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for International Research on
Interpersonal Violence and Harm

*Reducing domestic abuse by improving the measurement
and analysis of data on domestic abuse*



Dr Les Humphreys

Reliable and valid measures of domestic abuse (DA) at the individual, neighbourhood, regional and national levels are crucial. A clear understanding of the nature and extent of the problem will allow us to respond appropriately to reduce levels of DA, reduce harm resulting from DA, and protect lives. A number of sources of information are available, each with their own strengths but each with considerable weaknesses.

One source that is little used but shows promise is data from police information systems (as distinct from data from the Police National Computer). This data contains information on all incidences including information on the victim as well as the offender. It also includes data on referrals and crime reports I will outline analysis that uses police data and explain how this analysis could be improved by incorporating the results of natural language processing of the free text from crime reports. Ongoing work by myself and colleagues in the VISION consortium will address the challenges of working with data from different police forces.. The main aim of VISION - a five-year national project funded by a £7million grant from the UKPRP – is to optimise and synthesise fragmented data on all forms of violence from multiple sources (police, surveys, courts, health etc) within a shared framework.

Dr Les Humphreys is a Senior Lecturer in Criminal Justice and Policing at UCLan. Prior to joining UCLAN, he worked at Lancaster University for almost 20 years in various academic roles. He is a quantitative criminologist specialising in carrying out longitudinal analysis, and his research involves applying sophisticated statistical methods to all types of criminal justice data. Les's current substantive research interests revolve around domestic abuse, violence, gender, and policing and he is currently a Co-Investigator on the £7million [VISION](#) project funded by the Medical Research Council. The main aim of this project is to reduce the violence that harms health by improving the measurement and analysis of data on violence. He is also co-investigator on an ESRC funded project evaluating the effect of Family Drug and Alcohol courts on offending behaviour. Dr Humphreys can be contacted at lnhumphreys@uclan.ac.uk

**ZOOM
WEBINAR**

**WEDNESDAY
15 FEBRUARY 2023
4.00 - 5.00PM**

Places are limited. Please reserve yours on Eventbrite :<https://Les-Humphreys.eventbrite.co.uk>

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