

# Project START – Short Term at Release Tagging (RCT)

This RCT explores whether a voluntary tagging programme in Hampshire results in a reduction in reoffending.

## Key details

<b>Status</b>	Complete
<b>Lead institution</b>	<a href="#">University of Cambridge</a>
<b>Principal researcher(s)</b>	Supt Paul Bartolomeo <a href="mailto:Paul.bartolomeo@hampshire.pnn.police.uk">Paul.bartolomeo@hampshire.pnn.police.uk</a>
<b>Police region</b>	Eastern
<b>Collaboration and partnership</b>	Hampshire Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire.
<b>Level of research</b>	Masters
<b>Project start date</b>	June 2013
<b>Date completed</b>	November 2014

## Hypothesis

Short term tagging of custody releases causes a reduction in subsequent offending compared with those not receiving a tag.

## Geographical area

Across the whole of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

## Target sample size

250 across both the treatment and control group.

## Participants - inclusion criteria

- Detained in HMP Winchester
- Released to an address in Hampshire or the Isle of Wight
- Over 18 and male
- Not on court order or bail
- Not on home detention curfew
- Not a MAPPA subject
- Not previously been tagged under this scheme
- Offender consents to being tagged

## Interventions

No additional interventions other than routine support by IOM officers and staff across the whole sample.

## Study design

Randomised control trial, using a web based randomiser, to separate one treatment group receiving a tag and one control group not receiving one. One treatment (the wearing of the tag) both groups volunteers, detailed eligibility criteria.

## Summary of findings

Final report: [Implementing a police led voluntary tagging programme and a randomised controlled trial to evaluate the effects on reoffending](#)