



This analysis looked at the reoffending behaviour of 79 individuals who participated in a Penrose CJS intervention in the London area. The overall results show that those who took part in the intervention had a lower one-year proven reoffending rate, and lower reoffending frequency compared to a matched comparison group.

Penrose CJS supported men mainly between the ages of 26 and 50 (at the date of release) who were sentenced to less than 12 months in custody under the Offender Rehabilitation Act (ORA). Two individuals were included outside of this age range who met other intervention criteria. Individuals typically worked with Penrose CJS between 6 and 12 months.

The headline analysis in this report measured proven reoffences in a one-year period for a 'treatment group' of 79 offenders who received support some time between 2017 and 2018 and for a much larger 'comparison group' of similar offenders who did not receive it. There may have been a different impact on participants whose details were submitted but who did not meet the criteria for analysis.

Overall measurements of the treatment and comparison groups

For **100** typical men in the **treatment** group, the equivalent of:



19 of the 100 men committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 19%), **12 men fewer** than in the comparison group.



43 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 men during the year (a frequency of 0.4 offences per person), **51 offences fewer** than in the comparison group.



For **100** typical men in the **comparison** group, the equivalent of:

31 of the 100 men committed a proven reoffence within a one-year period (a rate of 31%).

94 proven reoffences were committed by these 100 men during the year (a frequency of 0.9 offences per person).

Time to first reoffence has not been included as a headline result due to low numbers of reoffenders, which could give misleading results.

Overall estimates of the impact of the intervention

For **100** typical men who receive support, compared with **100** similar men who do not receive it:



The number of men who commit a proven reoffence within one year after release could be **lower by between 3 and 21 men**. This is a statistically significant result.



The number of proven reoffences committed during the year could be **lower by between 19 and 83 offences**. This is a statistically significant result.

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 reoffending rate:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from Penrose CJS may decrease the number of proven reoffenders during a one-year period.”

✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending rate:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from Penrose CJS increases/has no effect on the reoffending rate of its participants.”

✓ **What you can say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from Penrose CJS may decrease the number of proven reoffences committed during a one-year period by its participants.”

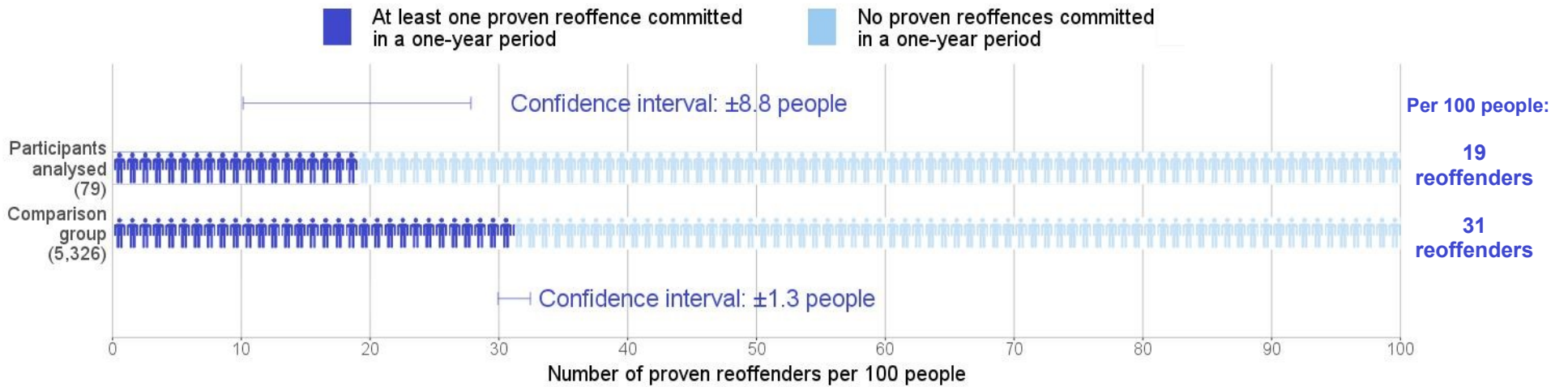
✗ **What you cannot say about the one-year reoffending frequency:**

“This analysis provides evidence that support from Penrose CJS increases/has no effect on the number of proven reoffences committed during a one-year period by its participants.”

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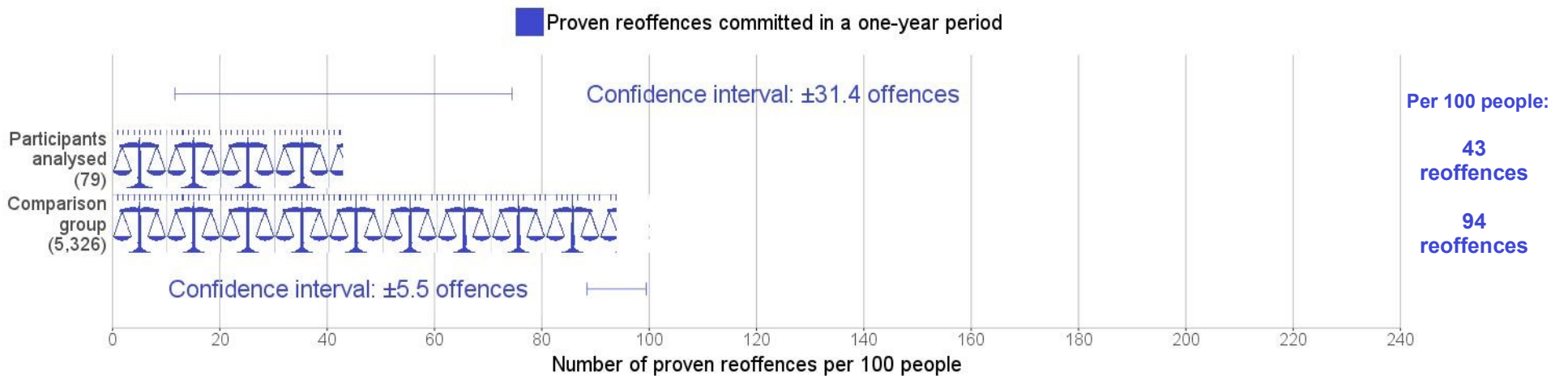
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One-year proven reoffending rate after support from Penrose CJS



Significant difference between groups

One-year proven reoffending frequency after support from Penrose CJS



Significant difference between groups

Penrose CJS in their own words

“ Penrose’s community team are based in every London borough, working predominantly in London CRC offices. In the Responsible Officer (RO) role, they assume very similar responsibilities to other probation offender managers, which incorporate assessment, referrals to and partnership working with relevant support services, one-to-one work on the causes of offending behaviour, risk management and escalation, and enforcement of the order of the court where necessary. Penrose ROs use the same processes and systems as their CRC and NPS counterparts, including OASys and nDelius. Responsible Officers support service users through the duration of their Post Sentence Supervision (PSS).

Where our service differs is in its approach. Rooted in desistance theory, our staff are trained and quality assured on adopting an asset-based approach which, whilst not neglecting the need for comprehensive risk management, focuses primarily on the strengths, hopes and ambitions of the individual and working with them towards achieving attainable goals with an emphasis on identity shift. Our frontline staff, predominantly recruited from the voluntary sector rather than probation settings, are trained in motivational interviewing and our positive, persistent engagement model, as well as mandatory core PSO training.

In addition to one-to-one work in probation offices and partnership working with other support services, our community team also deliver quarterly Job Fairs for our service users; a ‘one-stop shop’ approach which brought our service users together with training providers and employers with live vacancies, whilst also enabling them to access one-to-one or group support with CVs, disclosure letters and interview techniques. To date 65% of service users attending have achieved a positive employment outcome, including job offers, enrolment on training courses and follow-up interviews.

Reporting frequency was set based on assessed risk and levels of support required, however all service users would be seen a minimum of twice in the first month during which the induction to our service, to PSS and the setting of SMART goals would take place. On average service users reported every 3-4 weeks with the aim of reducing the frequency over the duration of the order. All service users had a final appointment at which their goals were reviewed and an exit survey completed.

88% of completing service users rated their experience of Penrose on PSS as ‘positive’ or ‘very positive’ with the different, more empathetic approach adopted by our staff as the most commonly listed reason. In the last 9 months, our model has been revised and we are now providing end-to-end case management support, from the point of sentencing, to men on custodial sentences of all lengths and not just those subject to PSS. ”

Response from Penrose CJS to the Justice Data Lab analysis

“ We recognise that the factors supporting desistance from crime are myriad and complex, and that no single intervention will alone be sufficient to break patterns of entrenched offending behaviour.

However we are extremely encouraged by these results, which strongly indicate that our asset-based approach to working with people in criminal justice settings supports reductions in reoffending. We also believe that this report provides compelling evidence that voluntary sector organisations can make a positive difference in the offender manager role.

We would like to thank all our staff who, through their passion, persistence, commitment and creativity, have helped this cohort of service users to move away from the criminal justice system and lead happy, healthy lives. We would also like to express our gratitude to the Justice Data Lab team, to London CRC for providing us with the opportunity to deliver this service, and above all to our service users who inspire and motivate us every day to keep developing and improving our offer.

We hope to submit a larger sample for analysis in the near future and, with the impending changes to the criminal justice landscape, we look forward to utilising our approach to rehabilitation in new models and new settings over the coming months and years. ”

Results in detail

Two analyses were conducted in total, controlling for offender demographics and criminal history and the following risks and needs: mental health, thinking skills, employment, education, relationships, drug use and alcohol use.

Analyses

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

The headline results in this report refer to the **Regional analysis**.

The sizes of the treatment and comparison groups for reoffending rate and frequency analyses are provided below. To create a comparison group that is as similar as possible to the treatment group, each person within the comparison group is given a weighting proportionate to how closely they match the characteristics of individuals in the treatment group. The calculated reoffending rate uses the weighted values for each person and therefore does not necessarily correspond to the unweighted figures.

Analyses	Controlled for Region	Treatment Group Size	Comparison Group Size	Reoffenders in treatment group	Reoffenders in comparison group
Regional	X	79	5,326	15	1,337
National		80	28,933	15	8,150

In each analysis, **two headline measures** of one-year reoffending were analysed (see results in Tables 1-2):

1. Rate of reoffending
2. Frequency of reoffending

Significant Results

There are four statistically significant results among the analyses. This provides significant evidence that:

Regionally

- **Participants are less likely to commit a reoffence within a one-year period** than non-participants
- **Participants commit fewer reoffences within a one-year period** than non-participants

Nationally

- **Participants are less likely to commit a reoffence within a one-year period** than non-participants
- **Participants commit fewer reoffences within a one-year period** than non-participants

Tables 1-2 show the overall measures of reoffending. Rates are expressed as percentages and frequencies expressed per person.

Table 1: Proportion of men who committed a proven reoffence in a one-year period after support from Penrose CJS, compared with matched comparison groups

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven reoffending rate				p-value
			Treatment group rate (%)	Comparison group rate (%)	Estimated difference (% points)	Significant difference?	
Regional	79	5,326	19	31	-21 to -3	Yes	0.01
National	80	28,933	19	29	-19 to -2	Yes	0.02

Table 2: Number of proven reoffences committed in a one-year period by men who received support from Penrose CJS, compared with matched comparison groups

Analysis	Number in treatment group	Number in comparison group	One-year proven reoffending frequency (offences per person)				p-value
			Treatment group frequency	Comparison group frequency	Estimated difference	Significant difference?	
Regional	79	5,326	0.43	0.94	-0.83 to -0.19	Yes	<0.01
National	80	28,933	0.43	0.90	-0.78 to -0.16	Yes	<0.01

Profile of the treatment group

Referrals to Penrose's Post Sentence Supervision (PSS) service were made by CRC Offender Managers ahead of the individual's licence period coming to an end and their PSS commencing. The only exceptions were eligible cases released directly from custody onto PSS, usually due to time served.

Entry criteria required participants to be male, aged 26-50 on day of release, a low/medium risk of serious harm and have no concurrent non-ORA custodial sentences. Two individuals were included who fell outside the age range but met other criteria. Individuals generally had a completed OASYS assessment.

The intervention lasted from the end of the licence period through the duration of the PSS, which ended 12 months after release from custody. A minority of service users were released directly on to PSS (on 'time served') and therefore would be supervised by Penrose for the full duration of their remaining order - up to 12 months.

Participants included in analysis (79 offenders in Regional analysis)

- Male 100%
- White 39%, Black 44%, Asian 9%, Other 6%, Unknown ethnicity 1%
- UK national 80%, Non-UK nationality 19%, Unknown nationality 1%
- Aged 24 to 56 years at the beginning of their one-year period (average age 36)
- Sentence length:
 - Unknown sentence length 6%
 - Less than or equal to 6 months 78%
 - Between 6 and 12 months 15%

Participants not included in analysis (55 offenders with available data)

- Male 100%
- White 56%, Black 29%, Asian 11%, Other 2%, Unknown ethnicity 2%
- UK nationality 67%, Non-UK nationality 31%, Unknown nationality 2%

Information on index offences is not available for this group, as they could not be linked to a suitable sentence.

For **6 people** without any records in the reoffending database, no personal information is available.

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

Information on individual risks and needs was available for 73 people in the regional treatment group (92%), recorded near to the time of their original conviction.

- 70% had some or significant problems with problem solving
- 66% had some or significant problems with consequence awareness
- 56% had some or significant problems with employment history

Matching the treatment and comparison groups

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

- Most variables in the regional model were well matched, or moderately well matched. There was poor matching for the nationality and criminal history between groups.
- Most variables in the national model were well matched, or moderately well matched. There was poor matching for the nationality and criminal history between groups.

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

149 men were submitted for analysis by Penrose CJS



149

2 men (1%) were excluded from the analyses because they could not be identified on the Police National Computer (PNC)



147

59 men (40%) were excluded because they did not have a record in the reoffending database that corresponded to their period of participation with Penrose CJS, reoffended before the start of their intervention or had previously been convicted of sex offences.



88

9 men (6%) were excluded because they did not match during the Propensity Score Matching stage



79

Regional treatment group: 53% of the participants submitted
(Comparison group: 5,326 records)

Contact Points

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