

EPSRC Network+: Social Justice through the Digital Economy Pilot Projects: Application Form

We are seeking funding proposals from shortlisted candidates for Not Equal's first call for pilot projects. For full guidance please see details of the call on the Not Equal <u>website</u>.

Pilot research projects can be between 6-8 months in length. We expect to fund up to 12 pilot research projects of up to £40k (80%FEC) for this first funding call.

Please submit this form before the deadline of 5pm, 30th April 2019 to notequal@ncl.ac.uk.

Applicants will be advised on the outcome of their proposal by the 30th May 2019.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Applicant (PI): Artemis Skarlatidou

Email address: a.skarlatidou@ucl.ac.uk

Job Title: Senior Research Associate

Department: Geography

Organisation: University College London

Co-Investigators (names and organisations): Dr Reka Solymosi (Univ. of Machester), Froi Legaspi

(Citizens UK)

Supporting Partner(s): Schools in East London

(members of Citizens UK network)

Project Title: CIN-CITY

'Civic InnovatioN in CommunITY: safety, policing

and trust with young people'

Project Tagline: SAFETY DIGITALLY CO-DESIGNED BY YOUNG PEOPLE TO TACKLE KNIFE CRIME IN LONDON

EoI Reference Number: NE36

1. SUMMARY

Please provide a summary of your proposed research project (<300 words).

Knife crime has been increasing in recent years [1] (GLA, 2017) with 2018 seeing **1,887 stabbings**; **272** were fatal; **54** of the victims did not reach their 21st birthday. The situation became top priority in London Mayor's agenda. Evidence demonstrates that young people do not necessarily see current measures favourably (e.g., stop&search has been associated with racial inequality) and this contributes massively to distrust-in-policing. Studies demonstrate that there is a clear link between distrusting the police and carrying a weapon as a false sense of security [2]. Working with young people to understand the multiple dimensions of the problem is essential; they need to be empowered so that their voices influence strategies for a successful public health approach to tackle knife crime, while understanding and addressing issues of distrust. In Cin-City we propose the use of the Mental Models (MM) approach - used in Risk Communication - to understand their knife crime and trust perceptions. We











will collaboratively modify and co-design our Fear of Crime App (FoCA) to collect MM data from over 200 participants in East London together with their situational knife crime experiences. We will gain insight into how they perceive and experience knife crime, how it influences their quality of lives; we will uncover assumptions and their suggestions for improving their safety, security and trust. We will share our insights with the broader community in East London, police officials and the wider academic community. Cin-City will act as a successful example of youth empowerment, co-creation and design in tackling a major issue which influence the lives of thousands and will generate further funding to take our approach to a pan-London level and further explore our methodological implementation in the context of online crime.

2. HOW DOES YOUR PROPOSAL ALIGN WITH THE THEMES AND OBJECTIVES OF NOT EQUAL?

Please describe how your proposal helps understand, explore or develop practical responses to social justice issues within the digital economy; and how does your proposal enhance a cross-disciplinary way of working. Please also indicate which of the Not Equal challenge areas your proposal focuses on e.g. Algorithmic Social Justice, Digital Security for All and Fairer Futures for Business and Workforce (<500 words).

Our project is fully in line with the Not Equal Network+ activities. Cin-City will work with schools in East London, members of Citizens UK, our partner in this proposal. Citizens UK organises communities to act together for power, social justice and the common good. They have already long-standing experience in working with the Mayor and London communities to address people's most stressing concerns; youth knife crime is the most critical issue and is on the top of the London Mayor's agenda right now. It therefore requires our urgent attention so that we improve our understanding and take immediate action.

In this context Cin-City fits perfectly within the 'Digital Security for All' theme to 'promote social justice and technology with youth community groups, school pupils and young people as individuals' (not-equal.tech). Improving the sense of security in digital services is a significant consideration for our modern (online) societies, yet we should not overlook that there are still physical security and safety issues that we are still struggling to effectively cope with. Technology can assist co-designing solutions with those mostly affected, while capturing their opinions and experiences so that both governmental and societal responses to these problems fit their needs, have a true impact and re-establish trust. Cin-City will pilot a digital app which aims at improving transparency and subsequently responsiveness in a major issue, using a novel approach which will generate 'cross-community dialogue and co-operation' and which can be then extended to several more security (digital and non-digital) contexts (e.g. online crime). We will modify the app by working with young people who will participate in a co-design process to ensure they trust and they agree with the ways the collected data are managed.

The project involves two academic partners -i.e. University College London (Department of Geography - Extreme Citizen Science group) and University of Manchester (School of Law - Centre of Criminology and Criminal Justice), an organisation (Citizens UK, charity reg 1107264) and community groups (i.e. schools in East London); it promotes transdisciplinarity and the research will be carried out by Early Career Researchers, therefore will support them in establishing their research in this area.

3. CASE FOR SUPPORT

Please describe your proposed projects, including its aims and objectives. This will include the design and method of your project, context, background literature and data to be collected. Please also indicate why is this research important and for whom (<1000 words).

Background











A public health approach¹ to violent crime foresees police working with education partners, local authority, health care professionals and the community in preventing crime. Current mitigation measures (e.g. stop&search) and new policing models for schools (e.g., Safe School Partnerships²) are not seen favourably by young people; e.g., stop&search has been associated with racial inequality. Low youth trust-in-policing is a critical concern and influences the effectiveness of policing (e.g., in a fatal stabbing incident with 15-year-old victim, during a house party with over 200 guests, not a single witness provided the police with any information³). This lack of trust further results in not realising the police is trying to protect and carrying a weapon for many young people becomes a necessity [2]. Engaging the people mostly affected in the debate of knife crime and potential solutions is essential and there is a need to do this in ways that improve trust.

Problems of existing engagement approaches include limited participation and assumptions that decision-makers and young people carry the same 'mental-models' on potential solutions and how to 'improve-trust', a problematic assumption for effective policing [3]. Questionnaires/interviews rely on participants' recall abilities and don't capture daily experiences in situation-specific contexts [4]; data are a snapshot of their experiences [5]. Addressing these issues, using modern approaches, accessible to those (who should be) engaged, would support identification of suitable and locally-relevant interventions, which have a true impact in reducing knife crime and improve trust-in-policing.

Methodologies

Mental-Models(MM): Human memory is organised into 'schemas', which develop and depend on personal experiences, knowledge structures, activating stimuli, etc. MM consist of many schemas and influence perceptions, behaviours and decisions [6]. MM include accurate schemas and inaccuracies/gaps; this may distort perceptions, influence the effectiveness of mitigation strategies, the dialogic process and how expert information is consumed in public engagement contexts. In risk communication, engaging and supplying lay-people with information requires uncovering these MM; the approach includes comparing expert and lay-people's MM to reveal inaccuracies, misconceptions, gaps [7], mismatches in expectations and lay vocabulary and which are used to support the design of effective communications. When "lay-people are provided with new expert information that does not match their existing MM it is more likely that they will reject or distrust it" [8] and therefore MM can also re-establish trust. For policing, where a trust deficit already exists, we have shown, that even expert MM are problematic [3] and fail to capture lay-people's expectations. There is therefore limited understanding of what's the best way to approach the public, build partnerships and collaborate in ways that improve policing effectiveness and trust. In Cin-City we will use the MM approach to reveal young people's perceptions of knife crime, which has never been attempted before.

Fear of Crime App (FoCA): Digital technology presents new opportunities for crime data acquisition to get a deeper understanding of people's everyday experiences [9]. Mobile apps support surveying people about their perceptions, while using mobile sensors such as GPS and an internal clock support the collection of data without asking every time the participant to record it [10]. This reduces burden, improves the amount of data and the quality of research insight in situational crime contexts [11]. We previously developed and successfully used FoCA to map fear of hate crime by LGBT community in Camden [14] and perception of safety along bus routes [12]. In Cin-City we will pilot FoCA in collecting young people's knife crime MM and experiences and mapping crime incidents in their lives (e.g., where they hear about, see, or encounter knives).

Aims

² London.gov.uk (2018) ³ London.gov.uk (2018)











¹ London.gov.uk

Our aim is to create a technology-based mechanism to explore young people's MM on knife crime and collect data to understand their experiences and situational contexts of knife crime. This will enable them to participate in the knife crime debate and support the detection of effective strategies to improve trust-in-policing. Our objectives include:

- Use MM approach to capture and compare expert and young people's MM on knife crime and trust-in-policing. Uncover gaps, misconceptions, mismatches in expectations and young people's vocabulary.
- Co-design FoCA with young participants to ensure that it is trusted, data are secure and used as contributors wish.
- Young representatives from two schools in East London train their peers to collect data using FoCA.
- Analyse data collected capture MM, experiences, expectations for effective and trustworthy knife crime strategies.
- Build suggestions to match young people's expectations which are relevant to local, situational contexts.
- Gather evidence to generate further funding to extend Cin-City in supporting young people across London.

Data Collection & Analysis

- Collect interview data from 25 individuals (5 police officials, 20 young people) (i.e. common participation numbers for MM in risk communication studies). Construct MM.
- Collect data from school representatives⁴ about FoCA design (e.g., design, security, data-privacy concerns).
- Pilot-test FoCA (based on previous Citizens UK experience we will engage 200 students). Data will be collected
 at an aggregate level; will include reports from young people about their experiences and their MM. These
 will be analysed using thematic analysis to explore experiences reported, and inform the constructed MM
 accordingly. Geographical data collected will be used to link experiences with type of location (e.g.,
 school,park) to gain insight into the situational contexts.

Cin-City is important in different ways. Employing a co-creative design to engage young people introduces principles of civic participation important to our society. Cin-City will provide significant input to contribute to the existing debate around youth knife crime and trust-in-policing important for police, those affected (i.e. everyone in London) and those who research new ways to improve policing effectiveness. Cin-City is a novel idea and cross-disciplinary collaboration; will eventually provide evidence to support academic publications, meetings and larger funding which is important for all partners, participants and wider network of communities involved.

4. NOVELTY OF PROPOSAL

Please explain the novelty of the proposed research project (<150 words).

MM are powerful in their "ability to identify, test and change the images of the world that we carry within us" [13]. MM are malleable using the proposed methodology. MM (neither any other approach we are aware of) was never used to capture young people's knife crime perceptions. Doing so it will uncover misconceptions, needs and expectations. Ensuring their voices influence decision-making will help re-establish trust-in-policing. The use of a mobile application to employ experience sampling research design generates insight into everyday experiences. Using such methods is methodologically novel because of the on-going insight it provides and allows to collect auxiliary data through sensors in-built in the mobile devices; e.g., with each report location data is collected and linked to external data sources providing clues about the situational context. This supports identifying risky situations and prevention measures to put in place to act upon such environments.

⁴ This will include two of the following options: a. Six students from Clapton Girls Academy (15-16 year olds); b. 12 students from Urswick School (14-15 year olds); c. Three students from ELATT (16-18 year olds); d. Six students from St John The Baptist (9-11 year olds); or e. Four students from BSix College (16-18 year olds).











5. NON-ACADEMIC PARTNERS

Please explain how your non-academic partners will engage with the project e.g. in-kind time, use of facilities, etc. (<150 words)

Citizens UK, as a partner, will lead on participant recruitment and logistics for workshops. They will also help guide our strategic for social impact, and engage with key local stakeholders like local authority, Metropolitan Police, MOPAC, etc. Citizens UK will lead on participant recruitment from community groups, including their partner local schools and youth groups, who will also provide use of facilities and staff time to co-ordinate participant attendance. These are Citizens UK member youth organisations in the defined locality of interest:

- Colleges
 - BSix Sixth Form College
 - New City College Hackney
- Secondary Schools
 - Clapton Girls Academy
 - The Urswick School
- Primary Schools
 - Randal Cremer Primary School
 - St John the Baptist Primary School
- Youth Groups
 - Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit

6. DELIVERABLES AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Explain the outcomes and deliverables of your project as well as the expected social impact. Please ensure this answer is suitable for a lay audience (<300 words).

We summarise Outputs and Impacts in Table 1 in appendices. Direct outputs include:

- Expert and young people's MM, their comparison to reveal needs and how engagement should be approached to improve their trust.
- FoCA designed and piloted in Cin-City.
- Data (collected by 200 people) on perceptions and experiences of knife in situational contexts.
- Community-engagement activities to train and co-design with young people.
- Dissemination-communication outputs to share Cin-City research findings.
- Funders report.

In short-term we will provide insight into the weaknesses and strengths of current approaches to knife crime prevention and gain a deeper insight into young people's perceptions and situational experiences. In medium-term Cin-City will provide significant input to contribute to the existing debate around knife crime and trust-in-policing. We will disseminate the findings to inform future police and government strategies in knife crime prevention and build trust-in-policing.

In the short-term we will *improve young people's skills in* community organising training to enable them as codesigners and co-lead the engagement process for research and they will lead on relationships with the local MetPolice and other officials that will take place as a result of Cin-City. Everyone who participates in data collection will get a deeper understanding of knife crime, take ownership of the problem and get hands-on experience with democratic engagement and civic participation practices. These are ideals highly relevant to the











way public engagement is practiced in the UK, and will therefore in long-term, will contribute to our civic capacities to nurture and expand this culture.

MM depend on local contexts (with strong geodemographic and cultural influences). Cin-City will provide evidence and lead into additional funding to work with participants across London. Cin-City participants will be actively involved in informing the design of a larger project, so that their views of how to further empower their peers are considered.

7. WORK PLAN

Please outline the work-plan for your proposed research/activity (<200 words).

The project will commence on September 1st 2019 and will run until April 30th 2020. We have identified the following major stages (Table 1).

Stages	Description/Tasks	Timeline			
Review & Preparation	 Constructing the MM template (through analysis of relevant literature on youth violence and knife crime) Recruitment of UCL Research Assistant Ethical Approval 	(September – November)			
Community Engagement & Technical Development - Part I	 Interview 5 experts; interview 20 young people; Construct MMs FoCA to be informed by MM interview results; Co-design and community training Pilot FoCA with 5 users 	(October – December)			
Community Engagement - Part II	Citizens UK workshops to introduce FoCA to young people Young people in two schools use FoCA to collect data Support is provided whenever necessary				
Data Analysis	Data Analysis	November, March 2020			
Dissemination	 Dissemination will take place throughout the project and major findings will be communicated at the end of each of the above stages Preparation of Cin-City report Roundtable 	 October 2019 - beyond project's end December 2019 (Report 1) April 2020 (Report 2) 			

8. HOW WILL YOU COMMUNICATE THE FINDINGS OF YOUR RESEARCH TO THE PUBLIC?











Please outline your dissemination plans e.g. events, networking with local support groups, creating vlogs, writing blogs, etc. (<200 words).

UCL Extreme Citizen Science social media (e.g. @TogetherSci, @UCL_ExCiteS, the ExCiteS blog⁵) will be used to communicate to a broader academic audience and citizen-science community. We will establish contacts through the Crime-Policing-Citizenship network of SpaceTimeLab⁶ group at UCL. We will target with our communication and dissemination professional networks such as MOPAC, the 'Society of Evidence Based Policing' and we will seek to attend UK-based conferences such as Police ICT Summit 2020 and Security&Policing 2020.

Citizens UK will be running campaigns in the run-up to the London Mayoral election in 2020, and will be engaging with mayoral, GLA candidates, as well as key organisations like Metropolitan Police and local authorities. We will use our engagement model to identify specific issues creating barriers in the relationship between young people and the police, and work with Citizens UK to make specific recommendations to the relevant agencies.

Finally, together with the project report we aim to get young participants present their MM and FoCA findings in a roundtable meeting with the Hackney Police Borough commander where they will also share and discuss their experiences.

9. EXISTING FUNDING

Will any existing funding be used on this project (e.g. PhD funding)? If so, please provide information on these and how they will be used on the project.

Citizens UK is putting an estimated £3500 of staff resource into the project which comes from membership subscriptions by partner organisations. The proposed project includes further around 30 working days in pro-bono contributions of the academic partners.

Nevertheless, it should be clarified that this is a novel idea and cross-disciplinary collaboration. We hope that this project will set the basis for further future funding to materialise the concept in a much larger scale and also explore how the proposed methodology and technology can be also used to develop strategies relevant to the online crime context.

10. TRACK RECORD OF APPLICANTS

Please indicate any previous relevant experience, qualifications and publications of the lead applicant and team (<200 words).

Dr Skarlatidou is currently a Senior Research Associate in the ExCiteS group. Following her EPSRC-funded EngD at UCL (Computer Science) on trust issues of online mapping for public engagement, she won the EPSRC Doctoral Prize Award and extended her research to public crime mapping. She is involved in EU-funded projects

⁶ https://www.ucl.ac.uk/civil-environmental-geomatic-engineering/research/groups-and-centres/spacetimelab











^{5 &}lt;u>https://uclexcites.blog</u>

<u>WeGovNow</u> (Co-I), <u>DITOs</u> (Co-I) and <u>ECSAnVis</u> (project manager). Her research include Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) and User Experience (e.g., usability, trust) of geospatial technologies. She recently was lead editor of JCOM's special issue <u>on UX of digital technologies in citizen science</u>. She is a co-chair of <u>ICA Commission</u> on Use, User and Usability issues and chair of WG4 of COST Action CA15212.

Dr Solymosy is a Lecturer in Quantitative Methods at University of Manchester. She was awarded grants from the Consumer Data Research Centre, N8 Policing Research Partnership, and British Academy. Her research utilises new forms of data to gain insight into people's everyday experiences with victimisation, place, and fear of crime. Reka pioneered the use of app-based measures of fear of crime.

Froi Legaspi is a Community Organiser for Citizens UK. He has led on successful campaigns, including <u>with London</u> <u>Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden and MOPAC</u>.

11. BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Please provide a detailed budget breakdown and justification for your budget - for example: salary grade, point, duration and %FTE: specified journeys or conferences; identified items and quantities of consumables (<300 words)

Citizens UK: budget will cover 7 days of community organisation work at a consultancy rate of £446.5/day. Citizens UK will act as a partner and support the project throughout its duration in various other activities; e.g., attending meetings for project planning, dissemination activities, roundtable presentations attendance etc. Citizens UK is putting an estimated £3500 of staff resource into the project pro-bono which comes from membership subscriptions by partner organisations.

University of Manchester (UoM):

- a. Co-l's research time (=£4,113): at a grade: 6.8; salary grade: £39,609; duration 6 months; 0.2 FTE. Co-l's time will cover project planning, supervision of Research Software Engineer, analysis of data, publications and other dissemination activities.
- b. Research Software Engineer development time (=£4,662): at grade: 7.1; salary grade: £40,792; 0.2 FTE. RSE will cover (re)development & testing of the app throughout the project.
- c. Co-I and developer will be involved after 01/11/2019 upon completion of the MM interviews which will be carried out by UCL from 01/09/2011-20/11/2019.
- d. Travel costs (=£296): Train tickets and subsidence for attending two meetings with schools in Hackney.

University College London:

- a. Pl's research time (=£4,055.81): at a grade 8/39; salary grade £43,267.00; duration 8 months; 12.5%. Pl's time will cover project planning and management, supervision of Research Assistant; analysis of MM data; publications and other dissemination activities.
- Research Assistant (=£6,340.10): at a grade 6B/24; salary grade £27,831.00; Indirect costs and estates are included for the RA £9,551.41. The research assistant will assist the PI in building the MM interview template and conduct the interviews. The RA will be involved full time from 20 September 2019 30 November 2019.

We checked the EPSRC guidelines and confirm we fully comply with them. Geography at UCL (i.e. PI's department), have confirmed and agreed to follow EPSRC guidelines and support fully the PI throughout the duration of the project.

11. TOTAL PROJECT COST

Please list in GBP under the headings - Overall cost, Staff, Travel and Other











	Directly incurred costs (80%)	Directly incurred costs (100%)
Staff	£21,670.31	£27,087.89
Non-Staff Costs: Consumables	-	-
Non-Staff Costs: Facilities/Equipment	-	-
Non-Staff Costs: Travel	£296.00	£370.00
Non-Staff Costs: Estates (RA's only)	£2,552.55	£3,190.69
Non-Staff Costs: Indirect (RA's only)	£6,998.86	£8,748.58
Overall Cost*	Total Not Equal Funding Requested: £31,517.73	Total for information only: £39,397.16

Directly Incurred Posts

Role	Post	Start Date	Period on Project (months)	% of Full Time	Scale	Increment Date	Basic Starting Salary	Super- Annuation and NI (£)	Total cost on grant- 80% FEC (£)	Total cost on grant 100% FEC (£)
PI (UCL)	Dr Artemis Skarlatidou	01/09/2019	8	12.5%	Grade 8 / 39	N/A	43,267.00	14,246.00	£4,055.81	£5,070.00
Research Assistant	Unspecified	20/09/2019	2	100.00	Grade 6B / 24	N/A	27,831.00	9,106.00	£6,340.10	£7,925.00
Co-I (University of Manchester)	Dr. Reka Solymosi	01/11/19	6	0.2 FTE	6.8	N/A	£39,609	£12,027	£4,113	£5,141
Research Software Engineer (UoM)	Unspecified	01/11/19	6	0.2 FTE	7.1	N/A	£40,792	£12,421	£4,662	£5,827
Citizens UK	Mr Froi Legaspi	01/09/2019	8	7 days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	£2,500	£3,125

^{*}Please note you are able to claim for RA time and RA relevant FTE related costs, PI/Co-I time and other non-staff costs. You are not able to claim for FTE related costs attributed to PI/Co-I time.

Further Information

If you have any further questions regarding this call for proposals, please contact <u>notequal@ncl.ac.uk</u> or Kate Kelly (Not Equal Project Manager) on 0191 2088268.

References

[1] GLA - Greater London Authority (July 2017) 'The London Knife Crime Strategy' Available:

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[2] Brennan, I. (2018) Weapon-Carrying and the Reduction of Violent Harm, The British Journal of Criminology, https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/5kdrf











[3] Skarlatidou, A. (2016) Trust and Confidence in Policing. In: Cheng, T., Bowers, K., Longley, p., Shawe-Taylor J, Davies T, Rosser G, Wise S, Gale C, Adepeju M, Shen J, Chen H, Williams D, Kempińska K and Skarlatidou A (2016).

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[5] Mackerron, G. (2011). Happiness and Environmental Quality. London School of Economics. Retrieved from http://etheses.lse.ac.uk/383/

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[13] Senge, M.P. (2006). The Fifth Discipline: The art and practice of the learning organization. Second edition. London: Random House Business Books.

[14] Solymosi, R. (2017). Exploring spatial and temporal variation in perception of crime and place using crowdsourced data(Doctoral dissertation, UCL (University College London).

Appendix

Table (1): Cin-City Logic Model

Outputs	Short-Term Impacts	Medium & Long Term Impacts			
MM-related outputs					
 Expert MM of Youth Knife Crime in London & Trust-In-Policing Young People's MM of Youth Knife Crime in London & Trust-In-Policing (needs, vocabulary they use) 	 Evidence of weakness and strengths of current approaches 	 Young people's feelings of safety and security are improved 			
3. MM influence Diagram (to show concepts, strategies, gaps, misconceptions etc) FoCA app	 Insight into young people's knife crime perceptions and experiences 	 Young people's views are taken into account and improve knife crime policing 			











FoCA Data (200 users)

Community Engagement Activities (training, dissemination etc)

Academic Paper and dissemination &? Communication on 'Suggestions for knife crime strategies and improving youth trust-in-policing'

Project Funders report

Roundtable with Hackney Police Commander and young participants to share findings and experiences

- Improve skills and empower young people to co-design and lead the engagement process
- Identify and generate young people's interest in leading relationships with Met Police and their communities
- Young people take ownership of the FoCA-based approach and extend it into engaging young people across London
- Generate additional funding to expand approach and engage young people across London

- Youth trust-in-policing is improved
- Build capacity and interest in democratic principles and active citizenship

Table (2): Project Gantt Chart

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Literature review								
RA recruitment for UCL								
Apply for Ethics approval								
Community engagement								
Mental model interviews								
Analysis of mental model interviews								
Application development								
Pilot testing of application								
Train participants for FOCA								
Application data collection								
Analysis of app data								
Write up of results								
Debriefing with community groups and getting feedback for next steps								
Roundtable								
Dissemination								



















