

Co-Creation and the five key LEPH research areas in Scotland

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The Current Project

To begin to understand and address LEPH priorities in Scotland, we:

1. Established the national priorities for LEPH via:
 1. An event hosted by Scottish Government and funded by the Scottish Institute of Policing Research.
 2. Identification of five national key LEPH priorities
 3. Development of Expert Advisory Group
2. Carried out a Scoping Review on the top priority identified:
 1. Defining vulnerability
 2. The assessment of vulnerability
3. Carried out a Systematic Review to develop a framework for vulnerability assessment across LEPH



National LEPH priority setting exercise

- We brought together a national multi-disciplinary Expert Advisory Group (N=26).
- One day national workshop: identification of five national key LEPH priorities.
- Guided group discussions.

Professional Membership	Number within EAG	Percentage of EAG
Academic sector	8	28.6
NHS	5	17.9
Scottish Government	5	17.9
Police Scotland	3	10.7
Violence Reduction Unit	2	7.1
People with Lived Experience	1	3.6
Scottish Ambulance Service	1	3.6
Scottish Police Authority	1	3.6
SACRO	1	3.6
Scottish Centre for Telehealth and Telecare	1	3.6

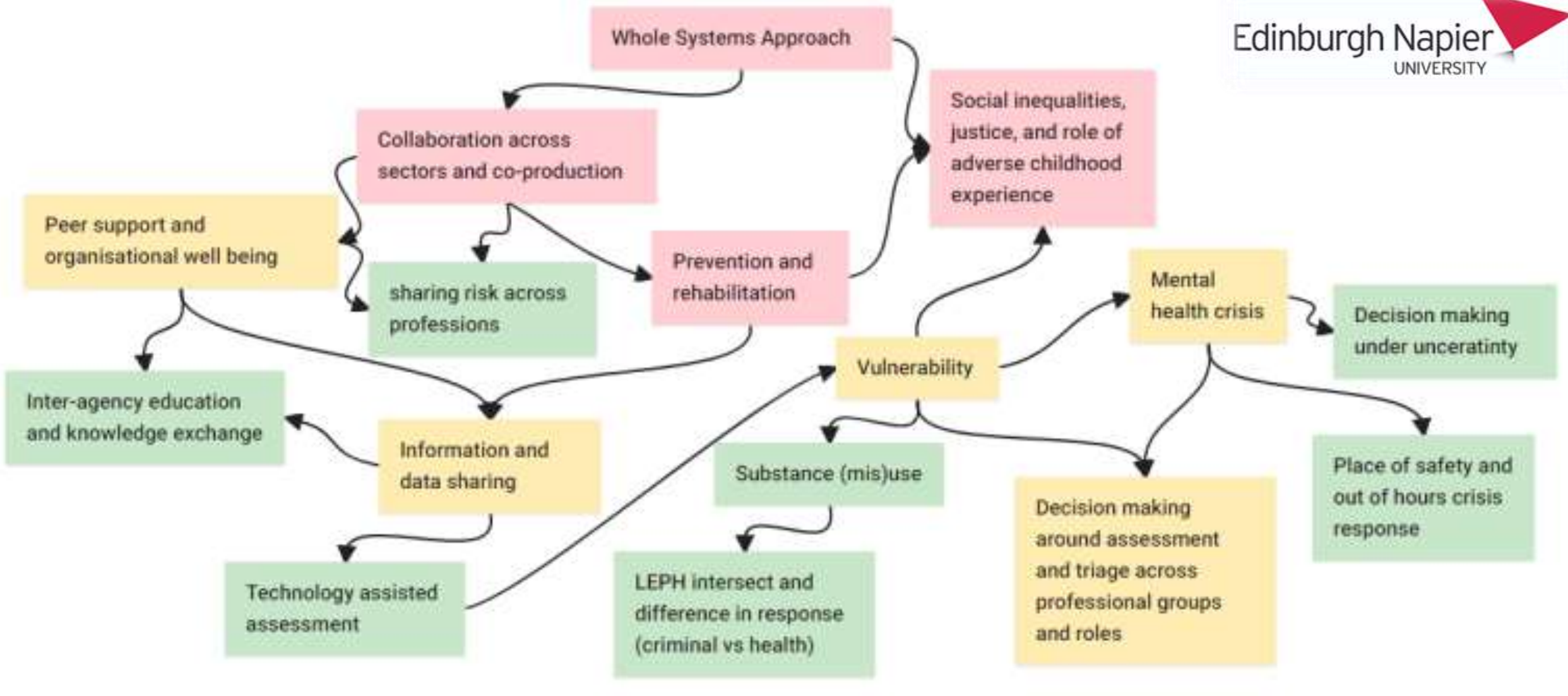
National LEPH priority setting exercise

- The remit of the group is to inform and support the development of a co-constructed programme of LEPH research,
- Capitalising on research opportunities of urgent relevance to frontline services.
- The event aimed to identify the top priority areas for research in LEPH as identified by the EAG

National LEPH priority setting exercise

- Group discussions were recorded and table-notes were taken for each of the guided discussions.
- These were brought together, coded, and analysed using a simple thematic analysis process
 - 27 pages of notes
 - Each page read and re-read, and three key points made
 - The three key points were then re-read whilst listening to the audio-recorded group discussions to assess for accuracy and validity, and, when needed, alterations were made.

Figure 1. Exert from the Padlet used to collate and organise the EAG event table discussion notes.



National LEPH priority setting exercise

Five key research priorities for Scotland



Vulnerability

Defining vulnerability is key. Knowing who can be vulnerable and how to assess this meaningfully.

Better Partnership Working

Developing better working together processes, to inform more holistic decisions



Mental Health Crisis

How we make shared decisions across professions to ensure best care and triaging. A focus should be on training, especially around suicide.

Information & Data Sharing

Using technology and data to inform shared decision making



Peer Support & Organisational Wellbeing

System-level support for staff well being, and supporting each other.

National LEPH priority setting exercise





Working together

Partnership working across policing and public health is essential



Vulnerability

Anyone can be vulnerable or go through a mental health crisis; assessing is a challenge but is best done in partnership.



Staff matter too

Supporting each other is essential, as is organisational level support systems.



Evidence informed

Policies work best across policing and health when they are informed by research.

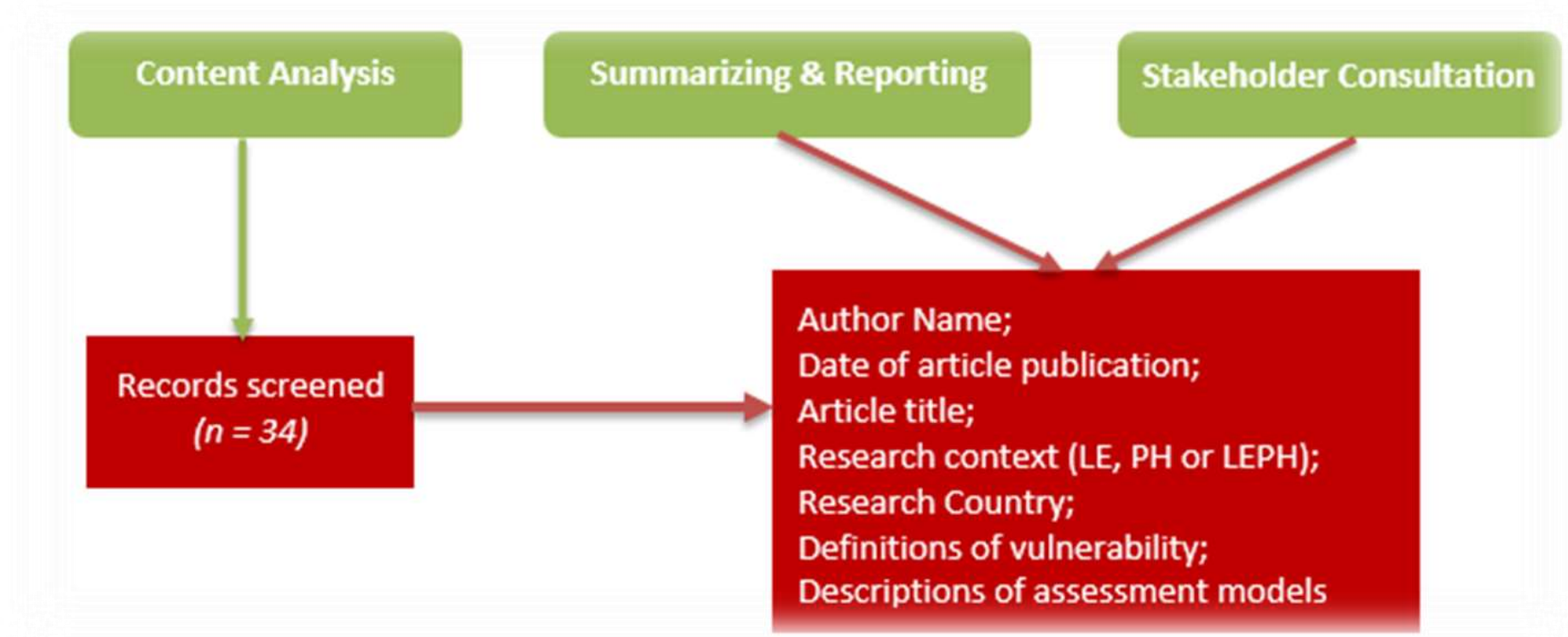
This research was funded by the Scottish Institute of Policing Research. The full report can be found at: Murray, J., Heyman, I., Wooff, A., Dougall, N., Aston, L., & Enang, I. (2018). Law enforcement and public health: Setting the agenda for Scotland. *Scottish Institute for Policing Research Annual Review, 2017/2018*, 33-34.

National LEPH priority setting exercise



Defining and Assessing Vulnerability

- We took forward the priority which was most prominently discussed at the event: **Assessing vulnerability.**
- Before jumping in to 'problem solve' and identify how best to assess vulnerability across LEPH, we sought a shared definition - there wasn't one at first look at the literature...
- So we carried out a scoping review looking at **Defining and Assessing Vulnerability across LEPH**



Defining and Assessing Vulnerability

Arksey and O'Mally's Methodological Approach:

Defining and Assessing Vulnerability

Results: only 4 of 34 studies contained a definition

Author and Year	Explicit Definition	Country
Damsere et al (2017) (LE)	Vulnerable road users are those who are exposed to the risk of traffic accidents because they lack protective frames	Ghana
Wilson (2016)	Vulnerability defined based on age, adaptive behaviour, IQ, inappropriate agreement to irrational requests	Australia
McNeil & Small (2014) (LEPH)	Vulnerable groups defined as injection drug users	SLR
Whitelock (2009) (PH – Mental Health)	“A vulnerable adult is defined as a person who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and is or may be unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation” (Department of Health, 2000, pgs 8 & 9).	UK

Defining and Assessing Vulnerability

Conclusions

- Vulnerability is:
 - **Context-specific from a Law Enforcement perspective**
 - **Person-specific from a Public Health perspective**
- There are fragmented definitions of vulnerability, with only four explicit definitions retrieved from the Scoping Review
- Models for assessing vulnerability lack uniformity across LEPH because they are prioritised differently

Defining and Assessing Vulnerability

For vulnerable groups:

- Lack of evidence based definitions and assessments
 - Prevents access to relevant LEPH services
 - Exacerbates existing vulnerabilities
 - Social exclusion from political discourse and policy interventions

For LEPH departments and Governments:

- Lack of consistent vulnerability definition and assessment
 - Reactive crisis responses instead of proactive preventative measures
 - *Need for a definition that includes the service user's voice*

Defining and Assessing Vulnerability

Next steps:

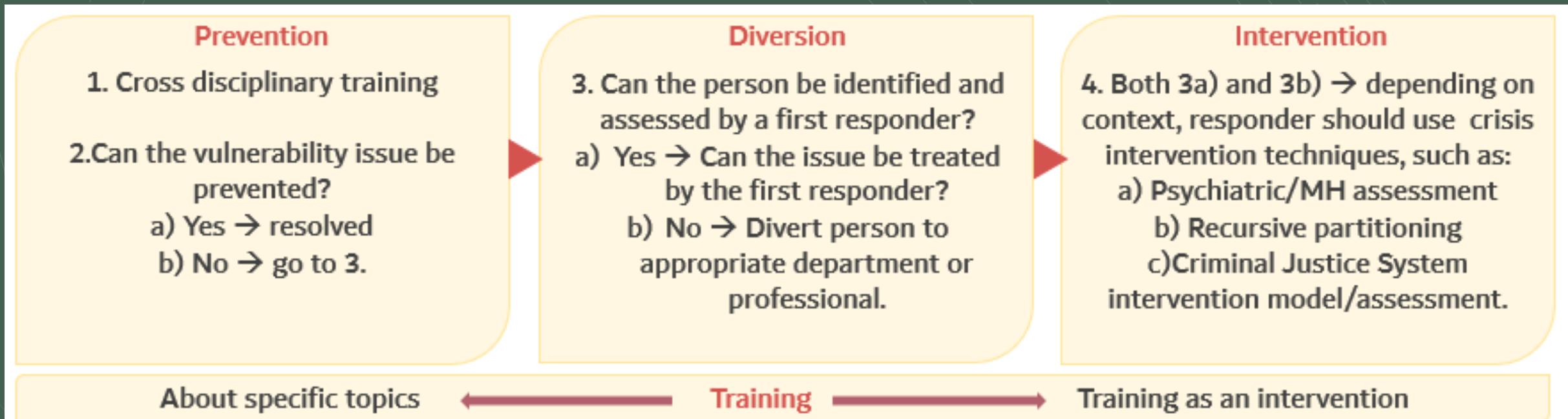
Develop a model for vulnerability assessment to fit across LEPH, including service users in the decision-making process:

- ✓ Involve those who know what practice needs and can make a change
- ✓ Start with a problem area – identify and define it
 - ***Build a model using evidence-based components from a systematic review of the literature***
 - Test models to inform tool/measure development



Developing a framework for vulnerability assessment across LEPH

- Completed the systematic review.
 - Models are too varied to combine...
- A preliminary framework to underpin assessment model/tool development:





Thanks for Listening!

😊 Any Questions? 😊

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