminal Justice Business Area) and ACPO Lead on Crime Statistics (Performance Management Business Area). He has recently been appointed as Programme Director working with the joint ACPO and Home Office Tackling Bureaucracy Board.

Director of Crime – Home Office (Jae Samant)



Jae Samant has been the Home Office's Crime Director since May 2009. She and her team lead on developing the Government's strategy, policies and legislation on preventing and cutting crime.

She spent some of her childhood in India, Singapore and Hong Kong before moving to the UK in 1980. She worked in banking for 18 months after graduating from Oxford University before joining the civil service in 1991. She did a range of policy and Private Office posts in the Department of Employment, the Department for Education and Employment and the Cabinet Office before joining the Home Office in 2004. She worked in the Home Office's Strategic Policy Team, then led the Police Reform Unit and was Acting Director of Police Reform and Resources. In 2007, she ran the programme to set up the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism. She has also worked on secondment at the BIG Lottery Fund and the BBC.

Non-executive members

Professor Allan Brimicombe - Professor and Head, Centre for Geo-Information Studies, University of East London, Chair of Crime and Justice Statistics Network



Professor Brimicombe is the Head of the Centre for Geo-Information Studies at University of East London, UK. He holds BA(Hons) in Geography from Sheffield University, an MPhil in Applied Geomorphology and PhD in Geo-Information Systems both from the University of Hong Kong. Allan is a Chartered Geographer and is an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences.

He was employed in the Far East for 19 years first as an engineering geomorphologist working on large development projects, then as the founding Head of the Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics, Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Here he pioneered the use of geo-information systems (GIS) and numerical simulation modelling as spatial decision support systems. In 1995, Allan returned to the UK as Professor and Head of the School of Surveying at the University of East London.

Allan's research at University of East London has focused on data quality issues and spatial data mining and modelling with particular emphasis on crime data. He is Chair of the Crime & Justice Statistics Network of the British Society of Criminology.

Ms Giselle Cory - Policy Researcher



Giselle joined the Resolution Foundation in January 2012 where she focuses on low to middle income households and issues relating to the labour market. Prior to this, she worked on criminal justice issues at the national charity Victim Support where she published *Summing up: a strategic audit of the criminal justice system*. Before this, she was at the Prime Minister's Delivery Unit, HM Treasury, working primarily on policy on children, education and skills. Whilst at the Treasury, Giselle also supported the development of the then-new Efficiency and Reform Group and provided analysis for an independent government review.

Before joining the Treasury, Giselle was at the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit where she focused on youth policy.

Giselle has an undergraduate degree in physics and mathematics, a diploma in manned spaceflight and a graduate diploma in economics. She has conducted research in Malawi on youth issues and in Mexico on nuclear physics.

Professor Mike Hough – Institute for Criminal Policy Research, School of Law, Birkbeck



Mike Hough is a co-director of the Institute for Criminal Policy Research (ICPR), which is part of the School of Law, Birkbeck, University of London.

Mike began his research career in the Home Office in 1974, and was a member of the team that started the British Crime Survey. Leaving in 1994, he set up an academic policy research centre, originally based at London South Bank University; it moved, as ICPR, to King's College London in 2003, and to Birkbeck, University of London, in 2010.

Mike's current research interests include: procedural justice theory and public trust in justice; public perceptions of crime and justice; policing and police legitimacy; crime measurement and crime trends; sentencing and sentencing guidelines; offender rehabilitation and desistance (and its evaluation). He has published extensively on these and other topics (see www.icpr.org.uk).

Ms Christine Lawrie – Self-employed adviser and consultant in the community justice arena



Christine worked in a borstal and in Hampshire and Derbyshire probation services before becoming an HM Inspector of Probation in 1990.

In 1997 she became deputy chief probation officer for Kent and in 1999 its chief probation officer. She was seconded to the Home Office in 2005 to set up and run a national probation service performance improvement unit.

In 2007 she took up post as chief executive of the Probation Association, the national "trade association" for probation trusts which represents them at national level and negotiates terms and conditions of employment for their staff. She is now a self-employed adviser and consultant in the community justice arena.

Professor Michael Levi – Professor of Criminology, Cardiff University



Dr. Michael Levi has degrees from Oxford, Cambridge, Southampton and Cardiff Universities and has been Professor of Criminology at Cardiff University since 1991. He has been conducting international research on the control of white-collar and organised crime, corruption and money laundering/ financing of terrorism since 1972, and has published widely on these subjects as well as editing major journals, including *Criminology and Criminal Justice*.

Mike was elected to the Academy of Social Sciences (2006) and became a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales in 2012. He was granted a D.Sc. (Econ.) from Cardiff University (2007).

Current public posts include membership of the EC Group of Experts on Corruption, of the World Economic Forum's Organised Crime Council, and of the ESRC's Peer Review College; and Vice-President, US White-Collar Crime Research Consortium. He has previously served as a director of the British and European Societies of Criminology. He recently completed a scoping study for Nominet Trust on mapping cybercrimes and public and private sector responses to them in the UK.

He is currently conducting a study funded by the American Bar Foundation and British Academy, in collaboration with the IMF, reviewing the fitness for purpose of anti-money laundering country evaluations. His particular statistical interests include online and offline financial and transnational crimes.

Professor Chris G Lewis - Visiting Professor, Institute of Criminal Justice Studies, University of Portsmouth



Chris Lewis is a Chartered Statistician and has degrees from Oxford and London Universities in Mathematics, Statistics and Computing Science, which he then taught at the Open University. During a long civil service career he worked at the then Central Statistical Office and the Ministries of Health & Defence before becoming Chief Statistician at the Home Office and later Assistant Director of Research. He was awarded the CBE in 2001.

Since 2003 he has been a Senior Research Fellow and visiting professor at the Institute of Criminal Justice Studies at the University of Portsmouth. From 2004-2009 he was a World Bank Statistical Manager for their General Data Dissemination System for Crime and Justice in five African countries.

He currently sits as Chair of the CPS Hampshire Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel and is on the Steering Committee of the European Source Book of Crime and Justice Statistics. He has been a Trustee of Kainos Community, delivering programmes for offenders in prisons since 2004 and a Trustee of CPRE: Sussex Countryside Trust since 2010. He was Company Secretary of the British Society of Criminology for six years to 2012.

His current research interests are fraud and corruption: as well as international comparisons of crime and justice statistics.

Ms Patricia Mayhew - Independent criminological consultant



Pat Mayhew has been an independent consultant criminologist since returning from New Zealand in 2008 where she was director of the Crime and Justice Research Centre in Victoria University of Wellington. Between 1967 and 2004,

Pat worked mainly in the Research, Development and Statistics Directorate (RDS) of the Home Office. She played a key role in starting the British Crime Survey (BCS) in 1982, which she managed until 2000. Pat has also been actively involved in many other crime victimization surveys, including the International Crime

Victims Survey (ICVS) and, whilst she was Consultant Criminologist at the Australian Institute of Criminology (2001-2003), the International Violence against Women Survey (IVAWS).

Alongside her work on the BCS in the Home Office, Pat was also closely involved in managing the production of statistics on crimes recorded by the police. Pat received an OBE in 1997 for services to criminology.

Correspondence between Chair and Home Secretary

Letter from Professor Stephen Shute to the Rt. Hon. Theresa May MP on 27 January 2012

The Rt. Hon. Theresa May MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF



27 January 2012

Dear Home Secretary:

I am writing in my capacity as the Chair of the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee, a role which I was pleased to have been invited to take on by the National Statistician.

The Crime Statistics Advisory Committee met on 23 January to consider proposals to revise a number of Police Recorded Crime classifications following the Home Office's public consultation that ended earlier this month. In coming to their judgements, the Committee has been guided by the responses to the consultation and by criteria that are intended to assist in its deliberations of this nature. These criteria – based on the findings of the National Statistician's Review of Crime Statistics in England and Wales – include balancing the needs of users and the granularity of data required; the ability to produce, and benefits of producing, consistent back series; the impact on data quality; the impact on burden of reporting on police forces; and the risk of introducing discontinuity to the statistics which may lead to a decrease in trust.

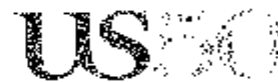
The Committee recommends that the proposals to merge classifications in respect of 'Assault with injury', 'Wounding and endangering life', 'Racially and religiously aggravated criminal damage' and 'Cruelty to children' are accepted. All seem sensible, proportionate and should enhance public understanding. In respect of 'Other offences against the State', the Committee recommends that, instead of merging into a single classification, this group of offences should be categorised by their seriousness. This would mean creating two categories – serious offences against the State and public order (currently codes 62 - 65) and other offences against the State and public order (currently code 88). Given events in August 2012, there does seem merit in being able to demarcate in this way and to avoid any accusations of undermining public confidence in those statistics. In respect of 'Other offences', the Committee supported the collapse of the twelve existing offence classifications with one exception – Aiding suicide – where it felt that police involvement in investigating that offence warranted it remaining as a separate code within police recorded crime.

The Committee also notes that it will be important for Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Home Office statisticians to make information available to explain the revisions to the classifications and any impact on the time series. More generally, the Committee has resolved to consider changes to the presentation of recorded crime data in slightly slower time given the transfer of responsibility for publishing these statistics to ONS in April 2012.

I am copying this letter to Jill Matheson, the National Statistician, and will arrange for it to be made available on the Committee's web pages.

Yours sincerely

Professor Stephen Shute
Chair of the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee





HOME SECRETARY

2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
www.homeoffice.gov.uk

Professor Stephen Shute
School of Law, Politics and Sociology
Friston
University of Sussex
Falmer
Brighton BN1 9SP

Dear Professor Shute

31 JAN 2012

RATIONALISING THE COLLECTION OF RECORDED CRIME DATA

Thank you for your letter of 27 January 2012.

I am grateful that the Advisory Committee was able to give timely consideration to the proposed rationalisation of the crime categories used for collection of police recorded crime.

I accept in full your recommendations to:

- merge classifications in respect of 'Assault with injury', 'Wounding and endangering life' 'Racially and religiously aggravated criminal damage' and 'Cruelty to children';
- restrict the merging of 'other offences against the state' to two categories, rather than one as originally proposed in the Home Office consultation, based on their seriousness; and,
- collapse the twelve offences within the 'Other offences' classification into one code with the exception of 'Aiding suicide' which should remain as a separate code.

I welcome your conclusion that you believe these changes to be sensible, proportionate and likely to aid public understanding.

As set out in my previous letter of 20 January, the Government is committed both to providing people with accurate and clear crime data that is easy to access and understand, and to reducing the burden related to crime recording. I look forward to receiving further advice from the Committee on options for more substantive and less immediate changes to crime recording to support these goals.

I am copying this letter to the National Statistician.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Theresa May', written in a cursive style.

The Rt Hon Theresa May MP