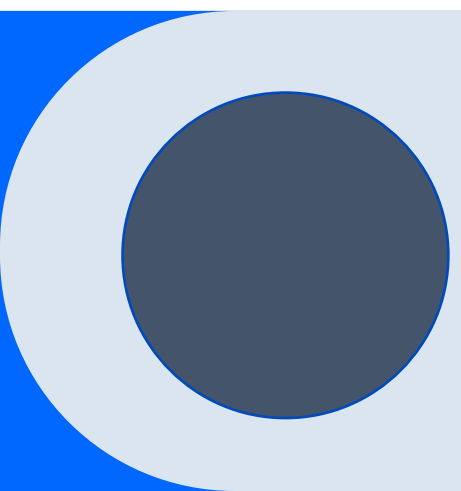




‘A difference between living and existing’: Developing a Welsh Public Health Criminology



Ella Rabaiotti, School of Social Sciences,
Swansea University

WCCSJ Conference 29.04.24

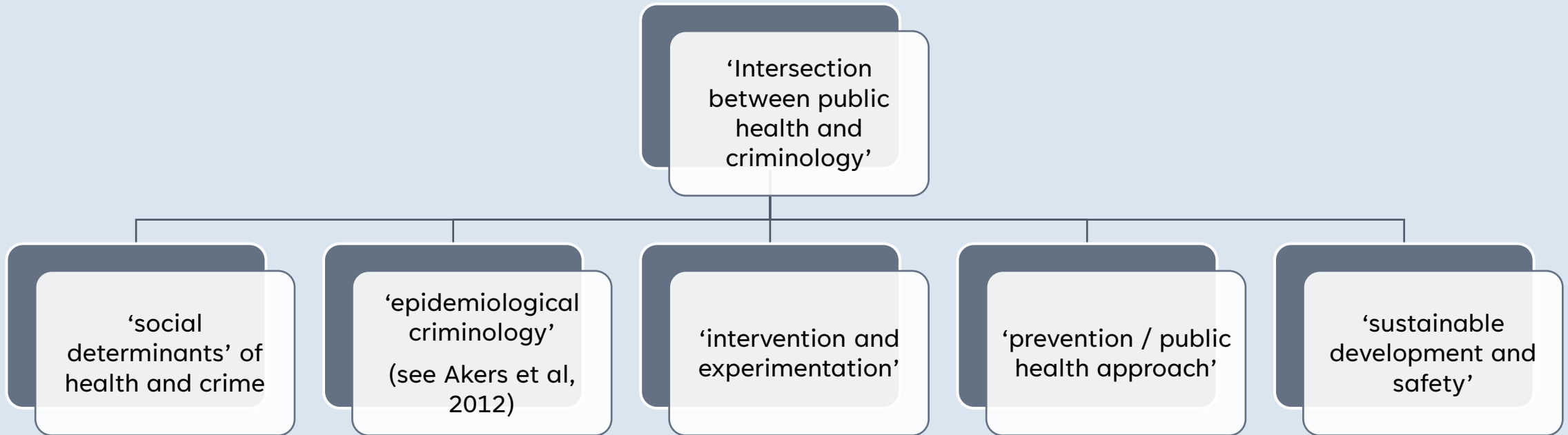
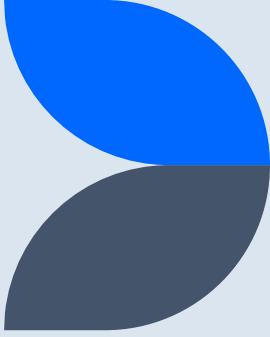


Outline

- A (Welsh) Public Health Criminology
- Study 1 – People on probation as an inclusion health group
- Study 2 – The role of warm hubs in social inclusion
- Study 3 & 4 – Developing work in public health criminology
- Discussion – Emerging research themes



What is public health criminology?



(Macassa & McGrath, 2024)



Why a 'Welsh' Public Health Criminology?

*'The Jagged edge' of justice & health -
Thomas Commission 2019,
Jones & Wyn Jones, 2022*

“

People on probation face health inequalities. Provision for mental health in Wales is the worst it's been for years. Engagement from health isn't great, due to the demands on them.

Inclusion health research
participant

”

Study 1 - Probation & Inclusion Health

People on probation - worse health outcomes than general population & face particular health inequalities.

Mapped 'criminal justice populations' for PHW communicable disease programme - explored people on probation as an 'inclusion health' group.

Mixed-methods - included survey of 34 community-based services who work with people on probation across Wales.

Survey respondents indicated **service availability, waiting lists, and mistrust of professionals are key barriers to accessing healthcare.**

Most identified health needs were mental health and substance misuse related.

Rabaiotti, E. (2024). People on probation as an inclusion health group: exploring needs, barriers and service provision in Wales. *The Probation Journal*.



“

There's a difference between living and existing, isn't there?

Warm hubs participant

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Study 2 - Warm hubs

Qualitative research into development of ‘warm hubs’ in one Welsh city where community spaces provided access to refreshments, food and local support.

Drawing on focus groups & interviews with 38 people visiting and coordinating the hubs, as well as access to LA questionnaire data, findings suggest the warm hubs largely met their intended aims of being ‘safe, warm and welcoming’.

Found to be beneficial in responding to the cost-of-living crisis in post-COVID Wales, but also contributed to the safety and well-being of communities.

Key finding - hubs seen to have broader societal benefits in developing social connections, promoting inclusivity and reducing social isolation.

Rabaiotti, E. C. (2024). Safe and welcoming “warm hubs”: Building social connections and inclusion in Welsh communities. *Journal of Community Safety and Well-Being*, 9(1), 46–51. <https://doi.org/10.35502/jcswb.370>



“

[BillyChip] can make them feel maybe a bit more normal, actually going in and picking what they want

BillyChip research participant

”

“

Basic healthcare [for people on probation]...if you don't do that the message you send out is *you're not really worthy*. And if you've got anxiety, depression, mental illness, all that does, is feed into that.

”

Listening for better health
research participant

Ongoing work:

Study 3 – Listening for better health &

Study 4 – ‘BillyChips’

Study 3 – Survey & interviews with people on probation and professionals to gain a better understanding of barriers and enablers to access health care (*Funded by St Davids Medical Foundation / HMPPS NRC approved*)

Study 4 – Survey, interviews and focus group, exploring use of tokens called ‘BillyChips’ and alternative ways of giving, sharing, and supporting people experiencing homelessness and extreme poverty (*Funded by PHW*)



Some emerging themes for a developing Welsh public health criminology

- Working with complex groups - overlaps in inclusion health – people on probation, homelessness, substance misuse etc
- Exploring links between stigma/ trust /mistrust and access to services
- Exploring links between social inclusion/exclusion, wellbeing and desistance
- Understanding the role of the community in health and justice and alleviating interrelated issues – trauma, poverty, homelessness, substance misuse
- Plus, the role of specialist professionals e.g. health & justice coordinators



Diolch yn fawr!
Any questions?

Watch the warm hubs
research animation
(via QR code)

Get in touch:
E.C.Rabaiotti@swansea.ac.uk

5/16/2024



The poster features a light blue background with several logos at the top: Swansea University (Prifysgol Abertawe), ESRC Festival of Social Science, and mad. Below the logos, the text reads 'A COMMUNITY RESEARCH ANIMATION' followed by the main title 'COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS IN SWANSEA SPACES' in large white letters. A quote in yellow text says 'EACH TIME... THEY ARE WALKING OUT WITH A BIT OF SUNLIGHT'. Below that, a paragraph in black text states: 'AFTER SPEAKING TO OVER 40 RESIDENTS ACROSS THE CITY, THIS IS THE STORY OF THE PEOPLE WHO COORDINATE AND VISIT SWANSEA SPACES.' At the bottom, there is a clapperboard on the left, a QR code in a red square in the center, and a film reel on the right.

Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

ESRC
FESTIVAL
OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

mad.

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