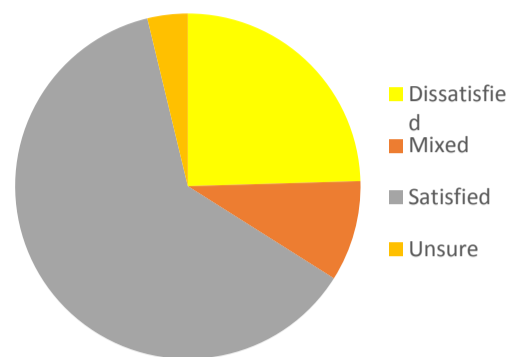


Victim satisfaction with the Joint Diversionary Panel



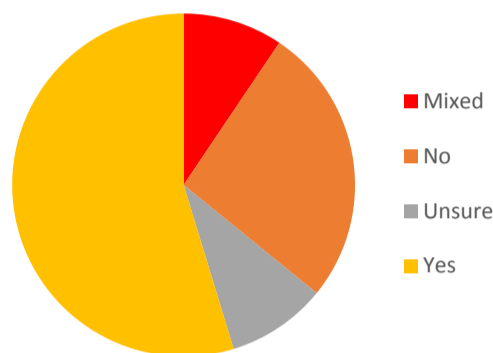
Quantitative results:

Victim satisfaction with the JDP



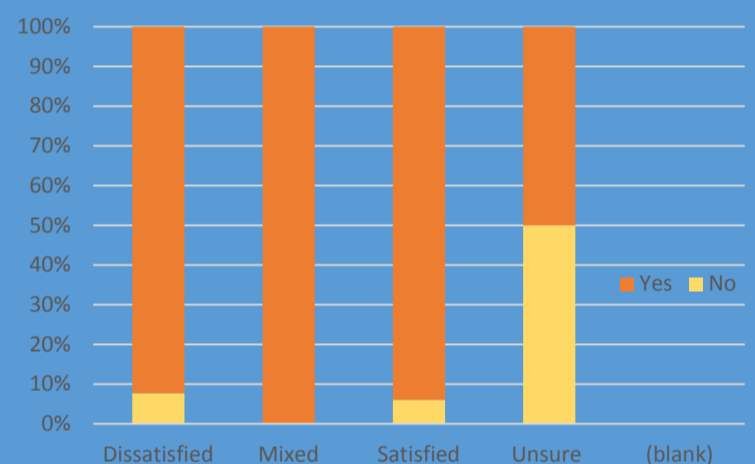
-62% of the victims overall were satisfied with the JDP

-25% of the victims overall were dissatisfied with the JDP



-55% of victims thought the outcome was proportionate and appropriate

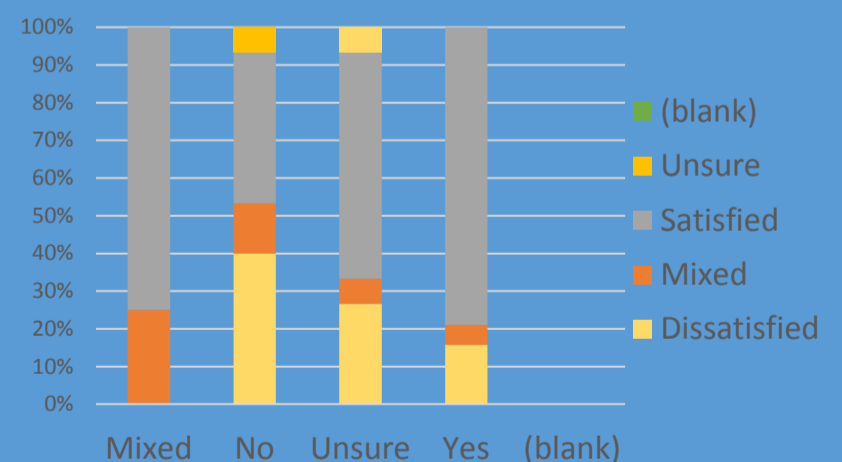
-26% of victims thought the outcome wasn't proportionate and appropriate



The relationship between being informed about the decision at panel and victim satisfaction with the JDP

-95% of those who were satisfied with the JDP also felt they were well informed about the decision at panel

-92% of those who were dissatisfied with the JDP also felt they were not informed about the decision made at panel



The relationship between the police officer's explanation of the community resolution process and Victim satisfaction with the JDP.

-80% of participants who said yes to having the process explained to them were also satisfied with the JDP

-40% of those who said no to having the process explained to them were not satisfied with the JDP.

Introduction:

The Joint Diversionary Panel (JDP) was established in 2017 in Lincolnshire, the function of the system is to decide whether the young person in panel should be criminalised or given an out of court disposal.

The JDP is a multiagency approach to Youth Justice, which utilises information from a myriad of services to inform holistic decision making. The aim of JDP is to divert children and young people away from the Criminal Justice System.

It was noted that the JDP in Lincolnshire had been primarily established following detailed analysis of criminal justice disposals for children and young people. The analysis had shown there had been inconsistent use of Police cautions against children and young people. It was therefore highlighted that without significant change in practice, there was a clear potential for increased criminalisation of children in Lincolnshire, especially Looked After Children (LCC, 2017). Lincolnshire County Council commissioned the Lincoln University to undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of JDP. As a student researcher I was asked to evaluate victim satisfaction with the JDP. My exploration of the latter commenced when the Victim Liaison Officers (VLO) distributed the surveys to a large sample of victims of the offences committed by young people whose cases were heard at JDP, which were selected by the Youth Offending Team. The sample was selected according to a specific time period of which they were in the system, leaving 53 participants to be surveyed.



Methodology

VLO's conducted satisfaction survey with ALL victims in the JDP process, and then shared with us a sample of 53 to analyse, selected according to a given time period. They asked a series of questions including: whether the victim understood the police officers explanation of the JDP, whether they believe the punishment is proportionate to the crime, whether they were satisfied overall with the JDP, etc. Once the VLO's had obtained this data, they sent it to myself. The answers to the questions were then coded in an Excel spreadsheet. The questions were formatted on one axis and the victim response on another axis. These responses were coded into yes, no, unsure and mixed. The distinction between mixed and unsure is that mixed is where the person is in a middle ground between yes and no, whereas unsure is when the person appears to be unaware of their views about that question.

Conclusion

Overall victim satisfaction with the JDP is high, but it is impacted by victim perception that they aren't being kept informed about the process.

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