

Potential impact of interventions on the size of the prison population

Additional scenario cases

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1 Discussion

- 1) In the main Report¹ the aggregate impact on the prison population of the systematic and effectively administered interventions is found by these simulations to be, by 2030, a reduction of ~300 for the Optimistic scenario and ~600 for the Heroic scenario. The change is gradual. These estimates are consistent with the known limitations of the available interventions.
- 2) To make sense of these small effects, and as a check, two additional cases for male prisoners are considered here. These cover the case, (A), where the reduction in the cumulative proportion of those re-convicted is set at 15%² or essentially twice the percentage improvement represented by the Heroic scenario³ ; and, second, the theoretically limiting case, (B), where everyone who has received an intervention, no longer offends.
- 3) In the context of practicality both these cases are of course completely hypothetical, intended to explore the relationship between the effectiveness of interventions and the potential outcome measured as a reduction of the prison population. The cases serve to calibrate the scale of change to the size of the prison population, or, to put it another way, to frame or limit policy expectations about the contribution that reducing re-offending could ever make to a goal to reduce the size of the prison population.

¹ Potential impact of interventions on the size of the prison population - A Report for the Prison Reform Trust, Savas Hadjipavlou, Director, Justice Episteme May 2018

² This equates to halving the hazard rate of offending

³ See the main Report, *ibid*

4) The results show that:

- a) Case (A) would, in theory, result in a reduction in the number of male prisoners by 2030 of 1700
- b) Case (B) would, in theory, result in a reduction in the number of male prisoners by 2030 of 5500

Figure B.1. Male Offenders: Prison population
Estimated impact of reducing re-offending



Figure B.2. Male Offenders: Custodial flows

