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An Evaluation of Polygraph Testing by Police to Manage Individuals Convicted or Suspected of Sexual Offending

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Summary

Context

This report presents results of research commissioned by the police to evaluate their use of polygraph testing with individuals convicted or suspected of committing a sexual offence. Police areas involved in this research were: Greater Manchester (GMP), Hertfordshire, Essex, Kent, South Yorkshire, and Northumbria. Additional areas (i.e., Lancashire, Norfolk, and Staffordshire) supplied data on polygraph tests conducted for them.

The University of Kent was commissioned to evaluate police use of polygraph testing from 3rd July, 2017 to 15th July, 2019. The evaluation described in this report refers to analyses of:

- **Strand 1 (Supervisees)**: 557 individuals convicted of sexual offending and undergoing police supervision who were *randomly* assigned to polygraph testing (voluntary or mandatory¹ depending on police area) or comparison groups.
- **Strand 2 (Suspects)**: 142 individuals suspected of committing online sexual offences and undergoing police investigation who were assigned to polygraph or comparison groups.
- **Strand 3 (Applicants)**: 104 individuals convicted of sexual offending who applied for removal of notification requirements and were assigned to polygraph or comparison groups.

¹ Mandatory testing refers to polygraph testing that is required legally (e.g., via a Sexual Harm Prevention Order or conditional caution).

Aims and Methods

By comparing groups of individuals who were undergoing polygraph testing with comparison groups of individuals who were not, this research evaluated the impact of the polygraph on:

- **Risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs²) made by supervisees**
- **Risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs) made by suspects**
- **Risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs) made by applicants.**

Data collection involved weekly telephone calls from the research team to police officers supervising, investigating, or involved in processing applications for removal of notification requirements. Information provided by officers included RRDs made by supervisees, suspects, or applicants, the seriousness of disclosures, and actions taken in response. Data on each supervisee, suspect, and applicant were collected every 3 months. For the total **1084 referrals** across the 3 research Strands we made approximately **3000 calls** to **277 officers**. Call response rate was **98.8%**. We also (1) asked officers to rate on a Likert scale how helpful they think the polygraph is as a tool for supervision and investigation, and (2) interviewed polygraph and comparison staff, supervisees, and suspects, regarding their views of the polygraph. Finally, we organised a survey to examine public views of police use of the polygraph (see Appendix 1).

Results

Strand 1: Supervisees

- Voluntary or mandatory polygraphed supervisees were *equally* likely to make RRDs, but voluntary polygraph tests often failed to go ahead.
- Relative to comparisons, supervisees undergoing polygraph testing (voluntary and mandatory) were nearly *6 times* more likely to make at least one RRD.
- Supervisees across all levels of risk were more likely to make a RRD than comparisons.
- During polygraph sessions, polygraphed supervisees made more RRDs in the pre-polygraph interview than they did in the post-polygraph interview. Polygraph test results revealing a significant response (i.e., indicative of an untruthful response) were associated with higher levels of post-polygraph interview RRDs.

² Defined as ‘new information that the supervisee, suspect, or applicant discloses, which leads to a change in how they are managed, supervised, investigated, or risk assessed’.

- Polygraphed supervisees were more likely than comparisons to make RRDs regarding sexual interest in and/or increased access to children (online or offline). Comparisons were more likely to make RRDs regarding new relationships.
- In contrast with comparisons, polygraphed supervisees' RRDs resulted in more changes to the focus of supervision (e.g., increase in home visits).
- Offender managers in the polygraph group rated the helpfulness of the polygraph as over 5 on a 7-point scale; regardless of whether RRDs had been made. The qualitative statements made by Offender Managers in interviews supported this. However, they were concerned about the voluntary nature of the polygraph resulting in test refusal.

Strand 2: Suspects

- Relative to comparisons, polygraphed suspects were over *7 times* more likely to make at least one RRD.
- Investigating officers rated polygraphed and comparison RRDs as equally relevant for investigative purposes.
- Investigating officers rated the helpfulness of the polygraph as over 5 on a 7-point scale. However, their statements during interviews suggested some frustration about being unable to use the polygraph as evidence in investigations³.

Strand 3: Applicants

- Not one comparison applicant made an RRD, whilst nearly half of polygraph applicants made at least one RRD.
- Applicants who underwent polygraph testing were *42.5 times* more likely to make at least one RRD than were comparison applicants.
- Comparison applicants were nearly *5 times* more likely than those polygraphed to be successful in their applications for removal of notification requirements.
- Police officers involved in processing removal applications rated the helpfulness of the polygraph as over 6 on a 7-point scale. The qualitative statements made by Offender Managers in their interviews supported this.

³ Unlike in the USA system.

Conclusions and implications

- Across all Strands (i.e., for supervisees, suspects, and applicants), voluntary and mandatory polygraph testing increases the likelihood that individuals reveal risk relevant information. However, voluntary individuals may choose to drop out of testing; especially after a significant response result, which suggests a lack of truthfulness.
- Across all Strands, polygraph testing elicits more in-depth information regarding risk and results in more action taken by police to protect the public.
- Across all Strands, when we focus on disclosures made in the polygraph sessions themselves, most RRDs occur in pre-polygraph interviews followed by post-polygraph interviews. This indicates that individuals are motivated to make RRDs by both impending and ‘failed’ polygraph tests.
- Polygraph testing applicants for removal of notification requirement leads to more RRDs, and fewer successful applications. Comparison applicants who made no RRDs were particularly successful in their applications. Our analyses suggest that had they been polygraph tested 42% of them would have made at least one RRD.
- Across all Strands police hold favourable views of the polygraph as a tool to help them manage individuals. However, police views on polygraph testing suspects are more varied between the quantitative and qualitative sections of this report.
- Police use of the polygraph to investigate sexual offending has wide public support.

1. Introduction and background

Context

The polygraph, sometimes mistakenly referred to as a lie detector, works on the assumption that compared to telling the truth, telling lies causes more cognitive work and more physiological arousal or stress (i.e., increased respiration, cardiovascular activity, and sweating; Gannon, Beech & Ward, 2008) that the polygraph detects as indicating deception. Yet, as physiological arousal is not unique to lying, polygraph results rely on the subjective judgement of polygraphers, and these could be influenced by a range of biases (Elliott & Vollm, 2018). Equally, the polygraph is not 100% accurate. Two meta-analyses suggest polygraph accuracy is in the region of 81-91% (NRC, 2003) and 89% (American Polygraph Association, 2011). Alternative research, however, illustrates that a key strength of the polygraph lies in its ability to elicit more information than that obtained by unassisted professionals alone (Handler, Honts, & Nelson, 2013). Thus, the polygraph is a useful tool in forensic contexts to aid in the management and supervision of individuals convicted of sexual offences (Grubin, Kamenskov, Dwyer, & Stephenson, 2019), by providing information relating to individuals' risk of reoffending.

Although polygraph testing is commonly used to treat and supervise individuals convicted of sexual offences in the US, its use in the UK only became prevalent in 2014 following a series of research evaluations into its effectiveness. Initial pilot studies examined only individuals undergoing voluntary polygraph testing, but later work assessed volunteers against non-tested comparisons, and showed that polygraph testing resulted in more risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs; Grubin 2006, 2010; Wood et al., 2010). However, it was research examining mandatory polygraph testing that led to a law change. Commissioned by the Ministry of Justice, a longitudinal comparison showed how mandatory polygraph testing of individuals convicted of sexual offences and undergoing community-based supervision by Probation services, led to more RRDs and more actions by Probation staff to protect the public (Gannon, Wood, Pina, Vasquez, & Fraser, 2012). Consequently, it became a legal requirement that all high-risk sexual offenders undergo mandatory polygraph testing following release on licence into the community.

Since 2014, polygraph testing has increased; several police areas in the UK use it as a tool to assist their supervision of individuals convicted of sexual offences, who are no longer under licence conditions. It is also used by some police areas to gather information from individuals suspected of committing online sexual offences relating to indecent images of children, and to inform decisions on convicted individuals' applications for removal of notification requirements. However, little is known about the effectiveness of this extended use of the polygraph, or how it is viewed by those using it, those undergoing it, or by members of the public. The research included in this report outlines the effectiveness of police use of the polygraph quantitatively and qualitatively, and, as an adjunct, presents results of a survey examining public opinion regarding police use of the polygraph.

2. Quantitative Evaluation of Police Use of the Polygraph

2.1 Research Aims and Objectives

In June 2017 the University of Kent was commissioned by the police to conduct a two-year research evaluation of pre- and post-conviction polygraph use by police areas across the UK (originally 5 areas that increased to 10 – see Appendix 2). The aim of the evaluation was to identify if voluntary and/or mandatory polygraph testing leads to *more* RRDs.

This report includes an analysis of the number of RRDs and outcome actions taken by police when the polygraph is used (**polygraph group**) and when it is not used (**comparison group**) across three strands with different types of individuals:

Strand 1 Supervisees: Convicted of sexual offending, and undergoing police supervision.

Strand 2 Suspects: Suspected of online sexual offending, and undergoing police investigation.

Strand 3 Applicants: Convicted of sexual offending, and applying for removal of notification requirements.

2.2 Participants

Polygraph group: Supervisees, suspects, and applicants ($n = 600$) who were polygraph tested at least once between 3rd July, 2017 and 15th July, 2019, formed the polygraph group.

Comparison group: Supervisees, suspects, and applicants ($n = 484$) undergoing regular supervision, investigation, or applying for removal from notification requirements between 3rd July, 2017 and 15th July, 2019, formed the comparison group (i.e., not polygraph tested).

Data Collection: Data were collected weekly via scheduled phone calls from University of Kent researchers to police Offender Managers (OMs) and investigators. Each call involved completing a data capture form (adapted from Wood et al., (2010) – see Appendix 3) regarding individual participants (convicted and suspected), which project managers then coded for entry into a database for analysis. Information on each participant was collected every 3 months via abridged follow-up forms to track changes across time (see Appendix 2 for totals of follow-up calls for each Strand).

3. Quantitative Evaluation Research Findings

3.1 Strand 1: Supervisees.

Sample and demographics.

The participants in Strand 1 included 790⁴ supervisees convicted of sexual offending, and undergoing police supervision. To ensure rigour (i.e., reduce risk of differences between groups being due to other factors), our analyses are based on the **557 supervisees** who were *randomly* allocated⁵ to polygraph or comparison conditions. Some police areas could not randomly allocate participants, so they are not included in analyses for this Strand (see Table 1 for included areas and conditions).

Table 1: Percentage and number of polygraph and comparison supervisees by police area

Police Area	Mandatory polygraph (<i>n</i> = 162)	Voluntary polygraph (<i>n</i> = 123)	Comparison group (<i>n</i> = 272)
Essex	32.7% (53)	49.6% (61)	32.4% (88)
Greater Manchester	41.4% (67)	26.0% (32)	32.0% (87)
Kent	25.9% (42)	-	24.3% (66)
South Yorkshire	-	24.4% (30)	11.4% (31)

Note. Some areas may not have equal numbers of comparison and polygraphed individuals for several reasons (e.g., participants did not consent to take part after being allocated to a condition).

Risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs)

Polygraph and comparison groups were similar on age, sentence length, and risk, but differed on offence history and numbers of contacts with OMs (see Table 2). Consequently, we statistically controlled for these variables in further analyses to prevent their impact on the findings. Results show that supervisees who underwent mandatory or voluntary polygraph testing were *equally* likely to make RRDs. So, for further analyses we combined these groups. Further findings show that relative to comparisons, polygraphed supervisees were almost *6 times*⁶ more likely to make at least one RRD. In total 71.2% (*n* = 115) of polygraphed supervisees made RRDs compared to 25% (*n* = 31) of comparisons.

⁴ Appendix 1 shows 831 referrals for Strand 1, but some individuals had changed status before we contacted OMs, so 790 is the final, accurate number of referrals.

⁵ Where police areas were able to mandate polygraph, participants were alternately allocated to mandatory polygraph or comparison conditions. Otherwise, participants were alternately allocated to voluntary polygraph or comparison conditions. Some areas only obtained permission to mandate polygraph when the project was underway.

⁶ Actual odds ratio 5.77 (95% CI: 3.89, 8.57).

Table 2: Demographic characteristics of randomly allocated supervisees

	Polygraph (<i>n</i> = 285)	Comparison (<i>n</i> = 272)	Statistical Significance
	Mean (Range)	Mean (Range)	
Age (years)	44.8 (18-81)	43.1 (17-87)	NS
Sentence length (months)	30.3 (1-162)	30.4 (0-192)	NS
Number of previous convictions	5.6 (0-52)	6.2 (1-63)	NS
Number of contacts with OM during the research	14.4 (0-140)	5.3 (0-29)	<i>p</i> < .001
Offence history (some supervisees appear in more than one offence category)	% (n)	% (n)	
Any contact offence against a child	42.8 (122)	42.3 (115)	NS
Any non-contact offence against a child	7.4 (21)	3.3 (9)	<i>p</i> = .034
Any IIOC offence	44.2 (126)	33.1 (90)	<i>p</i> = .007
Any child grooming offence	3.2 (9)	4 (11)	NS
Any rape of an adult	3.5 (10)	7.0 (19)	NS
Any sexual assault of an adult	9.8 (28)	18 (49)	<i>p</i> = .005
Any incest offence	0.4 (1)	0.4 (1)	NS
Other offences (non-sexual)	39.6 (113)	45.2 (123)	NS
ARMS risk			NS
Low	27.4 (78)	32.7 (89)	
Medium	50.2 (143)	49.3 (134)	
High	18.2 (52)	12.1 (33)	
Very High	0.4 (1)	0.4 (1)	
Other/Unavailable	3.9 (11)	5.5 (15)	
Gender			NS
Female	1.1 (3)	1.8 (5)	
Male	98.9 (282)	98.2 (267)	
Ethnicity			NS
Asian/Asian British	2.4 (7)	5.9 (16)	
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	1.7 (5)	4 (11)	
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups	1.1 (3)	1.5 (4)	
White	94.4 (269)	87.5 (238)	
Other ethnic group	0.4 (1)	1.1 (3)	

Note. Some comparisons had missing data. Polygraphed participants had more contact with OMs and so more opportunities to make RRDs. NS = not statistically significant.

RRDs per person

We compared supervisees who made at least one RRD (i.e., 71.2% of polygraphed individuals & 25% of comparisons) to see if polygraph testing led to *more* RRDs *per person*.

Findings showed no differences between the groups⁷. OMs did rate polygraphed supervisees' RRDs as riskier⁸ than comparisons' RRDs, and this difference was statistically significant.

Differences between levels of ARMS risk.

Comparisons of supervisees according to risk showed that those assessed as higher risk (via ARMS) were more likely to make RRDs, regardless of whether they were in the polygraph or the comparison group⁹. However, supervisees undergoing polygraph testing made more RRDs relative to comparisons, regardless of their risk category.

Table 3: Percentage and number of supervisees within each ARMS risk category making RRDs

ARMS risk category	Polygraph group	Comparison group
	% (n)	% (n)
Low	60.3 (47)	16.9 (15)
Medium	73.4 (105)	26.1 (35)
High/very high	79.2 (42)	50.0 (17)

Note. Due to smaller numbers in high and very high-risk categories, we combined these into a single group. The values above represent only those individuals who made a RRD.

Types of RRDs made by polygraphed and comparison supervisees.

Two members of the research team categorised each RRD based on existing research (see Gannon, et al., 2012). Table 4 shows the most common types of RRD and differences between polygraphed and comparison supervisees.

Findings showed that polygraphed supervisees were more likely than comparison supervisees to make disclosures relevant to their sexual interest in children, masturbation, and access (potential or actual) to children. Comparisons were only more likely than polygraphed supervisees to make RRDs regarding new relationships.

⁷ $t(269) = -1.61, p = .108$

⁸ $t(266) = -2.338, p = .02$. Effect remains significant when influence of number of police contacts is controlled.

⁹ $\rho_{pb}(531) = .201, p < .001$.

Table 4: Differences between polygraph and comparison supervisees on common RRDs

	Polygraph	Comparison	Statistical Significance
	% (n)	% (n)	
Any disclosures of sexual interest in children	13.3 (27)	1.5 (1)	$p = .023$
Any disclosures relating to masturbation	11.8 (24)	0 (0)	$p = .001$
Any disclosures of IIOC use	9.9 (20)	4.4 (3)	NS
Any disclosures of new relationship	11.3 (23)	27.9 (19)	$p = .001$
Any disclosures of potential or actual increased access to children	51.2 (104)	35.3 (24)	$p = .036$
Any disclosures of breach of SHPO, civil order, or notification requirements	18.7 (38)	20.6 (14)	NS
Disclosures of other risk-related behaviour/circumstances	35.5 (72)	41.2 (28)	NS

Note. The significance column indicates whether the difference between polygraphed and comparison individuals was statistically significant whilst controlling for number of contacts with OMs during the project. Logistic regression was used for this. Due to no RRDs relating to masturbation in the comparison group being equal to zero, we used a different analysis (Fisher's Exact Test) and this did not allow for control of number of contacts with OMs.

Polygraph sessions and RRDs.

To identify *where* most RRDs were made, we compared the number made in different sections of polygraph sessions¹⁰ (i.e., in the pre-polygraph interview immediately before the polygraph test, the polygraph test itself, or in the post-polygraph interview immediately after the polygraph test). Results showed that most RRDs occurred in the pre-polygraph interview. This was statistically significantly more than the number of RRDs occurring in the post polygraph interview¹¹. Nearly all RRDs made in post-polygraph interviews related to a polygraph result indicating a significant response¹².

Changes to management.

More changes to the focus of management (e.g., increasing number of house visits) were made for supervisees undergoing polygraph testing than for comparisons who made at least one RRD (26.1% & 10.3% respectively)¹³.

¹⁰ All sections of polygraph sessions are conducted by the polygrapher.

¹¹ $t(160) = 6.32, p < .001$.

¹² $t(135.07; \text{adjusted for significant Levene's test}) = -6.04, p < .001$.

¹³ $\chi^2(1, N = 271) = 7.39, p = .007$.

Helpfulness of polygraph.

OMs rated the polygraph as less helpful when supervisees did not make RRDs¹⁴, than when supervisees did make RRDs. However, although this difference was statistically significant, it amounted to 5.19 out of 7 compared to 5.94 out of 7 (giving an overall rating of 5.75 out of 7). Consequently, overall, findings show that OMs held very positive views of the polygraph.

3.2 Results for Strand 2: Suspects.

Sample description and demographics.

Strand 2 included 138 suspects. Only some police areas were able to randomly allocate suspects to polygraph or comparison conditions. However, where randomisation did occur, most of those allocated to the polygraph condition did not undergo testing (e.g., because they declined to volunteer; mandatory testing did not apply to suspects). Consequently, we were unable to conduct analyses *solely* on randomly allocated individuals, as we did with Strand 1. Instead, we compared all ($n = 96$) who had undergone at least one polygraph test (14 randomly allocated; 36 not) with comparisons (46, all randomly allocated). Table 5 shows participants by police area.

Table 5: Percentage and number of suspect participants for each police area

Police Area	Polygraph ($n = 50$)	Comparison ($n = 46$)
Greater Manchester	14% (7)	2.2% (1)
Hertfordshire	18% (9)	-
South Yorkshire	58% (29)	2.7% (10)
Northumbria	10% (5)	76.1% (35)

To verify that polygraph and comparison suspects were sufficiently similar for meaningful comparisons, we examined their key demographic and suspected offence variables (see Table 6). Results showed that both groups were very similar.

Risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs)

Findings showed that polygraphed suspects were over *7 times*¹⁵ more likely to make at least one RRD relative to comparisons. In total, 76% of those polygraphed made RRDs relative to 30.4% of comparisons. This indicates that suspects, similar to supervisees in Strand 1, make

¹⁴ $t(95.35; \text{adjusted for significant Levene's test}) = -3.17, p = .002.$

¹⁵ Actual odds ratio 7.24 (95% CI: 2.93, 17.86).

more RRDs when they are polygraph tested. Also similar to the findings for Strand 1, most RRDs occurred in the pre-polygraph interview, and this was statistically significantly more than the number of RRDs that occurred in the post polygraph interview. However, since Strand 2 consisted of a smaller sample and lacked the rigorous random assignment of Strand 1, more caution is necessary when interpreting findings.

Table 6: Polygraph and comparison suspect demographics

	Polygraph (n = 50)	Comparison (n = 46)	Statistical Significance
	Mean (Range)	Mean (Range)	
Age (years)	40.5 (19-76)	40.1 (16-64)	NS
Number of police interviews	1.4 (0-5)	1.2 (0-3)	NS
Suspected offence (some suspects appear in more than one offence category)	% (n)	% (n)	
Contact offence against a child	4 (2)	4.3 (2)	NS
Non-contact offence against a child	0 (0)	2.2 (1)	NS
IIOC offence	88 (44)	82.6 (38)	NS
Child grooming offence	6 (3)	13 (6)	NS
Other offences (non-sexual)	4 (2)	0 (0)	NS
Gender			
Male	100 (50)	100 (46)	
Ethnicity			NS
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	4 (2)	0 (0)	
White	96 (48)	100 (46)	

Note. For 5 suspects, we did not have a record of their first interview date. So, their age was calculated at the time of first data collection phone call. Previous convictions data was not available.

Number and relevance of RRDs.

When we compared the number of RRDs made per person, we found that polygraphed suspects made statistically significantly more RRDs¹⁶. However, investigating officers did not rate the RRDs of either group as more relevant to their investigation.

Types of disclosure.

Of the 52 suspects who made RRDs, 41 (78.8%) disclosed information related to use of indecent images of children and 7 (13.5% - 5 polygraph and 2 comparisons) made disclosures regarding sexual behaviour with children (see Table 7). As RRDs led to many different

¹⁶ $t(41.38; \text{adjusted for significant Levene's test}) = -3.52, p = .001$.

actions taken relating to suspects' risk (e.g., informed 3rd party, information passed to senior officers), and to the investigation (e.g., investigation continuing), it was not possible to make statistically reliable comparisons of actions taken for polygraphed and comparison suspects.

Table 7: Differences between polygraph and comparison suspects on most common RRDs

	Polygraph	Comparison	Statistical Significance
	% (n)	% (n)	
Any disclosures of sexual interest in children	15.8 (6)	7.1 (1)	NS
Any disclosure of sexual behaviour with children	13.2 (5)	14.3 (2)	NS
Any disclosures relating to masturbation	26.3 (10)	0 (0)	$p = .046$
Any disclosures of IIOC use	76.3 (29)	85.7 (12)	NS
Any other sexual behaviour	31.6 (12)	14.3 (2)	NS
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	13.2 (5)	0 (0)	NS

Note. We report only disclosure types that were made by more than 5 individuals.

Helpfulness of polygraph.

Investigating officers reported that the polygraph was helpful (average = 5.24 out of 7 for helpfulness of the polygraph for managing individual suspects)¹⁷.

3.3 Results for Strand 3: Applicants

Sample description and demographics.

Not all police areas were able to randomly assign applicants to polygraph and comparison groups, but 82 of the total 104 were randomly assigned. However, more applicants assigned to the comparison condition refused to participate in the research. Final numbers participating in the research were 54 polygraph and 28 comparisons. Table 8 shows participants across police areas.

¹⁷ Unlike other Strands, this effect seems not to hold during in-depth interviews with police officers – see qualitative section below.

Table 8: Percentage and number of polygraph and comparison applicants across police areas

Police Area	Polygraph group (<i>n</i> = 54)	Comparison group (<i>n</i> = 28)
Essex	13% (7)	17.9% (5)
Greater Manchester	50% (27)	50% (14)
Kent	3.7% (2)	-
South Yorkshire	22.2% (12)	25% (7)
Northumbria	7.4% (4)	7.1% (2)
Lancashire	3.7% (2)	-

To verify that polygraph and comparison applicants were sufficiently similar for us to make meaningful comparisons, we compared their demographic and offence variables (see Table 9). We found only one difference; comparisons were more likely to have also committed non-sexual offences; we statistically controlled for this difference in further analyses to prevent its impact on findings.

Table 9: Demographic, offence, and risk characteristics of applicants

	Polygraph (<i>n</i> = 54)	Comparison (<i>n</i> = 28)	Statistical Significance
	Mean (Range)	Mean (Range)	
Age (years)	54.3 (21-73)	55.1 (22-76)	NS
Sentence length (months)	54.5 (6-132)	50.7 (0-192)	NS
Number of previous convictions	4.8 (1-31)	8.6 (1-46)	NS
Duration of notification requirements (years)	12.4 (2-22)	13.8 (2-22)	NS
Duration of relationship with OM (months)	13.8 (0-82)	15.5 (0-76)	NS
Offence history (some applicants appear in more than one offence category)	% (n)	% (n)	
Any contact offence against a child	66.7 (36)	71.4 (20)	NS
Any non-contact offence against a child	3.7 (2)	10.7 (3)	NS
Any IIOC offence	13 (7)	7.1 (2)	NS
Any child grooming offence	0 (0)	0 (0)	NS
Any rape of an adult	13 (7)	17.9 (5)	NS
Any sexual assault of an adult	13 (7)	10.7 (3)	NS
Any incest offence	1.9 (1)	0 (0)	NS
Any other offences	27.8 (15)	50 (14)	<i>p</i> = .046
ARMS risk			NS
Low	77.8 (42)	80.8 (21)	
Medium	13.0 (7)	19.2 (5)	
High	3 (3)	0 (0)	
Very High	1 (1)	0 (0)	
Other/Unavailable	1 (1)	0 (0)	
Gender			NS
Female	1.9 (1)	0 (0)	
Male	98.1 (53)	100 (28)	
Ethnicity			NS
Asian/Asian British	3.7 (2)	0 (0)	
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	1.9 (1)	10.7 (3)	
White	94.4 (51)	89.3 (25)	

Risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs)

Not one comparison applicant made an RRD. This contrasted with 23 (43.6%) of polygraphed applicants who made at least one RRD. This means that polygraphed applicants were 42.5 times¹⁸ more likely to make at least one RRD relative to comparisons.

¹⁸ Due to a value of zero in one of the cells we applied an Haldane–Anscombe correction. Obtained odds ratio 42.5 (95% CI: 2.47, 732.65).

Differences between levels of ARMS risk.

Due to low numbers in each ARMS category for the polygraph condition and because no comparison applicants made an RRD, meaningful comparisons regarding risk were not possible. However, just as with Strand 1, higher risk applicants (polygraph group only) made more RRDs than did lower risk applicants (see Table 10).

Table 10: Percentage and number of applicants in each ARMS risk category making RRDs

ARMS category	Polygraph group	Comparison group
	% (n)	% (n)
Low	33.3 (14)	0 (0)
Medium	71.4 (5)	0 (0)
High/very high	100 (4)	0 (0)

Note. Due to smaller numbers in the high and very high-risk categories, we combined these individuals into a single group. Overall sample size smaller than Strand 3 totals due to missing risk data.

Success of applications for removal of notification requirements

Applicants who made RRDs were, unsurprisingly, the least likely to succeed in their applications for removal of notification requirements. Comparison applicants were almost 5 times more likely to have successful applications than were polygraphed applicants who made an RRD¹⁹. Polygraphed applicants who *did not* make an RRD (and also had no significant polygraph test response) were almost 6 times more likely to be successful in their applications than were polygraphed applicants who made an RRD²⁰. However, they were not more likely than comparisons to be successful in their applications. Consequently, our findings suggest that applicants who do not undergo polygraph testing are highly likely to succeed in their applications, despite the possibility that approximately 42% would make RRDs were they to be polygraphed.

Polygraph sessions and RRDs

As in Strands 1 and 2, the majority of RRDs made during polygraph sessions occurred in the pre-polygraph interview. As no comparisons made an RRD, we were unable to conduct meaningful comparisons, but Table 11 shows the most common (i.e., made by 3 or more

¹⁹ Actual odds ratio 4.75 (95% CI: 1.28, 17.57).

²⁰ Actual odds ratio 5.77 (95% CI: 1.59, 20.94).

people) types of RRDs made by polygraphed applicants. The most prevalent RRD, by some margin, involved increased access to children.

Table 11: Types of RRDs made by polygraphed applicants making at least one disclosure

Risk Relevant Disclosure	% (<i>n</i>)
Any disclosures of sexual interest in children	17.4 (4)
Any disclosures relating to sexual behaviour with other adults	13 (3)
Any disclosures relating to other sexual behaviour	13 (3)
Any disclosures of potential or actual increased access to children	56.5 (13)

Impact of applicants' RRDs

The most common actions resulting from RRDs were: Police informed a third party such as the applicant's family/partner, police (with a view to possible investigation/prosecution) or social services, about the content of the RRD (30.4% of cases, *n* = 7); the application for removal of notification requirements was unsuccessful (34.8%, *n* = 8); or "other" impact (60.9%, *n* = 14)²¹ (e.g., changes to supervision strategies or recording information for future applications).

Helpfulness of polygraph.

OMs reported that the polygraph was very helpful for them when processing applications for removal of notification requirements (average = 6.13 out of 7 for helpfulness of the polygraph for managing individual applicants).

4. Qualitative Evaluation of Police Use of the Polygraph

Context:

In total, 73 in-depth interviews were conducted across participating police areas with:

- 20 OMs of supervisees (Strand 1); 10 with polygraph experience (polygraph group) and 10 without (comparison group). Four polygraph OMs also supervised applicants (Strand 3) who had applied for removal of notification requirements.

²¹ Totals do not sum to 100% as RRDs resulted in multiple impacts for some individuals.

- 20 officers investigating suspects (Strand 2) thought to have committed an online sexual offence²²; 10 with polygraph experience (polygraph group), 10 without (comparison group²³).
- 10 polygraphers.
- 20 individuals convicted of committing a sexual offence; 14 supervisees with polygraph experience (polygraph group), 4 supervisees without polygraph experience (comparison group), and 2 applicants with polygraph experience (polygraph group).
- 3 individuals suspected of committing a sexual offence with polygraph experience (polygraph group).

All participant characteristics are outlined in Appendix 4.

Interviewees were selected via contacts from each participating police area. After outlining the study's aims and gaining informed consent, each interview was conducted over the phone by a dedicated Research Assistant (see Appendix 5 for interview schedules).

Unless otherwise stated, the figures reported refer to the total number of individuals who made a particular comment. We limit our commentary to key findings. All key themes are available in the specific tables associated with each group interviewed and are available in Appendix 6.

4.1 Oms' Views on Polygraph Use for Supervisees and Applicants

Polygraph OMs

A large number of polygraph OMs reported that the polygraph had been beneficial to their management of supervisees, since it enabled them to access the truth and gather intelligence. Half also felt that the polygraph had improved their risk assessment of supervisees. This included deciding whether notification requirements should be removed:

...if they come back and they've passed that's really good, it helps us to make that decision [to remove notification] and feel happier making that decision... OM 8

²² Investigative officer refers to any person who engaged in the investigative process with a suspect. This may have been as part of the investigation or the general risk management process alongside the investigation.

²³ One comparison OM also provided an interview as an investigative officer (comparison group).

Only a small number of polygraph OMs felt that the polygraph had not influenced their supervision. Most reported it led to a better working relationship with supervisees; particularly following a successful test:

...they sort of think well she believes me now, so it does seem to help a better working relationship, a better trust between us and that's vice versa as well. OM 1

Around one third of polygraph OMs also felt that the polygraph enabled them to take appropriate action relevant to public protection. Regarding challenges of using the polygraph, many mentioned concerns about it being voluntary (i.e., supervisees declining a test or refusing to take a subsequent test following a significant result – i.e., indicating an untruthful response). Polygraph OMs also mentioned an increase in their workload as a key challenge.

Regarding improving the polygraph process, half of polygraph OMs stated that it worked fine as it is. Around a third, however, stated that it needed to be mandatory. Related to this, when questioned about future polygraph use by the police, *all* OMs stated that the polygraph should continue for supervisees and should be mandatory. A majority also felt it should be used with other types of offences (e.g., serious offences, domestic violence) and many felt it should be used with sexual offence suspects.

Comparison OMs

Over half of comparison OMs stated that they had not used the polygraph because they had not yet had the opportunity. Comparison OMs saw the potential benefits of the polygraph as similar to those highlighted by polygraph OMs (i.e., accessing truth and improving risk assessment/management). A smaller number were unsure.

In terms of potential challenges of the polygraph, most comparison OMs were concerned about the impact on their supervisee (i.e., an impending polygraph making them anxious) and an increase to their already large workload. Just under half voiced concerns that their supervisees would not undertake a voluntary polygraph test and that the polygraph was flawed (e.g., not fully accurate). However, the majority stated that the polygraph should be used in a mandatory capacity to supervise individuals who have sexually offended and, like polygraph OMs, most also felt it would be suitable for use with other offence types.

4.2 Investigative Officers' Views on Polygraph Use in Police Investigations

Polygraph investigative officers

Many polygraph investigative officers' overall view of the polygraph was that it was not helpful because it did not aid their investigation and could not be used as evidence. However, some of these same officers did highlight positives such as the benefits of the polygraph for safeguarding. Nonetheless some dissatisfaction with the polygraph was evident:

...if I'm being entirely honest it causes more problems than it solves... because it's not evidential. Investigative Officer 2

Because of this, half of the polygraph investigative officers stated that a key challenge of the polygraph was that it could not impact on the investigation and a small number voiced dissatisfaction with increased workload associated with the polygraph for no tangible gain.

A few diverse suggestions for improvement in the polygraph process were offered (e.g., improve awareness of it, get solicitors on-board with it). However, no one stated that the polygraph should be made mandatory for suspects, with half saying that they felt things should stay as they were. Half also stated that they felt the polygraph should not be used with other suspects:

...I would never support it being in a pre-conviction context ... it's a use of time, effort and money that doesn't give us a product ... we can use at the end. Investigative Officer 1

Comparison investigative officers

Comparison investigative officers most often stated that they had not used the polygraph because it was not applicable in their cases. However, some did not know about the polygraph at all, while others had tried to use it but the legal framework precluded its use as a tool to support a specific investigation. Others felt too new or under-confident to use it, or said it was unavailable in their area.

The majority felt the polygraph would be beneficial for intelligence purposes or safeguarding, although around a third felt it would not be useful due to the fact it cannot be used as evidence in court. Many felt that this was a potential challenge. A good number also felt that the polygraph's voluntary nature was problematic:

... a lot of people have said it's quite difficult to sell it to them [suspects].

Investigative Officer 5

Nevertheless, half of polygraph investigative officers were content for the polygraph to continue to be used as it is. A smaller number said it should be used for all suspects of any crime.

4.3 Polygraphers' Views on Polygraph Use by the Police

Nearly all polygraphers felt interviewing skills were important for polygraphers and over half mentioned social skills and ability to build rapport. Smaller proportions highlighted empathy, previous police experience, and organisation skills as important. Nearly all stated they required no further training since they received ongoing support and training from their professional body; including test quality control checks.

Nearly all polygraphers reported that the polygraph was beneficial to the police through encouraging supervisees/suspects/applicants to open up. All but one felt that the polygraph helped the police develop more appropriate risk assessment and management strategies to keep the public safe:

... it really helps you identify risk where in the first instance it's not identified and its invaluable in that case... with risk management of sex offenders. Polygrapher 5.

Smaller numbers of polygraphers felt that the polygraph helped justify police decision making or reduced police workload. In terms of polygraph testing drawbacks, over half felt there were none; smaller numbers said a lack of mandatory use was problematic, others that results could be problematic when those undergoing testing used countermeasures to try and beat the test. Other notable concerns included space issues (i.e., noisy police stations impacting results), and workloads being unmanageable if the polygraph was not their only focus:

"It's a full time role. 100%... I couldn't manage both roles, it was impossible to do both at a time. Polygrapher 4.

4.4 Supervisees' and Applicants' Views on Polygraph Use During Supervision

Context

Eleven of the 16 interviewees had made an RRD. However, only 3 supervisees and 1 applicant mentioned this during their interview with researchers.

Polygraph supervisees and applicants

A large number of supervisees and both applicants interviewed stated that their first and, in most cases only experience of polygraph testing, had been stressful or anxiety provoking. Only two supervisees had experience of multiple testing. Both stated that they became more comfortable with the polygraph the second or third time. Half of those interviewed believed the polygraph was accurate, a small proportion remained open minded and just under half stated beliefs that it was not at all accurate.

Several participants stated that their polygraph had been professionally conducted. One supervisee commented on the polygrapher's response when he became emotional and frustrated during a failed test:

...she made me feel very comfortable, she was very professional and like I say, she did have a great deal of empathy... Supervisee 7

Interestingly, most supervisees and one applicant stated that the polygraph had not impacted their supervision in any notable way, even if they made an RRD. However, some supervisees felt that a passed test generated more trust, and one applicant came off notification requirements as a result.

In terms of effect on behaviour, many supervisees and both applicants felt that the polygraph had little effect. However, a smaller number of supervisees—notably those who had passed the test—stated that their life was easier as they were monitored less. Those who had significant response results tended to report that, as a consequence, they now did not trust the police and would not cooperate (e.g., by refusing further tests), or had become insular. In one case, however, a failed test left the supervisee determined to do another test to show that he was being truthful.

In terms of improving the polygraph experience, a small number of supervisees stated that they would have liked someone with them (e.g., a friend or family member) for support; even if that person could not be in the room at the time of the test. Some suspects and one applicant appeared not to understand what their test result was, or whether their polygraph had been voluntary or mandatory. For example, one applicant who had engaged in a voluntary test stated: “it felt like a mandatory thing” (Applicant 2). Confusion over the test result may have been compounded by the fact that some supervisees and one applicant did not see their OM soon after the test to discuss it.

Despite many individuals feeling that the polygraph had not impacted their supervision or behaviour, a good number (including some who ‘failed’ polygraph tests) thought it should continue to be used by OMs for supervision or be opened up for use with other offence types:

...so, polygraphs are good, this is against my general opinion of the polygraphs, they are good to use as poking sticks almost... Supervisee 13

Comparison supervisees

Interpretation of comparison supervisees’ interview responses is difficult since only four were available for interview. Three reported that they had never been offered a polygraph and two of these stated that they would refuse one if they were. These supervisees found it difficult to provide answers to questions asked due to their lack of experience with the polygraph. There were mixed views on the possible effect of the polygraph on supervision and on whether it should continue to be used by OMs for supervision purposes or be opened up for use with other offence types.

4.5 Polygraph Suspects’ Views on Polygraph Use in Police Investigations

Interpretation of polygraph suspects’ opinions of the polygraph was also difficult since only 3 agreed to be interviewed²⁴. None felt that the polygraph was particularly accurate, although they did claim that their tests had been conducted with professionalism.

Suspects did not see, or had not yet seen, the impact of their test on the investigation process. Two of the three felt that the polygraph should continue to be used with suspects of sexual

²⁴ The number of suspects who agreed to be interviewed is not surprising, but it must be considered a limitation to this component of this evaluation.

offending and also with other types of suspects. However, one commented that this should only be the case if the polygraph was 100% accurate:

...yes and no, honestly. If it is 100%... then yeah.... Suspect 2

Another stated that the polygraph should not be used at all:

I'm not sure it should be used for anyone at all. I mean it's, isn't it on par with reading tea leaves or tarot cards...? Suspect 1

4.6 In summary

Overall, polygraph and comparison OMs hold favourable views of the polygraph as a tool for supervision and all polygraph OMs wanted to continue using it. Several also stated that when supervisees 'passed' a polygraph test, this generated trust in their supervision relationship. Investigative officers did not hold such positive views of the polygraph. Many expressed frustrations that the additional workload associated with the polygraph was not worth it, since polygraph tests could not be used to support a specific investigation.

Polygraphed supervisees reported that the experience was stressful and that some support on the day of tests would be helpful. Those who underwent more than one test claimed that they relaxed more over repeated tests. None, however, claimed that undergoing polygraph testing made them change their behaviour and several did not understand their results. Similar to the polygraph OMs, supervisees reported that a passed test generated trust in the supervision relationship, and this made life easier because they were monitored less. A good number of supervisees and 2 of the 3 suspects expressed beliefs that polygraph testing should continue and even be expanded to other offence types.

5. Public Views of Police use of the Polygraph

Context:

Fieldwork was carried out between 26th April and 8th May 2019. Data were collected via Ipsos MORI's weekly omnibus Capibus which uses face-to-face computer assisted interviews in participants' homes. Capibus offers high quality robust and representative British participant samples using random location sampling techniques.

- The survey included 2091 participants: 1047 (50.1%) males and 1041 (49.8%) females (3 did not state their gender); 57.1% were aged 15-54 years and 43% aged 55 and over.
- Ipsos MORI and the University of Kent research team collaborated to develop 7 questionnaire items (see Appendix 1).

Full findings are available in Appendix 1. However, the majority of the public (i.e., around two thirds) agreed that the police should use the polygraph to:

- Monitor supervisees who are convicted of a sexual offence (Strand 1)
- Assess applicants who wish to be removed from notification requirements (Strand 3)

Just under two thirds of the public agreed that the police should be able to use the polygraph to:

- Investigate people who are suspected of a sexual offence (Strand 2). This was not specified as an online offence, as Strand 2 was in the current evaluation, to leave room for opinions regarding suspects of a range of sexual offence types.

Less support was shown by the public regarding police using the polygraph to monitor supervisees who had committed *any* type of offence or investigate people suspected of *any* type of offence.

6. Conclusions

The research outlined in this report provides an evaluation of police polygraph use in gaining risk-relevant disclosures (RRDs) important for supervising, investigating, or making decisions about individuals convicted or suspected of committing a sexual offence. Findings across all police areas suggest that polygraph testing increases RRDs.

More specifically, findings indicate that:

- Polygraph testing, *regardless* of whether voluntary or mandatory, elicits *more* information relevant to risk. However, this applies only if polygraph tests go ahead. Our findings show that when randomly assigned to voluntary polygraph testing, many individuals *refuse to take the test*. Qualitative interviews with OMs identified concerns regarding those who refuse to volunteer for a test in the first place, or who refuse later tests after a significant response result (i.e. indicating untruthful response).
- The increase in information from polygraph testing applies to individuals convicted of committing a sexual offence (supervisees = *6 times* more likely than comparisons to make RRDs; applicants = *42.5 times* more likely than comparisons to make RRDs) and to sexual offence suspects (suspects = *7 times* more likely than comparisons to make RRDs).
- Polygraph testing also results in more *in-depth disclosures*. Relative to comparisons, supervisees undergoing polygraph testing make more RRDs about their sexual interest in children, their access (potential or actual) to children, and they provide more information on their masturbatory habits (this also applies to suspects).
- In polygraph sessions the greatest number of RRDs occur in pre-polygraph interviews followed by post-polygraph interviews. Pre-polygraph RRDs suggest that impending polygraph tests motivate individuals (convicted or suspects) to reveal risk-relevant information. Post-polygraph RRDs mostly follow a significant response test result. This suggests that ‘failed’ tests also motivate revelations of risk-relevant information.
- Polygraph testing supervisees results in more RRDs relative to comparisons, across all levels of risk (as assessed via ARMS).
- Polygraph testing supervisees and those who have applied for removal of notification requirements leads to more actions by police to protect the public (e.g., increasing supervisions, more home visits, informing social services, informing families/partners). Data from the suspects group had too many outcomes to statistically analyse.

- Applicants who are not polygraph tested and make no RRDs are *highly likely* to be successful in applying for removal of notification requirements. Polygraphed applicants who make RRDs are 5 times less likely than comparisons, and 6 times less likely than polygraphed applicants with no significant response, to have successful applications.
- Supervisees, applicants, and suspects experience anxiety regarding polygraph testing and some experience confusion over their polygraph test results. Qualitative reports indicate that polygraph tests are professionally conducted and that ‘passing’ polygraph tests generates trust in supervision relationships with OMs; a point also made by OMs.
- Qualitative findings with polygraphers suggest that polygraph testing is a full-time job and that dual roles (of polygrapher and OM) could impact the quality of polygraph testing. Polygraphers reported that polygraph testing in noisy police stations exacerbates the challenges associated with testing, and may impact results.
- The polygraph was rated by police (on a Likert scale) as a helpful tool for managing: supervisees (5.75 out of 7), suspects (5.24 out of 7), and applicants (6.13 out of 7). All polygraph OMs wanted to continue using the polygraph as an aid to supervision and application decisions. Qualitative interviews showed that unlike OMs involved in supervision and applications, investigative officers did not view the polygraph as especially useful with suspects, because it cannot be used as evidence.

7. Implications and Recommendations

Our findings suggest that:

- Introducing *mandatory polygraph testing* of those convicted of sexual offences undergoing police supervision or applying for removal of notification requirements (i.e., Strands 1 & 3), would be the most effective use of polygraph testing. Mandatory testing would: eliminate refusals to volunteer for initial or subsequent polygraph tests, maximise numbers of people making RRDs, and maximise RRDs across time. It is also supported by the public and by OMs.
- The polygraph elicits RRDs across all ARMS risk levels. This suggests that mandatory polygraph testing could target *all categories of risk* effectively to maximise the number of people making RRDs and reduce harm to the public.
- Females who had sexually offended were under-represented in this research. Consequently, caution is needed when considering polygraph testing females. Future

research should examine more female participants to provide more understanding of how they respond to polygraph testing.

- Regarding polygraph testing itself, on the basis of our qualitative findings, we recommend that polygraph testing should be the *only role* of polygraphers. Given the demands of polygraph testing and the continuing professional development likely to be associated with the role, we consider that dual roles of polygrapher *and* OM will probably negatively impact the quality of polygraph testing experiences.
- Given that supervisees, applicants and suspects reported feeling anxious about undergoing polygraph testing, we recommend that the option of being accompanied to the test by an appropriate individual is introduced. This role would be to provide support only; they should not sit in on the actual test.
- As polygraphers highlighted that noisy police stations are not ideal for conducting polygraph tests, we recommend that future testing should take place only in quiet (designated) rooms to prevent noise impacting the quality of the test experience or the results.
- As many supervisees reported confusion about their polygraph test results, we recommend that OMs should meet with supervisees as soon as possible following the test, to discuss the meaning of test outcomes. We also recommend that testing is repeated regularly. It was a limitation of this research that so few subsequent tests took place²⁵.
- Regarding suspects of online sexual offences, we found that polygraph testing led to more RRDs, albeit not more meaningful ones than those made by comparison suspects. Police use of polygraph testing with suspects of sexual offences was supported by the majority of the public surveyed, and by investigative officers who reported polygraph testing to be very helpful to their investigations. Some officers also reported that polygraph testing increased their workload and others found it irrelevant because test results could not be used as evidence. Considering these findings, we recommend that polygraph testing should be used with suspects and that it should do so on a voluntary basis.

²⁵ Across all three strands, only a small number of participants underwent repeat polygraph tests in the lifespan of the project. In Strand 1, a small number of supervisees (2.8%; $n = 8$) were allocated to the polygraph condition but did not complete one. Of the rest of the polygraph group, 88.4% ($n = 252$) completed only one polygraph, 7.4% ($n = 21$) completed only 2, and 1.4% ($n = 4$) completed three. In Strand 2, 86% ($n = 43$) of suspects assigned to the polygraph group underwent only one polygraph, 12% ($n = 6$) underwent two, and only 2% ($n = 1$) did a third. In Strand 3, 94.4% ($n = 51$) of polygraphed applicants only completed one polygraph, 3.7% ($n = 2$) completed only two, and 1.9% ($n = 1$) completed 3 polygraph tests.

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Appendix 1: Attitudes Towards Police Use of the Polygraph in the UK with Individuals Convicted or Suspected of Sexual Offending

Data Collection Methods

Full details of the sampling process can be found here

<https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/240694/response/608223/attach/html/3/Ipsos%20MORI%20Capibus%20Sampling%202014.pdf.html>

Questions Asked

Ipsos MORI and the University of Kent research team collaborated to develop 7 questionnaire items (see Final Survey Questions). First, participants were asked how aware they were of polygraph tests and only those who had heard of the polygraph were asked the remaining six questions. However, before being given the remaining questions (i.e., questions 2a to 2e), half the sample were given additional detail on police use of the polygraph and half the sample were not. This was to identify if additional information had an influence on participants' answers. Following data collection, statistical analyses showed that having additional detail did not influence participants' responses and so the results presented include all participants; regardless of whether they were given additional details.

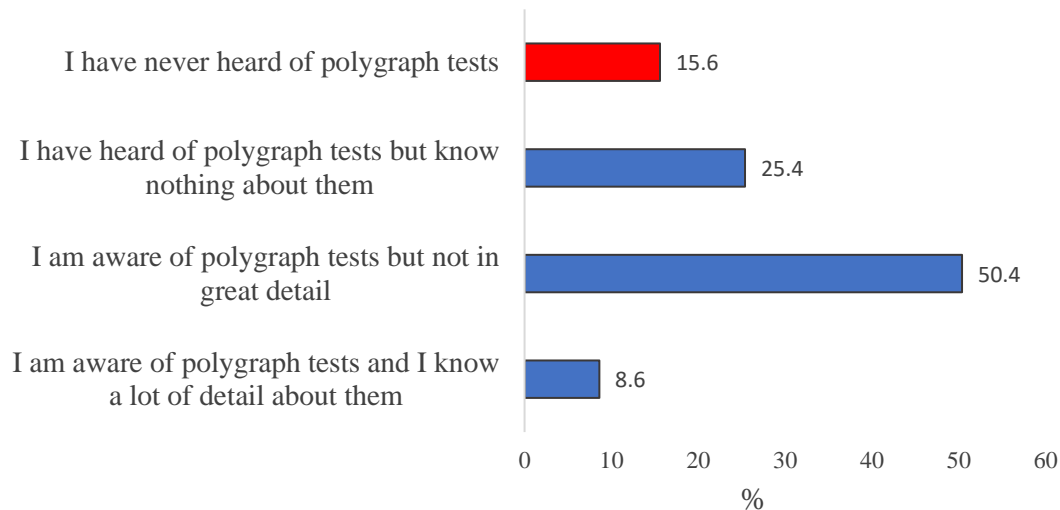
Survey Results

Ipsos MORI provide weights in their data sets that enable researchers to weight data during analyses. This ensures that the final sample is representative of the UK population aged 15+ both nationally and regionally.

During the following analyses, data were weighted by age, work status, region, social grade, household tenure, and ethnicity which were all weighted within gender as well as tenure and ethnicity overall. All analyses were conducted to $p = .05$ level of significance.

1. Screening Question: Which of the following best describes how much you know about polygraph tests, also known as lie detector tests?

Graph 1: Percentages of responses regarding knowledge of the polygraph



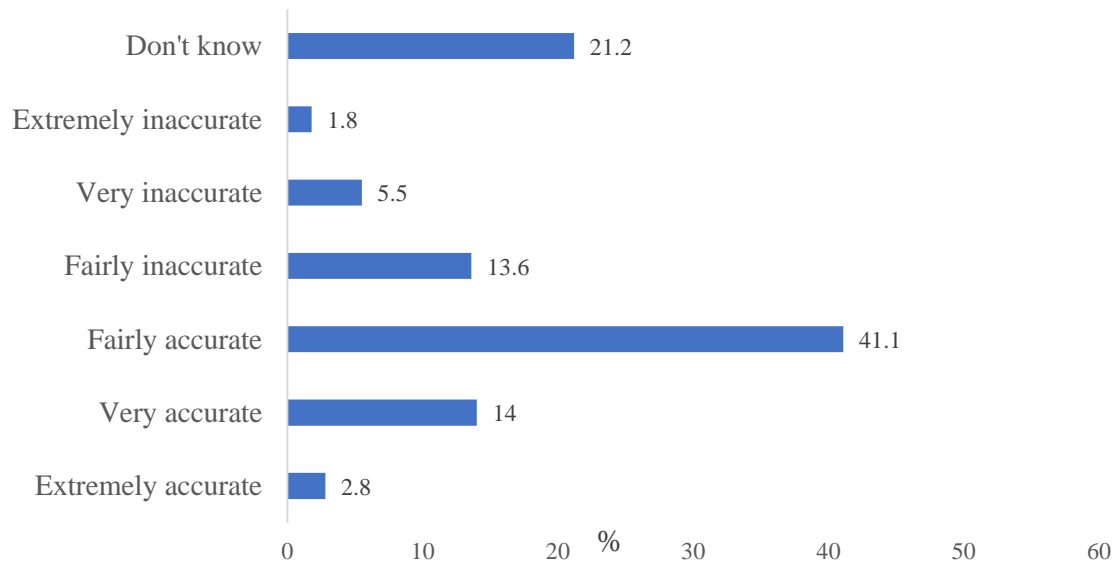
As Graph 1 shows a small number (326) of participants had never heard of polygraph tests and these people were not asked the remaining questions. Most participants were aware of polygraph tests, but few had detailed knowledge.

Further analyses showed no differences between men and women on polygraph knowledge, but compared to higher social grade participants, those from lower social grades²⁶ (i.e., social grades D and E) were less likely to have heard of the polygraph, $\chi^2(1, N = 2091) = 60.21, p < .001$.

²⁶ Social grade is a socio-economic grouping developed by the UK Office for National Statistics according to six categories (A [Higher management, administrative, or professional workers], B [Intermediate management, administrative, or professional workers], C1 [Supervisory, clerical, junior management, administrative, or professional workers], C2 [Skilled manual workers], D [Semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers], and E [unemployed and lowest grade workers]).

2. Question 1: How accurate or inaccurate would you say the polygraph is in detecting if people are lying or telling the truth?

Graph 2: Percentages regarding participants' beliefs in polygraph accuracy as a lie detector

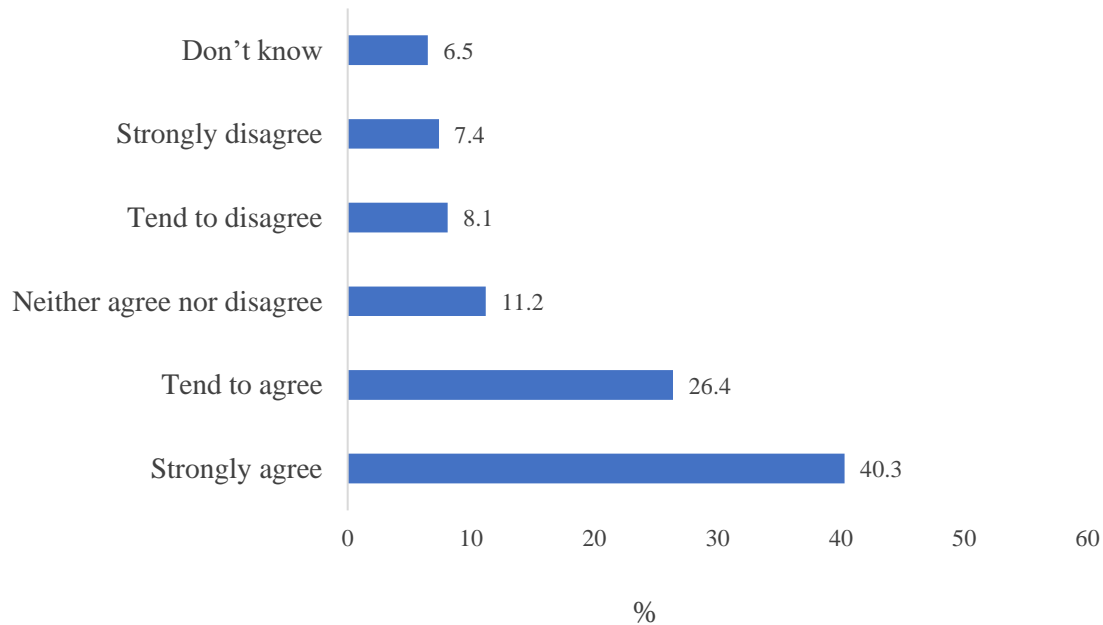


As Graph 2 shows, overall, most participants ($n = 1023$) perceived the polygraph to be accurate in detecting when people tell the truth and when they lie. Just over a fifth ($n = 375$) stated they did not know the polygraph's accuracy and another fifth ($n = 369$) perceived the polygraph as inaccurate in some way.

Further analyses showed that responses were consistent across social grades, but women were less likely than men to perceive the polygraph as inaccurate and more likely to state 'don't know' $\chi^2(2, N = 1764) = 8.96, p = .01$.

3. Question 2a: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police should be able to use a polygraph test to monitor people who are on the Sex Offender Register?

Graph 3: Percentages of agreement with polygraph testing of individuals on the sex offender register

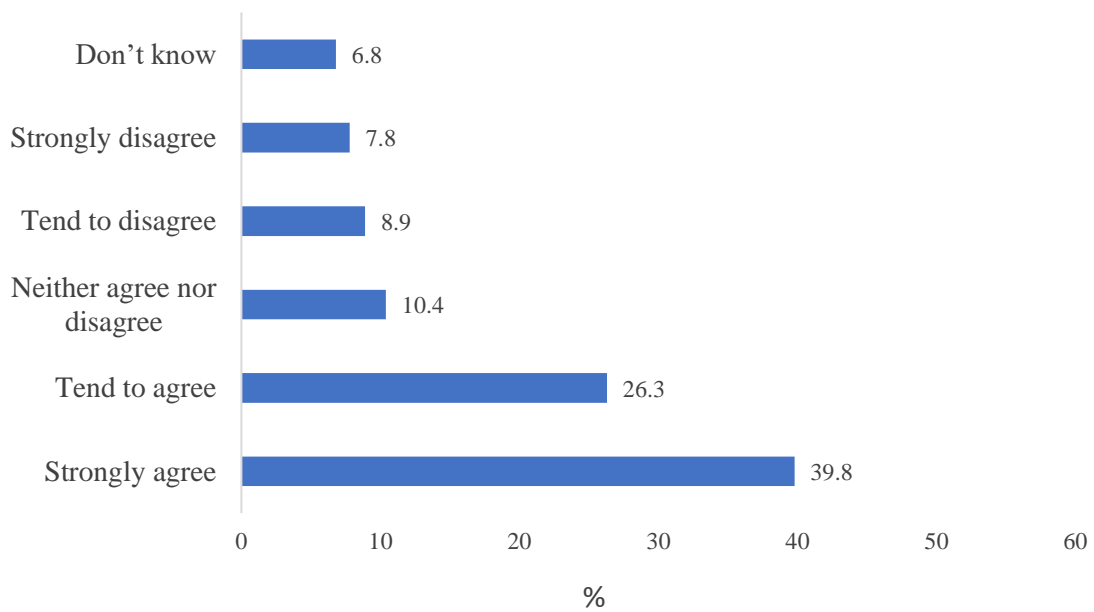


As Graph 3 shows, the majority of participants ($n = 711$) either strongly agreed or tended to agree that the polygraph should be used to monitor people who are on the sex offender register.

Further analyses showed no differences between men and women's views, but participants in the higher social grades (i.e., social grades A and B) were less likely to strongly agree and more likely to indicate no strong opinion or to disagree with this statement than were participants in lower grades (i.e., social grades D and E), $\chi^2(10, N = 1767) = 22.23, p = .01$.

4. Question 2b: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police should be able to use a polygraph test to assess convicted sexual offenders who apply to come off the Sex Offender Register?

Graph 4: Percentages agreeing/disagreeing with polygraph testing of offenders applying to come off Sex Offender Register

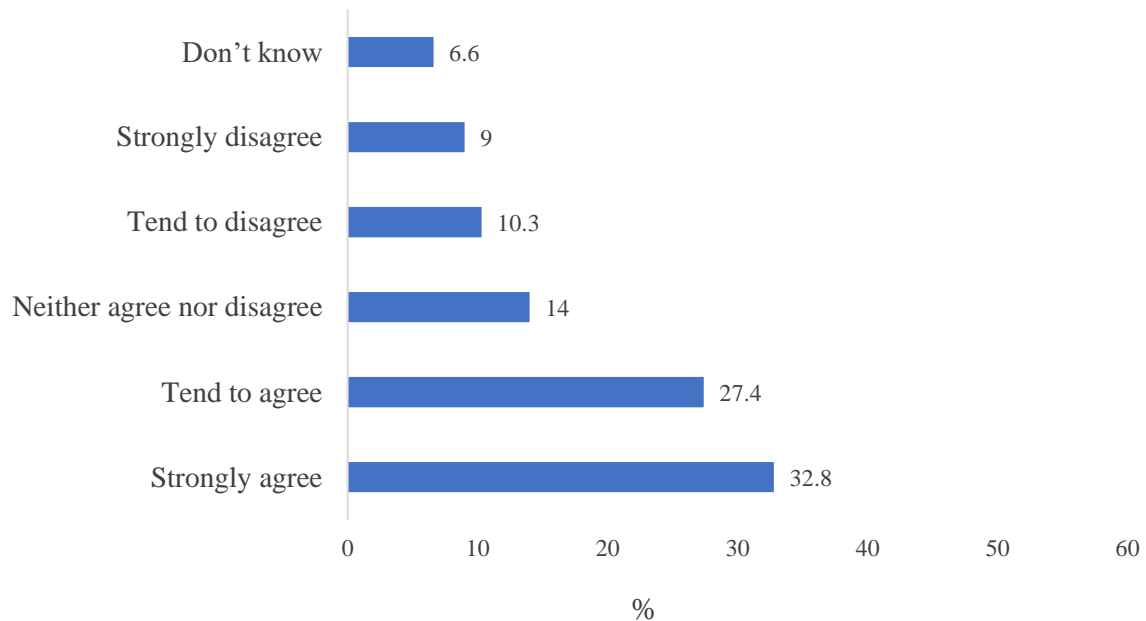


As Graph 4 shows, two thirds of participants ($n = 1166$) agreed that the police should use the polygraph to assess convicted sexual offenders who apply to come off the Sex Offender Register. A small number neither agreed nor disagreed and the remainder disagreed to some extent ($n = 295$) or stated that they did not know ($n = 121$).

Further analyses showed that there were no differences in views between men and women. However, those in the highest social grade categories (i.e., social grades A and B) tended to show less agreement with this item and those in the lowest social grade categories (i.e., social grades D and E) tended to show more agreement with this item, $\chi^2(10, N = 1766) = 25.52, p = .004$.

5. Question 2c: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police should be able to use a polygraph test to investigate people who are suspected of committing a sexual offence (i.e., not yet convicted)?

Graph 5: Percentages of participants agreeing that police should polygraph anyone suspected of committing a sex offence.

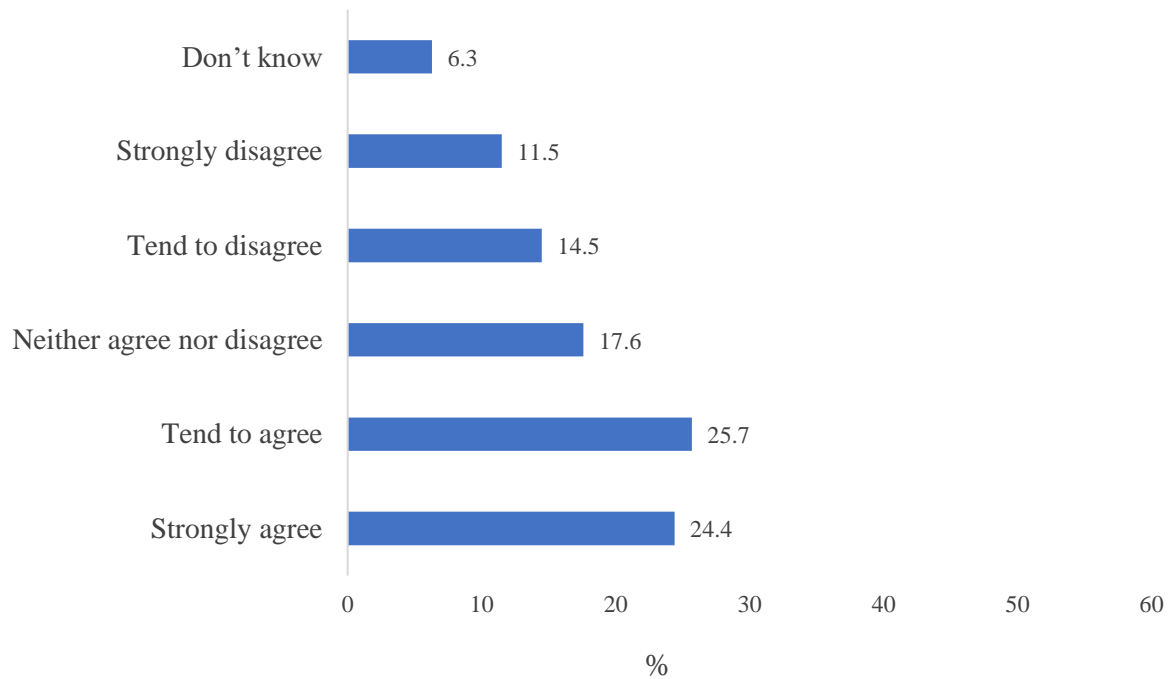


As Graph 5 shows, most participants ($n = 1063$) agreed that the police should polygraph test people suspected (but not convicted) of committing a sexual offence. A smaller number of participants held no strong opinion (i.e., neither agreed nor disagreed; $n = 247$) and the remainder—around a fifth—disagreed ($n = 340$) or did not know ($n = 116$).

Further analyses showed that men were more likely than women to strongly disagree with using the polygraph for this purpose $\chi^2(5, N = 1762) = 18.05, p = .003$. Similarly, participants in the highest social grade categories (i.e., social grades A and B or C1 and C2) expressed more disagreement with using the polygraph for this purpose than did those in the lowest social grade categories (i.e., social grades D and E) who showed more agreement $\chi^2(10, N = 1767) = 40.55, p < .001$.

Question 2d: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police should be able to use the polygraph test to investigate people who are suspected of committing any crime?

Graph 6: Percentages of people agreeing/disagreeing with police using the polygraph when investigating any crime

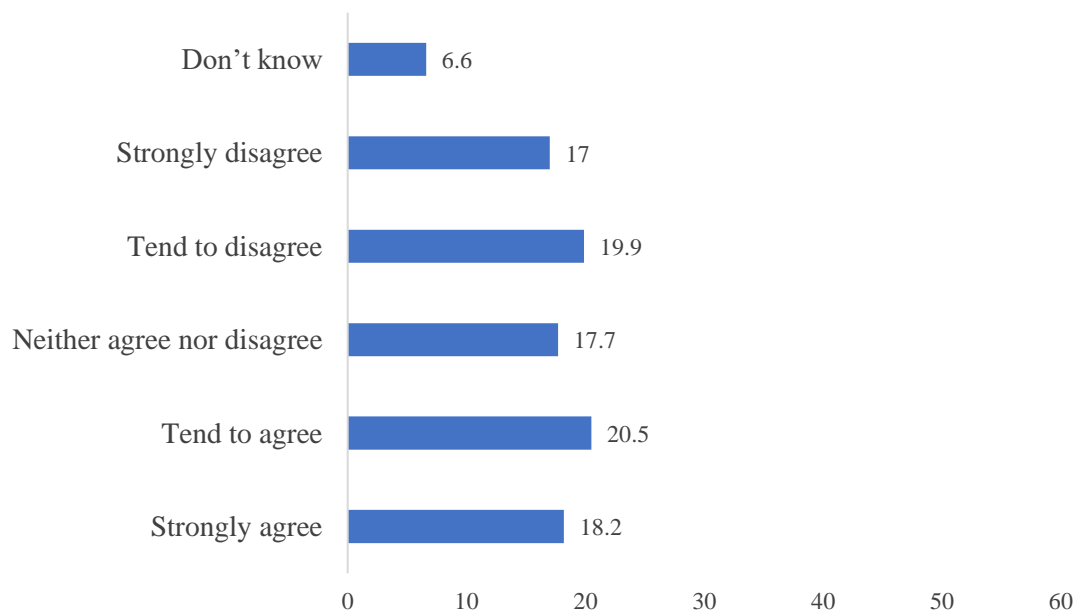


As Graph 6 shows half of participants ($n = 884$) agreed that the police should use the polygraph to investigate people who are suspected of committing *any* crime. Just under one fifth held no strong opinion (i.e., neither agreed nor disagreed; $n = 311$), just over one quarter disagreed ($n = 459$) and a small number of participants stated that they did not know ($n = 112$).

Further analyses showed that compared to women, males were more likely to disagree with this item and less likely to strongly agree $\chi^2(5, N = 1762) = 31.30, p < .001$. Also, those in the highest social grade categories (i.e., social grades A and B) showed less agreement and more disagreement or ambivalence (i.e., neither agree nor disagree) with this item whilst those in the lowest social grades (i.e., social grades D and E) showed more agreement, less ambivalence and less disagreement with this question $\chi^2(10, N = 1766) = 34.32, p < .001$.

7. Question 2e: To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police should be able to use the polygraph test to monitor people convicted of any crime who have served their sentence?

Graph 7: Percentage of participants agreeing with police use of polygraph to monitor any convicted offenders



As Graph 7 shows, less than half ($n = 685$) of participants agreed and well over a third ($n = 652$) disagreed that the police should be able to use the polygraph to monitor post-conviction offenders of any crime type. Just under one fifth neither agreed nor disagreed ($n = 313$).

Further analyses showed that men were more likely to disagree with this item than were women, $\chi^2(5, N = 1764) = 30.66, p < .001$. Similarly, those in the highest social grade (i.e., social grades A and B) tended to agree less and/or neither agree nor disagree with this item more than did those in the lower social grades (i.e., social grades D and E), $\chi^2(10, N = 1767) = 42.61, p < .001$.

Final Survey Questions

ASK ALL

Screening Question. Which of the following best describes how much you know about polygraph tests, also known as lie detector tests?

1. I am aware of polygraph tests and I know a lot of detail about them
2. I am aware of polygraph tests but not in great detail
3. I have heard of polygraph tests but know nothing about them
4. I have never heard of polygraph tests

ASK ALL AWARE OF POLYGRAPH TESTS (Responses 1-3) THE REMAINING QUESTIONS

Question 2. How accurate or inaccurate would you say the polygraph is in detecting if people are lying or telling the truth?

1. Extremely accurate
2. Very accurate
3. Fairly accurate
4. Fairly inaccurate
5. Very inaccurate
6. Extremely inaccurate
7. Don't know

PREAMBLE TO QUESTIONS 2a to 2e

A polygraph, popularly referred to as a lie detector test, is a scientific instrument that measures and records the physiological responses while a person is asked and answers a series of questions.

These responses include breathing patterns, heart rate and perspiration levels and are measured using a combination of sensors attached to the chest, arms and finger.

SPLIT SAMPLE – SAMPLE 1 RECEIVES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In the UK, polygraph tests are used to help manage offenders who are released into the community to ensure they adhere to their licensing conditions.

The results are taken into consideration by police along with other evidence to decide on any action to be taken regarding an offender.

Polygraphs are considered to be 80 to 90% accurate.

Polygraph test results are not admissible as evidence in UK courts.

SAMPLE 2 DOESN'T RECEIVE THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the police should be able to use a polygraph test to:

QUESTION 2a Monitor people who are on the Sex Offender Register

QUESTION 2b Assess convicted sexual offenders who apply to come off the Sex Offender Register

QUESTION 2c Investigate people who are suspected of committing a sexual offence (i.e. not yet convicted)

QUESTION 2d Investigate people who are suspected of committing any crime

QUESTION 2e Monitor people convicted of any crime who have served their sentence

1. Strongly agree
2. Tend to agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Tend to disagree
5. Strongly disagree
6. Don't know

Appendix 2: Final Figures for all Strands Across all Police Areas

Area	Strand 1 Voluntary Polygraph	Strand 1 Mandatory Polygraph	Strand 1 Comparison	Strand 2 Polygraph	Strand 2 Comparison	Strand 3 Polygraph	Strand 3 Comparison	Total
GMP	35	68	95	6	2	25	16	247
Hertfordshire	77	5	33	10	0	6	1	132
Essex	60	52	87	N/A	N/A	7	5	211
Kent	0	46	70	N/A	N/A	1	0	117
South Yorkshire	53	2	110	48	11	20	11	255
Northumbria	31	0	0	32	40	3	3	109
Lancashire (GMP)	5	0	0	N/A	N/A	3	0	8
Norfolk (Essex)	0	1	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	1
Staffordshire (South Yorks)	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	1	0	1
Staffordshire (Essex)	0	1	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	1
Total Referrals	261	175	395	96	53	68	36	1084
Time 1 Calls	258	175	395	88	52	68	35	1071
Time 2 Follow Ups	179	94	313	70	41	41	21	759
Time 3 Follow Ups	109	50	165	54	29	25	11	443
Time 4 Follow Ups	72	23	97	25	3	16	5	241
Time 5 Follow Ups	35	7	25	15	0	8	0	90
Time 6 Follow Ups	5	1	6	3	0	2	0	17

Appendix 3: Capture Forms Used for Data Collection

FIRST CALL ONLY

STRAND 1 POLYGRAPH GROUP

Your name _____

Date of call _____

Offender ID		Offender Manager	
Date of most recent contact* <i>*Contact is any face-to-face meeting, home visit, or phone call – i.e. any contact</i>		Date of next contact	
Date offender's licence ended			
Date you took over the management of this offender			

Is the Offender Manager able to refer to the File on the Offender that you are Calling about? YES NO *

If No, ask the Offender Manager to get the file; hold the line if necessary.

State: I am going to ask you some questions about disclosures made by your offender. In the first part of this short interview I will ask you about disclosures made in the polygraph session. In the second part I will ask you about disclosures made during contact or at other times.

PART 1: Polygraph Session Disclosures

**Ensure that you have the offender's polygraph report in front of you. If there appears to be any discrepancy between what the offender manager is reporting and what is in front of you ask them to clarify.*

*If a polygraph has **not** been conducted (e.g., because it was cancelled or was not scheduled every 3 months), simply ask questions about disclosure during supervision in **Part 2** of this form. If a polygraph was cancelled arrange to call back directly after the newly arranged one.*

1. Think back to any polygraph tests that your offender has had since July 3rd 2017. When we are talking about a polygraph session we mean in the test, the interview directly before the test, and the subsequent meeting directly following the test.

Were the polygraphs that took place, or that were scheduled, voluntary or mandatory?
Voluntary Mandatory

How many polygraphs were carried out? _____

If no polygraph took place, why did it not?

- Offender refused
- Police cancelled appointment
- Scheduled, not taken yet
- Other (please specify) _____

What was the polygraph test outcome(s) (Significant response – deception indicated, no significant response – no deception indicated, No opinion – inconclusive)

- 1st Polygraph _____
- 2nd Polygraph (if applicable) _____
- 3rd Polygraph (if applicable) _____

DISCLOSURES

Did the offender make disclosures that did not result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? Yes No

- If yes, what were they?

All further questions in this section relate only to disclosures that resulted in, or contributed to, any actions taken by police

*Define/redefine relevant disclosures for the officer
Define/redefine polygraph session if necessary*

3. Did the offender disclose any new information in the polygraph session that is relevant to their risk or management? YES NO

4. If yes, how many new disclosures did they make? _____

5. Was the polygraph test outcome itself useful? _____

8. What impact (if any) did the disclosed information have on your management of this offender? (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?) Tick all that apply. *Read Out Options*

No impact (no changes made to management/contact/risk assessment/treatment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led me to increase my assessment of risk	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<i>If YES Answered Here – Check are consistent with OM’s Answers on Rest of Form</i>			
It led me to decrease my assessment of risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed onto MAPPA	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led me to increase contact/ external controls	<input type="checkbox"/>	It changed the focus of management (Please specify in what way)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. offender’s family/partner, police, social services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led me to decrease contact/ external controls	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions taken as a result of the information provided - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, arrested, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics, applied for variation in SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services) – continue on next page if necessary			<input type="checkbox"/>

***All further questions relate to the disclosures which resulted in, or contributed to, any *change* in risk or management.**

3. Where in the polygraph process did the disclosures relevant to their risk, or management occur? Please specify for each disclosure made: Interview Directly Prior to Polygraph, In the Polygraph Examination Itself, In the Post Polygraph Interview.

If information was confirmatory of offender’s risk and management leave below blank

What was the Disclosure? <i>If more than 1 please number each</i> <i>Write out in full</i>	Where in the Polygraph Session did the Disclosure Occur?

Use a separate sheet if necessary.

Polygraph Session Disclosures

4. *(not relevant for Oms)*

Project managers will later code them into the boxes below

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information		Changes of circumstance/risky behaviour	
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in existing relationship status	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acknowledgement of severity/increased responsibility for known	<input type="checkbox"/>	New relationship (please specify nature)	<input type="checkbox"/>

offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)			
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased access to children (potential or actual)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Making contact with children (where a sexual intention is suspected)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)		Access to/contact with other victim types	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Breach of SHPO, civil order or notification requirements (specify which)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other risk-related behaviour/circumstances (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
Direct questioning during the polygraph session	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion following a failed polygraph (deception indicated) or inconclusive result	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Considering this specific offender, how risk-relevant do you <u>rate the disclosures</u> (please tick one) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
<p>LOW: Indicative of minor elevation of risk, needing monitoring but no further action (e.g. offender reports an argument with their partner)</p> <p>MEDIUM: Indicative of elevated risk, requiring further investigation, and possible action based on that investigation, but not requiring action by itself (e.g. offender reports accidentally meeting a child relative at a family event, where other adults were present, and no further contact took place)</p> <p>HIGH: Indicative of elevated risk requiring direct intervention (e.g. offender reports being asked to babysit by a neighbour but refused)</p> <p>VERY HIGH: Indicative of elevated risk requiring immediate action, (e.g. offender admits contact with victim)</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the disclosure did not elevate risk levels it decreased risk instead.</p>			
LOW <input type="checkbox"/>	MEDIUM <input type="checkbox"/>	HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

Your rating of the polygraph.

On a scale of 1 to 7 can you say how helpful (1= not at all 7= completely) the polygraph has been for managing this offender.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8a) If the polygraph has helped your management of this offender can you please explain how it has helped

9. On a scale from 1 to 7 how helpful do you think the polygraph is for your management of offenders in general (1= not at all 7= completely).

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

**CONTACT/OTHER DISCLOSURES
(outside of the polygraph session)**

11. Since July 3rd 2017 how many contacts have you had with this offender? _____

Make sure you read out to the Offender Manager our definition of contact:

“Contact is any face-to-face meeting, home visit, or phone call – i.e. any contact”

Did the offender make disclosures that ***did not*** result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? Yes No

- If yes, what were they?

State: All further questions relate to those disclosures which resulted in, or contributed to, any change in risk or management.

12. During any of these contacts, has the offender disclosed any new information that is relevant to their risk or management? YES NO

Did the offender disclose new information in the contact that led to ***changes*** to their risk or management? YES NO

13. If yes, how many new disclosures that led to changes did they make? _____

14. Did the disclosures occur at different times (e.g., during one contact, across more than one contact, or outside of contact)?

Please write the exact number of contact sessions in which the disclosure(s) occurred.

NOTE – If disclosures have been made at different times then the following questions need to be completed for each TIME a disclosure/disclosures were made (e.g., each contact session).

Time 1

15. What kind of information did the offender disclose? *Please write in space below and project managers will later code them into the boxes below*

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non- abusive fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information		Changes of circumstance/risky behaviour	
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in existing relationship status	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acknowledgement of severity/ increased responsibility for known offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	New relationship (please specify nature)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased access to children (potential or actual)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Making contact with children (where a sexual intention is suspected)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)		Access to/contact with other victim types	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Breach of SHPO, civil order or notification requirements (specify which)	

	Other risk-related behaviour/circumstances (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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16. What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply)			
A direct question during routine contact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I presented third party evidence to the offender and they disclosed as a result of this	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion during contact following a failed polygraph (deception indicated) or inconclusive result	<input type="checkbox"/>	Forthcoming polygraph session	<input type="checkbox"/>

17. Considering this specific offender, how risky do you rate the disclosures (please tick one) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
<p>LOW: Indicative of minor elevation of risk, needing monitoring but no further action (e.g. offender reports an argument with their partner)</p> <p>MEDIUM: Indicative of elevated risk, requiring further investigation, and possible action based on that investigation, but not requiring action by itself (e.g. offender reports accidentally meeting a child relative at a family event, where other adults were present, and no further contact took place)</p> <p>HIGH: Indicative of elevated risk requiring direct intervention (e.g. offender reports being asked to babysit by a neighbour but refused)</p> <p>VERY HIGH: Indicative of elevated risk requiring immediate action, including recall (e.g. offender admits contact with victim)</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the disclosure did not elevate risk levels it decreased risk instead.</p>			
LOW <input type="checkbox"/>	MEDIUM <input type="checkbox"/>	HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

18. What impact did the disclosed information have on your management of this offender? (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?) Tick all that apply. <i>Read Out Options</i>

No impact (no changes made to management/contact/risk assessment/treatment) <i>If YES Answered Here – Check are consistent with OM’s Answers on Rest of Form</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led me to increase my assessment of risk	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led me to decrease my assessment of risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed onto MAPPA	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led me to increase contact/ external controls	<input type="checkbox"/>	It changed the focus of management (Please specify in what way)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. offender’s family/partner, police, social services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led me to decrease contact/ external controls	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions taken as a result of the information provided - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, arrested, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics, applied for variation in SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services) – continue on next page if necessary			<input type="checkbox"/>

Thank OM

FIRST CALL ONLY

STRAND 1: COMPARISONS

Your name _____

Date _____

Offender ID		Offender Manager	
Date of most recent contact* <i>*Contact is any face-to-face meeting, home visit, or phone call – i.e. any contact</i>		Date of next contact	
Date offender's licence ended			
Date you took over the management of this offender			

Is the Offender Manager able to refer to the File on the Offender that you are Calling about? YES NO *

If No, ask the Offender Manager to get the file; hold the line if necessary.

State: I am going to ask you some questions about disclosures made by your offender. Since July 3rd 2017, how many contact sessions have you had? _____

Make sure you read out to the Offender Manager our definition of contact:

“Contact is any face-to-face meeting, home visit, or phone call – i.e. any contact”

Did the offender make disclosures that did not result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? Yes No

- If yes, what were they?

State: All further questions relate to those disclosures which resulted in, or contributed to, any change in risk or management.

Did the offender disclose new information in the contact that led to *changes* to their risk or management? YES NO

If yes, how many new disclosures that led to changes did they make? _____

Did the disclosures occur at different times (e.g., during one contact, across more than one contact, or outside of contact)?

Please write the exact number of contacts in which the disclosure(s) occurred.

NOTE – If disclosures have been made at different times then the following questions need to be completed for each TIME a disclosure/disclosures were made (e.g., each contact).

Time 1

What kind of information did the offender disclose? *Please write in space below and project managers will later code them into the boxes below*

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non- abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information		Changes of circumstance/risky behaviour	
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in existing relationship status	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acknowledgement of severity/ increased responsibility for known offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	New relationship (please specify nature)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased access to children (potential or actual)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Making contact with children (where a sexual intention is suspected)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)		Access to/contact with other victim types	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Breach of SHPO, civil order or notification requirements (specify which)	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Other risk-related behaviour/circumstances (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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5. What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
A direct question during routine contact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I presented third party evidence to the offender and they disclosed as a result of this	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Considering this specific offender, how risky do you rate the disclosures (please tick one) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
<p>LOW: Indicative of minor elevation of risk, needing monitoring but no further action (e.g. offender reports an argument with their partner)</p> <p>MEDIUM: Indicative of elevated risk, requiring further investigation, and possible action based on that investigation, but not requiring action by itself (e.g. offender reports accidentally meeting a child relative at a family event, where other adults were present, and no further contact took place)</p> <p>HIGH: Indicative of elevated risk requiring direct intervention (e.g. offender reports being asked to babysit by a neighbour but refused)</p> <p>VERY HIGH: Indicative of elevated risk requiring immediate action, including recall (e.g. offender admits contact with victim)</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the disclosure did not elevate risk levels it decreased risk instead.</p>			
LOW <input type="checkbox"/>	MEDIUM <input type="checkbox"/>	HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY HIGH <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

7. What impact did the disclosed information have on your management of this offender? (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?) Tick all that apply. *Read Out Options*

No impact (no changes made to management/contact/risk assessment/treatment) <i>If YES Answered Here – Check are consistent with OM’s Answers on Rest of Form</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led me to increase my assessment of risk	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led me to decrease my assessment of risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed onto MAPPA	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led me to increase contact/ external controls	<input type="checkbox"/>	It changed the focus of management (Please specify in what way)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. offender’s family/partner, police, social services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led me to decrease contact/ external controls	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other actions taken as a result of the information provided - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, arrested, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics, applied for variation in SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services) – <i>continue on next page if necessary</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>

Thank OM

FIRST CALL ONLY

**Suspect Interview
Polygraph Group**

Your name _____

Date of call _____

Suspect ID		Interviewer(s)	
Date(s) of interview(s) <i>Establish how many have taken place and when</i>			
Did the suspect know that they were going to undergo a polygraph test at the time of the above interview?			
Date of polygraph			

Is the Interviewer able to refer to the File on the Suspect that you are Calling about? YES NO *

If No, ask them to get the file; hold the line if necessary.

State: I am going to ask you some questions about the interview you conducted with this suspect. In this short interview I will ask you about the information the suspect provided either during or following the polygraph session.

How many interviews have been conducted with the suspect in total (give exact number)? _____

Did they make any relevant disclosures during these interviews, excluding any polygraph session?

Yes No

Define/redefine relevant disclosures for the officer

Define/redefine polygraph session if necessary

Did the suspect make disclosures that did not result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? Yes No

- If yes, what were they?

All further questions in this section relate only to disclosures that resulted in, or contributed to, any actions taken by police

In how many interviews did they make relevant disclosures, again excluding polygraph session?

How many relevant disclosures did the suspect make in total outside of polygraph sessions (give exact number)? _____

How many relevant disclosures did the suspect make in interviews before the polygraph session?

How many relevant disclosures did the suspect make in interviews after the polygraph session (not including the post polygraph interview)? _____

NOTE – If disclosures have been made at different times then the following section needs to be completed for each TIME a disclosure/disclosures were made (e.g., each interview).

Time 1

What kind of relevant information did the suspect disclose? *(Describe it here: Project managers will later code into the boxes below)*

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non- abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical information	
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acknowledgement of severity/ increased responsibility for known offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Suspect as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)	

What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply)			
Direct questioning during the polygraph session	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I presented third party evidence to the suspect and they disclosed as a result of this	<input type="checkbox"/>	Forthcoming polygraph session	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion during interview following a failed polygraph (deception indicated) or inconclusive result	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

How do you rate the significance of the disclosures made by this suspect <i>Read out options</i>			
<p>IRRELEVANT: No information that is helpful to our investigation was revealed</p> <p>SOMEWHAT RELEVANT: Some information that we can follow up to help our investigation was revealed.</p> <p>VERY RELEVANT: The information revealed was directly relevant to our inquiries, and has substantially moved our investigation forward.</p> <p>EXTREMELY RELEVANT: The information revealed was immediately useful and charges have been made or are imminent.</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the information was useful but not for this particular investigation.</p>			
IRRELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	SOMEWHAT RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	EXTREMELY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

What investigative impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?)			
Tick all that apply. Read Out Options			
No impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information disclosed to senior officers has been acted on Please specify how	
There have been additional arrests	<input type="checkbox"/>	The investigation is continuing Please specify in what way	<input type="checkbox"/>
A new investigation has been opened	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charges were brought against the suspect Please specify what the charges were	<input type="checkbox"/>
A third party (e.g. suspect's family/partner, police, social services – please specify) has been notified about this person	<input type="checkbox"/>	The suspect has been convicted Please specify the conviction and the sentence	<input type="checkbox"/>
No further action	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics)	<input type="checkbox"/>

What risk relevant impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?)			
Tick all that apply. Read Out Options			
No impact If YES Answered Here – Check are consistent with Answers on Rest of Form	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to senior officers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contact with children was reviewed	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to other agencies (e.g. MAPPA) <i>Specify which if yes</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. children's services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led to a risk assessment being undertaken, no risk management plan was needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to an order being applied for (e.g. civil SHPO)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led to a risk assessment being undertaken with a risk management plan in place.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services)			<input type="checkbox"/>

PART 2: Polygraph Session Disclosures

Confirm polygraph was offered: YES NO

How many polygraphs were carried out? _____

*If no polygraph took place, why did it not?

Offender refused

Police cancelled appointment

Scheduled, not taken yet

Other (please specify) _____

Think back to the polygraph test that the suspect underwent after July 3rd 2017. What was the outcome of the polygraph test(s) (e.g., deception indicated etc.)?

1st Polygraph _____

2nd Polygraph (if applicable) _____

3rd Polygraph (if applicable) _____

When we are talking about a polygraph session, we mean in the test, the interview directly before the test, and the interview directly following the test. Did the suspect make any relevant disclosures in the polygraph session that they had not already told you?

Yes No

Did the suspect make disclosures that did not result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? Yes No

- If yes, what were they?

Ensure that you have the suspect's polygraph report in front of you. If there appears to be any discrepancy between what the interviewer is reporting and what is in front of you ask them to clarify.

All further questions in this section relate only to disclosures that resulted in, or contributed to, any actions taken by police

How many relevant disclosures did the suspect make in the polygraph session? _____

Where in the polygraph process did the disclosures relevant to your investigation occur? Please specify for each disclosure made: Interview Directly Prior to Polygraph, In the Polygraph Examination Itself, In the Post Polygraph Interview.

What was the Disclosure? <i>Write out in full</i>	Where in the Polygraph Session did the Disclosure Occur?

Use a separate sheet if necessary.

Polygraph Session Disclosures

Project managers will code disclosures into the boxes below

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information			
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Acknowledgement of severity/increased responsibility for known offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)			

5. What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
Direct questioning during the polygraph session	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I presented third party evidence to the suspect and they disclosed as a result of this	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion following a failed polygraph (deception indicated) or inconclusive result	<input type="checkbox"/>		

6. How do you rate the relevance of the disclosures made by this suspect *Read Out Options*

IRRELEVANT: No information that is helpful to our investigation was revealed

SOMEWHAT RELEVANT: Some information that we can follow up to help our investigation was revealed.

VERY RELEVANT: The information revealed was directly relevant to our inquiries, and has substantially moved our investigation forward.

EXTREMELY RELEVANT: The information revealed was immediately useful and charges have been made or are imminent.

OTHER: For example, the information was useful but not for this particular investigation.

IRRELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	SOMEWHAT RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	EXTREMELY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

What *investigative* impact (if any) (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?)

Tick all that apply. *Read Out Options*

No impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information disclosed to senior officers has been acted on Please specify how	
There have been additional arrests	<input type="checkbox"/>	The investigation is continuing Please specify in what way	<input type="checkbox"/>
A new investigation has been opened	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charges were brought against the suspect Please specify what the charges were	<input type="checkbox"/>
A third party (e.g. suspect's family/partner, police, social services – please specify) has been notified about this person	<input type="checkbox"/>	The suspect has been convicted Please specify the conviction and the sentence	<input type="checkbox"/>
No further action	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics)	<input type="checkbox"/>

What <i>risk relevant</i> impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?) Tick all that apply. Read Out Options			
No impact If YES Answered Here – Check this is consistent with Answers on Rest of Form	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to senior officers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contact with children was reviewed	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to other agencies (e.g. MAPPA) <i>Specify which if yes</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. children's services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led to a risk assessment being undertaken, no risk management plan was needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to an order being applied for (e.g. civil SHPO)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led to a risk assessment being undertaken with a risk management plan in place.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services)			<input type="checkbox"/>

9. On a scale of 1 to 7 can you say how helpful (1= not at all 7= completely) the polygraph has been for interviewing this suspect.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

9a) If the polygraph has helped your interviewing of this suspect can you please explain how it has helped

10. On a scale from 1 to 7 how helpful do you think the polygraph is for interviewing suspects in general (1= not at all 7= completely).

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Thank Officer

FIRST CALL ONLY

**Suspect Interview
Comparison Group**

Your name _____

Date of call _____

Suspect ID		Interviewer(s)	
Date(s) of interview(s) <i>Establish how many have taken place and when</i>			

Is the Interviewer able to refer to the File on the Suspect that you are Calling about? YES NO *

If No, ask them to get the file; hold the line if necessary.

State: I am going to ask you some questions about the interview you conducted with this suspect. In this short interview I will ask you about the information the suspect provided.

How many interviews have been conducted with the suspect in total (give exact number)? _____

Did they make any relevant disclosures during these interviews? Yes No

Define/redefine relevant disclosures for the officer

Did the suspect make disclosures that did not result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? Yes No

- If yes, what were they?

All further questions in this section relate only to disclosures that resulted in, or contributed to, any actions taken by police

In how many interviews did they make relevant disclosures? _____

How many relevant disclosures did the suspect make in total (give exact number)? _____

NOTE – If disclosures have been made at different times then the following section needs to be completed for each TIME a disclosure/disclosures were made (e.g., each interview).

Time 1

What kind of relevant information did the suspect disclose? *(Describe it here: Project managers will later code into the boxes below)*

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information			
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Acknowledgement of severity/increased responsibility for known offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)			

5. What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
Direct questioning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I presented third party evidence to the suspect and they disclosed as a result of this	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion during interview	<input type="checkbox"/>		

6. How do you rate the relevance of the disclosures made by this suspect <i>Read Out Options</i>			
<p>IRRELEVANT: No information that is helpful to our investigation was revealed</p> <p>SOMEWHAT RELEVANT: Some information that we can follow up to help our investigation was revealed.</p> <p>VERY RELEVANT: The information revealed was directly relevant to our inquiries, and has substantially moved our investigation forward.</p> <p>EXTREMELY RELEVANT: The information revealed was immediately useful and charges have been made or are imminent.</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the information was useful but not for this particular investigation.</p>			
IRRELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	SOMEWHAT RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	EXTREMELY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

What <i>investigative</i> impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?)			
Tick all that apply. <i>Read Out Options</i>			
No impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information disclosed to senior officers has been acted on Please specify how	
There have been additional arrests	<input type="checkbox"/>	The investigation is continuing Please specify in what way	<input type="checkbox"/>
A new investigation has been opened	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charges were brought against the suspect Please specify what the charges were	<input type="checkbox"/>
A third party (e.g. suspect's family/partner, police, social services – please specify) has been notified about this person	<input type="checkbox"/>	The suspect has been convicted	<input type="checkbox"/>

		Please specify the conviction and the sentence	
No further action	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics)	<input type="checkbox"/>

What risk relevant impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?)			
Tick all that apply. <i>Read Out Options</i>			
No impact <i>If YES Answered Here – Check this is consistent with Answers on Rest of Form</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to senior officers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contact with children was reviewed	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to other agencies (e.g. MAPPA) <i>Specify which if yes</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. children's services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led to a risk assessment being undertaken, no risk management plan was needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to an order being applied for (e.g. civil SHPO)	<input type="checkbox"/>	It led to a risk assessment being undertaken with a risk management plan in place.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services)			<input type="checkbox"/>

Thank officer

FIRST CALL ONLY

Strand 3: Notification application Interview

Polygraph Group

Your name _____

Date of call _____

offender ID		Interviewer(s)	
Number of interviews (approx) <i>Establish duration of OM and offender relationship</i>			

Is the Interviewer able to refer to the File on the Offender that you are Calling about? YES NO *

If No, ask them to get the file; hold the line if necessary.

State: I am going to ask you some questions about the interviews you have conducted with this offender. In this short interview I will ask you about the information the offender has provided over time and during or following the polygraph session since their application to come off notification requirements.

Was this offender on a fixed period of registration? _____

If yes, how long was the registration period in years? 2 5 7 10 (please circle)

If yes, were they at the end of their registration period? _____

If no, at the time of interview, how long have they been on notification requirements? _____ (in years)

Do you know the outcome of the offender's application? _____

DISCLOSURES
(outside of the polygraph session)

11. Since 3rd July 2017 how many interviews have been conducted with the offender in total? An approximation is fine if you can't remember them all _____

12. Did you interview the offender after they applied to come off notification requirements? YES NO

Did the offender make disclosures that did not result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? YES NO

If yes, what were they?

All further questions in this section relate only to disclosures that resulted in, or contributed to, any actions taken by police

*Define/redefine relevant disclosures for the officer
Define/redefine polygraph session if necessary*

During any of these interviews did the offender disclose any risk-relevant information?

YES NO

13. If yes, how many disclosures relevant to their risk did they make? _____

(if yes) Were any actions taken by police because of this information?

YES NO

14. Did the disclosures occur during different interviews?

Please write the exact number of interviews in which the disclosure(s) occurred.

NOTE – If disclosures have been made at different times then questions 15, 16, 17, and 18 need to be completed for each TIME a disclosure/disclosures were made (e.g., each interview).

Time 1

Disclosures Outside Polygraph Session

15. What disclosures were made(describe here in full)

Project managers will later code them into the boxes below

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information		Changes of circumstance/risky behaviour	
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in existing relationship status	<input type="checkbox"/>

Acknowledgement of severity/ increased responsibility for known offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	New relationship (please specify nature)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased access to children (potential or actual)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Making contact with children (where a sexual intention is suspected)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)		Access to/contact with other victim types	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Breach of SHPO, civil order or notification requirements (specify which)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other risk-related behaviour/circumstances (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply)			
A direct question during interview	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I presented third party evidence to the offender and they disclosed as a result of this	<input type="checkbox"/>	Forthcoming polygraph session	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion during interview following a failed polygraph (deception indicated) or inconclusive result	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

How do you rate the relevance of the disclosures made by this offender to their application <i>Read Out Options</i>			
<p>IRRELEVANT: No information that is relevant to their application was revealed</p> <p>SOMEWHAT RELEVANT: Some information that we can follow up was revealed.</p> <p>VERY RELEVANT: The information revealed was directly relevant to their application and we will follow this up.</p> <p>EXTREMELY RELEVANT: The information revealed was relevant and acted on immediately.</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the information was useful but not directly relevant for the offender's application.</p>			
IRRELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	SOMEWHAT RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	EXTREMELY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

--

Based on what the offender has told you, what do you think about their application for removal from notification requirements? *Read out options*

- 1. **JUSTIFIED:** They should be allowed to come off notification requirements.
- 2. **HAVE SOME CONCERNS:** They should be allowed to come off notification requirements, but I do have some reservations
- 3. **NOT JUSTIFIED:** I have a lot of concerns about this offender's risk and don't think that they should be allowed to come off notification requirements.

OTHER (Please Specify)

What impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?) Tick all that apply. *Read Out Options*

No impact <i>If YES Answered Here – Check are consistent with Answers on Rest of Form</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to senior officers	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to further arrests	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to other agencies (e.g. MAPPA) <i>Specify which if yes</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to charges against the offender	<input type="checkbox"/>	The offender's application was successful	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. offender's family/partner, police, social services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	The offender's application was not successful	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics, applied for SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services)			<input type="checkbox"/>

PART 2: Polygraph Session Disclosures

Confirm polygraph was offered: YES NO

How many polygraphs were carried out? _____

If no polygraph took place, why did it not?

Offender refused

Police cancelled appointment

Scheduled, not taken yet

Other (please specify) _____

What was the polygraph test outcome(s) (Significant response – deception indicated, no significant response – no deception indicated, No opinion – inconclusive)

1st Polygraph _____

2nd Polygraph (if applicable) _____

3rd Polygraph (if applicable) _____

**Ensure that you have the offender's polygraph report in front of you. If there appears to be any discrepancy between what the interviewer is reporting and what is in front of you ask them to clarify.*

1. Think back to the polygraph test that the offender underwent (after July 3rd 2017). When we are talking about a polygraph session we mean in the test, the interview directly before the test, and the subsequent interview directly following the test. Did the offender disclose any new information in the polygraph session that is relevant to their application? YES
NO

Interviewer: Ensure that this information is correct and if a polygraph has been conducted that you have the offender's polygraph report in front of you.

Did the offender reveal any new information in the polygraph session that they had not already told you? YES NO

2. How many new disclosures relevant to their application did the offender make? _____

*All further questions relate to those disclosures which resulted in, or contributed to, any actions taken by police.

3. Where in the polygraph process did the disclosures relevant to their application occur? Please specify where each disclosure was made: (i.e. Interview Directly Prior to Polygraph, In the Polygraph Examination Itself, in the Post Polygraph Interview).

What was the Disclosure? <i>Write out in full</i>	Where in the Polygraph Session did the Disclosure Occur?

Use a separate sheet if necessary.

What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply) <i>Read Out Options</i>			
Direct questioning during the polygraph session	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion following a failed polygraph (deception indicated) or inconclusive result	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Polygraph Session Disclosures

(Project managers to code)

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information		Changes of circumstance/risky behaviour	
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in existing relationship status	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acknowledgement of severity/ increased responsibility for known offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	New relationship (please specify nature)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased access to children (potential or actual)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Making contact with children (where a sexual intention is suspected)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)		Access to/contact with other victim types	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Breach of SHPO, civil order or notification requirements (specify which)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other risk-related behaviour/circumstances (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

How do you rate the relevance of the disclosures made by this offender to their application <i>Read Out Options</i>			
<p>IRRELEVANT: No information that is relevant to their application was revealed</p> <p>SOMEWHAT RELEVANT: Some information that we can follow up was revealed.</p> <p>VERY RELEVANT: The information revealed was directly relevant to their application and we will follow this up.</p> <p>EXTREMELY RELEVANT: The information revealed was relevant and acted on immediately.</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the information was useful but not directly relevant for the offender's application.</p>			
IRRELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	SOMEWHAT RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	EXTREMELY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify)			

Based on what the offender has told you, how do you rate their application for removal from notification requirements? <i>Read out options</i>
<p>1. JUSTIFIED: They should be allowed to come off notification requirements.</p> <p>2. HAVE SOME CONCERNS: They should be allowed to come off notification requirements, but I do have some reservations</p> <p>3. NOT JUSTIFIED: I have a lot of concerns about this offender's risk and don't think that they should be allowed to come off notification requirements.</p>
OTHER (Please Specify)

What impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?) Tick all that apply. <i>Read Out Options</i>			
No impact <i>If YES Answered Here – Check this is consistent with Answers on Rest of Form</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to senior officers	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to further arrests	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to other agencies (e.g. MAPPA) <i>Specify which if yes</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to charges against the offender	<input type="checkbox"/>	The offender's application was successful	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. offender's family/partner, police, social services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	The offender's application was not successful	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics, applied for SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services)			<input type="checkbox"/>

8. On a scale of 1 to 7 can you say how helpful (1= not at all 7= completely) the polygraph has been for interviewing this offender.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8a) If the polygraph has helped your interviewing of this offender can you please explain how it has helped

9. On a scale from 1 to 7 how helpful do you think the polygraph is for interviewing offenders in general (1= not at all 7= completely).

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

FIRST CALL ONLY

Strand 3: Notification application Interview Comparison Group

Your name _____

Date of call _____

offender ID		Interviewer(s)	
Number of interviews (approx) Establish duration of OM and offender relationship			

Is the Interviewer able to refer to the File on the Offender that you are Calling about? YES NO *

If No, ask them to get the file; hold the line if necessary.

State: I am going to ask you some questions about the interviews you have conducted with this offender. In this short interview I will ask you about the information the offender has provided over time and since their application to come off notification requirements.

Was this offender on a fixed period of registration? _____

If yes, how long was the registration period in years? 2 5 7 10 (please circle)

If yes, were they at the end of their registration period? _____

If no, at the time of interview, how long have they been on notification requirements?
_____ (in years)

Do you know the outcome of the offender's application? _____

DISCLOSURES

11. Since 3rd July 2017 how many interviews have been conducted with the offender in total?
An approximation is fine if you can't remember them all _____

12. Did you interview the offender after they applied to come off notification requirements?

YES NO

Did the offender make disclosures that **did not** result in, or contribute to, any actions taken by the police? Yes No

All further questions in this section relate only to disclosures that resulted in, or contributed to, any actions taken by police

Define/redefine relevant disclosures for the officer

During any of these interviews did the offender disclose any risk-relevant information?
 YES NO

13. If yes, how many disclosures relevant to their risk did they make? _____

(if yes) Were any actions taken by police because of this information?

YES NO

14. Did the disclosures occur during different interviews?

Please write the exact number of interviews in which the disclosure(s) occurred.

NOTE – If disclosures have been made at different times then questions 15, 16, 17, and 18 need to be completed for each TIME a disclosure/disclosures were made (e.g., each interview).

Time 1

Interview Disclosures

15 What disclosures were made (describe here in full)

Project managers will later code them into the boxes below

Thoughts, feelings and attitudes		Sexual behaviour	
Abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with other adults	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-abusive sexual fantasies and desires	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sexual behaviour with children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation to offend	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masturbation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings relating to self-esteem/self-efficacy (or lack of)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet pornography (adults)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings of self-control/risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of print or internet indecent images of children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual preference for children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other sexual behaviour (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feelings related to sexual performance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other thoughts or feelings related to risk (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Historical information		Changes of circumstance/risky behaviour	
Admitting a previously unknown offence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in existing relationship status	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acknowledgement of severity/increased responsibility for known	<input type="checkbox"/>	New relationship (please specify nature)	<input type="checkbox"/>

offence(s) (victim perspective or similar)			
Offender as prior victim of sexual abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased access to children (potential or actual)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Details of sexual history (including consensual/legal acts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Making contact with children (where a sexual intention is suspected)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of disclosure (please specify e.g. Use of internet, possession of internet enabled devices)		Access to/contact with other victim types	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Breach of SHPO, civil order or notification requirements (specify which)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Other risk-related behaviour/circumstances (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

What triggered the disclosure? (Tick all that apply)			
A direct question during interview	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spontaneous disclosure (please specify circumstances)	<input type="checkbox"/>
I presented third party evidence to the offender and they disclosed as a result of this	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Challenging/discussion during interview	<input type="checkbox"/>		

How do you rate the relevance of the disclosures made by this offender to their application <i>Read Out Options</i>			
<p>IRRELEVANT: No information that is relevant to their application was revealed</p> <p>SOMEWHAT RELEVANT: Some information that we can follow up was revealed.</p> <p>VERY RELEVANT: The information revealed was directly relevant to their application and we will follow this up.</p> <p>EXTREMELY RELEVANT: The information revealed was relevant and acted on immediately.</p> <p>OTHER: For example, the information was useful but not directly relevant for the offender's application.</p>			
IRRELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	SOMEWHAT RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	VERY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>	EXTREMELY RELEVANT <input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (Please Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>			

Based on what the offender has told you, what do you think about their application for removal from notification requirements? *Read out options*

1. **JUSTIFIED:** They should be allowed to come off notification requirements.
2. **HAVE SOME CONCERNS:** They should be allowed to come off notification requirements, but I do have some reservations
3. **NOT JUSTIFIED:** I have a lot of concerns about this offender's risk and don't think that they should be allowed to come off notification requirements.

OTHER (Please Specify)

What impact (if any) did the disclosed information have (i.e. what action did you take as a result of this new information?) Tick all that apply. *Read Out Options*

No impact <i>If YES Answered Here – Check are consistent with Answers on Rest of Form</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to senior officers	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to further arrests	<input type="checkbox"/>	I passed the information disclosed on to other agencies (e.g. MAPPA) <i>Specify which if yes</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It led to charges against the offender	<input type="checkbox"/>	The offender's application was successful	<input type="checkbox"/>
I informed a third party (e.g. offender's family/partner, police, social services – please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	The offender's application was not successful	
Other - please specify: (e.g. Applied for warrant, applied for covert tactics, negated need for covert tactics, applied for SHPO conditions, electronic tag fitted either voluntarily or on SHPO, referral to therapeutic services)			<input type="checkbox"/>

Thank Officer

Appendix 4: Characteristics of All Participants Interviewed

OMs

	Polygraph <i>N</i> = 10	Comparison <i>N</i> = 10
Duration in role range (months)	14-180	3-54
Gender		
Female	7	8
Male	3	2
Area		
Kent	1	6
Essex	1	0
GMP	3	2
Hertfordshire	3	0
Northumbria	0	0
South Yorkshire	2	2

Investigative officers

	Polygraph <i>N</i> = 10	Comparison <i>N</i> = 10
Duration in role range (months)	2-132	3-132
Gender		
Female	5	7
Male	5	3
Area		
Kent	1	3
Essex	0	0
GMP	4	6
Hertfordshire	1	1
Northumbria	1	0
South Yorkshire	3	0

Polygraphers

	<i>N</i> = 10
Duration in role range (months)	2-60
Gender	
Female	5
Male	5
Area	
Kent	2
Essex	2
GMP	2
Hertfordshire	1
Northumbria	0
South Yorkshire	3

Supervisees (including applicants), and suspects

	Supervisees		Suspects
	Polygraph ²⁷ (N = 16)	Comparison (N = 4)	Polygraph (N = 3)
Age range (years)	31 – 75	25 – 62	31 – 52
Gender			
Male	16	4	3
Female	0	0	0
Ethnicity			
Non-BME	14	4	2
BME	1	0	0
Not recorded	1	0	1
Index Offence²⁸			
Contact offence against a child	2	3	0
Internet offence against a child (images)	9	1	3
Internet offence against a child (grooming)	0	0	1
Sexual assault of an adult	2	1	0
Rape of an adult	1	0	0
Non-contact offence against a child ²⁹	4	0	0
Sentence Type			
Custodial	9	4	n/a
Community Order	4	0	
Suspended Sentence	3	0	
Sentence Length (months³⁰) range	8 – 132	6 – 96	n/a
Polygraph Experience			
None	0	4	0
One	14	0	2
Two	2	0	1
Polygraph			
Voluntary	10	n/a	3
Mandatory	6		0
Police Area			
Essex	7	1	0
GMP	0	3	0
Hertfordshire	7	0	1
Kent	1	0	0
South Yorkshire	1	0	2

²⁷ This group includes 4 applicants.

²⁸ Individuals may have had more than one index offence.

²⁹ Includes offences such as exposing a child to sexual acts, making a child engage in sexual acts.

³⁰ Calculated only for those serving a custodial sentence.

Appendix 5: Interview Schedules

OMs - Polygraph Group

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time as OM and general experiences).

We are interested in the use of polygraph testing in offender management:

- Have you any experience of the polygraph being used with anyone in your case load?
 - If yes:
 - Tell us what your experiences have been like.
 - How has the polygraph influenced the way in which you manage your offender/s?
 - Do you think the polygraph has impacted your relationship with your offender?
 - What do you think are the benefits to using polygraph?
 - What do you think are the challenges?
 - What way do you think the polygraph has affected offenders you manage?
 - Have you ever attended a polygraph with one of your offenders? If yes, describe what the experience was like; did you find it helpful?
 - Is there anything you can think of that could improve the process of referring offenders to undergo polygraph?
- What are your thoughts on developing legislation to mandate the use of polygraph with sex offenders on the register/off the register? Other offenders (Suspects)?

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

OMs - Comparison Group

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time as OM and general experiences).

We are interested in your perceptions of polygraph use in offender management:

Have you had any experience of the polygraph being used with anyone in your case load?

If no:

- Tell us why you have not used the polygraph.
 - Do you think using the polygraph as part of supervision would impact the relationship you have with your offender?
 - Would you expect that using the polygraph would impact your supervision of offender? How?
 - What do you think the benefits to using polygraph would be?
 - What do you see as potential challenges?
 - How would you feel about making decisions about your offender's supervision based on polygraph results?
 - In what way do you think the polygraph would affect the offenders you manage?
-
- What are your thoughts on developing legislation to mandate the use of polygraph with sex offenders on the register/off the register? Other offenders? (Suspects)

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

Investigative Officers - Polygraph Group

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time as investigative officer and general experiences).

We are interested in the use of polygraph testing in investigations:

- In your investigations, has one of your suspects ever been referred for polygraph testing?
 - If yes walk us through how the polygraph was used with the suspect.
 - What is your opinion of the use of the polygraph in this process?
 - Useful/not useful to the investigation? (benefits and challenges)
 - In what way (for any other reasons?)
 - Was there any impact of using the polygraph on workload?
 - If so, who for and in what ways?
 - Have you ever attended a polygraph with a suspect? [Explain why – yes/no] If yes, describe what the experience was like; did you find it helpful?
 - Is there anything you can think of that would improve the process of suspects undergoing the polygraph?

- What are your thoughts on developing legislation to mandate the use of polygraph with suspects?
- Do you think it should be mandatory/voluntary/not used at all?
- Do you think the polygraph would work well with other types of suspects?

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

Investigative Officers - Comparison Group

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time as investigative officer and general experiences).

We are interested in the use of polygraph testing in investigations:

- In your investigations, has one of your suspects every been referred for polygraph testing?
 - If no:
 - Tell us why you have not used the polygraph.
 - Do you think suspects and offenders open and honest without the polygraph?
 - Would you expect that using the polygraph would be useful /not useful to your investigations?
 - In what way?
 - Would there be any impact of using the polygraph on workload?
 - If so, who for and in what ways?
 - What do you think about the use of polygraph as an investigation tool? (benefits and challenges)
 - How would you feel about making decisions about your suspects based on polygraph results?
- What are your thoughts on developing legislation to mandate the use of polygraph with suspects?
- Do you think it should be mandatory/voluntary/not used at all?
- Do you think the polygraph would work well with other types of suspects?

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

Polygraphers

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time as polygrapher and general experiences).

What do you think are the key skills needed to be a polygrapher?

What training did you receive to be a polygrapher?

- Is there any further training you think you would need as a polygrapher?

What do you think are the benefits to having the polygraph as a police tool?

Is there a down-side of having the use of polygraph? What are they?

Could you walk me through the process of conducting a polygraph?

What aspects of being a polygrapher do you like?

What would you consider to be the key challenges of being a polygrapher?

- Probes:
 - Workload issues – what is your overall workload like? Do you balance this role with others (e.g., offender manager)?
 - Space issues – Do you have any issues with where you carry out polygraphs?
 - Anything else?

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

Supervisees/Applicants - Polygraph Group

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time on the register and general experiences).

We are interested in the use of polygraph testing in offender management/application for removal off the register:

Have you ever been asked to undergo a polygraph as part of your management or as part of the process of applying to come off the register? Was it voluntary or mandatory?

- If yes, how many polygraphs have you completed? [*If they were asked but refused, ask them why they refused?*]
- How have you done on your polygraph test(s)? What was the outcome?
- Now I want you to think about how you feel when you know you are about to undergo a test – can you describe your thoughts and feelings? How did you feel about the location?
- Can you walk me through the process of taking a test?
- Probe: Who normally carries out your test? How do they make you feel?
- Probe: Does your OM go with you?
- Did you learn anything about your requirements on the register from the polygraph?

Does the polygraph affect your relationship with your OM?

- Probe: Explore whether passed/failed tests have had positive/negative effects on their relationship with OM.
- Have you ever told your OM something that you normally wouldn't have because you knew you were about to take a polygraph? If yes, what happened?

Overall, how would you describe your experience of the polygraph?

Do you think the polygraph should continue to be used in this way? What about with people who have been convicted other types of offences?

Any additional information – bring to close

Supervisees (Comparison Group)

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time they have been on the register and general experiences).

We are interested in your perceptions of polygraph use:

Are you aware that some people on the register are asked to take the polygraph test as part of their supervision/or to come off the register?

- What are your thoughts on the use of the polygraph in this way?
- How would you feel if you had to take a polygraph? Have you ever been offered one? If yes, why didn't you do one?
- Do you think it would affect your relationship with your OM/application for removal from the register? How?

Do you think the polygraph should continue to be used in this way? What about with people who have been convicted other types of offences?

Any additional information – bring to close

Suspects - Polygraph Group

CONFIRMATION OF BEING RECORDED

Open with broad questions so that participant feels comfortable (e.g., length of time under investigation and general experiences).

We are interested in the use of polygraph testing during police investigations:

How accurate do you believe the polygraph is?

Have you ever been asked to undergo a polygraph? Was it voluntary or mandatory?

- If yes, how many polygraphs have you completed? [*If they were asked but refused, ask them why they refused?*]
- How have you done on your polygraph test(s)? What was the outcome?
- Now I want you to think about how you feel when you know you are about to undergo a test – can you describe your thoughts and feelings?
- Can you walk me through the process of taking a test?
- Probe: Who normally carries out your test? How do they make you feel?
- Probe: Does anyone go with you? If yes, how does that make you feel? If not, would you want someone to be there? Who?

Overall, how would you describe your experience of the polygraph?

Do you think the polygraph should continue to be used in this way? What about with people who have been convicted other types of offences?

Any additional information – bring to close

Appendix 6: Qualitative themes and comments

Polygraph OMs' views on polygraph use for supervisees and applicants³¹

Benefits of the polygraph	No of OMs /10	Polygraph influenced supervision?	No of OMs/ 10	Challenges of the polygraph	No of OMs/ 10	How can the polygraph process be improved?	No of OMs/ 10	Future polygraph use	No of OMs/ 10
Access truth/gather intelligence	7	Yes – better trust/working relationship	7	It's voluntary – they don't want to do it	5	Nothing – it works fine	5	Should continue and become mandatory	10
Improved risk assessment/management	5	Yes – enables me to take appropriate action	3	Increases an already high workload	5	It needs to be made mandatory	3	Should be used with other types of crimes	8
Has a deterrent effect	1	Yes – I am more intrusive with my questioning	1	It can't be used as evidence	2	The process takes too long – causes anxiety	1	Should be used with sexual offence suspects	6
None	1	Not really	2	It's not 100% accurate	2	The polygraph locations are too far away	1		
				It could lead to a negative supervision relationship	1	We need more training on how to 'sell' voluntary polygraph	1		
				It causes anxiety and stress	1	People need to be booked in at earliest stage	1		
				Use of countermeasures	1				

³¹ Numbers of OMs making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 10 since some made multiple comments (e.g., for benefits of the polygraph).

Comparison OMs' views on polygraph use for supervisees and applicants³²

Why have you not been involved in a polygraph?	No of OMs/ 10	Potential benefits of the polygraph	No of OMs/ 10	Potential challenges of the polygraph	No of OMs/ 10	Future polygraph use	No of OMs/ 10
Not yet had an appropriate opportunity to use it	6	Access truth/gather intelligence	5	It will impact on person –make them anxious or annoyed	7	Should continue and become mandatory	7
My supervisees didn't want to do it	2	Improved risk assessment and management	4	It will increase already high workload	6	Should be used with other types of crimes	8
My force isn't using it	1	Unsure	2	It's voluntary – they won't want to do it	4		
I made a referral but the polygraph wasn't deemed necessary	1	Improved concentration of resources	1	The polygraph is not fool proof/accurate	4		
				It could lead to a negative supervision relationship	1		
				Travelling for the test	1		
				Unsure	1		

³² Numbers of OMs making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 10 since some made multiple comments (e.g., potential benefits of the polygraph).

Polygraph investigative officers' views on polygraph use in police investigations³³

Overall view of polygraph	No of officers/ 10	Challenges of the polygraph	No of officers/ 10	How can the polygraph process be improved?	No of officers/ 10	Future polygraph use with sexual offence suspects	No of officers/ 10	Future polygraph use with other suspects	No of officers/ 10
Does not help investigation/ can't be used as evidence	6	It can't be used to impact the investigation	5	Nothing – don't like it	2	No – shouldn't be used	3	No – shouldn't be used	5
Provided more information /progressed investigation	3	Increases workload for no gain	2	Nothing – it's okay	3	Yes – but only as it is currently being used (more research needed).	5	Yes but only with more research	1
Useful for opening up new investigation/s afeguarding	2	Did not say/was not asked	3	Improve awareness of it as an option	1	Mixed feelings	2	Yes – but only in risk assessment capacity with serious /high risk offences	3
Confirms you are doing the right thing	1			Make it mandatory and trial it	1			Unsure	1
Don't know	1			Give incentives for doing it	1				
				Make polygraphy more available in force	1				
				Get solicitors on board	1				

³³ Numbers of officers making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 10 since some made multiple comments (e.g., overall view of the polygraph).

Comparison investigative officers' views on polygraph use in police investigations³⁴

Why have you not been involved in a polygraph?	No of officers/ 10	Potential benefits of the polygraph	No of officers/ 10	Potential challenges of the polygraph	No of officers/ 10	Future polygraph use with suspects of sexual offending	No of officers/ 10	Future polygraph use with other suspects	No of officers/ 10
It wasn't applicable in my cases	3	Yes – intelligence building/safeguarding	6	You can't use it as evidence	5	Yes – continue using	5	Yes – but not mandatory	3
I didn't know you could use it	2	No – you can't use as evidence	3	It's voluntary in nature	5	Yes – but only if polygraph is allowed in court	2	Yes – but only for high risk or serious cases	2
I tried but it never happened	2	Unsure	1	Getting it integrated within the police	1	Don't know	3	No	2
I'm too new/not yet confident	2			Use of countermeasures	1			Don't know	2
Unavailable in force	1			Medical issues affect polygraph	1			Not asked	1
				Time	1				

³⁴ Numbers of officers making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 10 since some made multiple comments (e.g., potential challenges of polygraph).

Polygraphers' views on polygraph use by the Police³⁵

Skills/knowledge polygraphers need	No of poly ³⁶ /10	Further Training Required?	No of poly/10	Benefits of the polygraph	No of poly/10	Downsides	No of poly/10	Other concerns raised	No of poly/10
Interview skills	8	No - ongoing training/support is good	8	People open up/tell the truth	8	None	6	None	1
Social skills/ability to build rapport	6	Yes – training on ARMS	1	Aids risk assessment/management	9	Polygraph voluntary not mandatory	3	Space issues (eg noisy police stations)	6
Ability to empathise	2	Yes – general interview training	1	Justifies police decision making	2	Use of counter-measures	2	Workload unmanageable	3
Previous police experience/knowledge of legal system	2			Reduces police workload	1	Public negativity towards polygraph	1	Getting polygraph embedded in Police	2
Organisation skills	2					Increased work for OMs	1	No shows	2
Report writing skills	1					Managing expectations	1	Maintaining objectivity	2
Confidence	1							Lack of OM referrals	1
Patience	1							Polygraph funding ending	1
Understanding of science	1							Failed test – no disclosure	1
Understanding of technology	1							Bureaucracy	1

³⁵ Numbers of polygraphers making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 10 since some made multiple comments (e.g., other concerns raised).

³⁶ Poly = polygraphers

Polygraph supervisees' and applicants' views on polygraph use during supervision³⁷

Views on polygraph	No of respondents/ 16	Effect on Supervision	No of respondents/ 16	Effect on Behaviour	No of respondents / 16	Improvements to the experience	No of respondents/ 16	Future polygraph use	No of respondents/ 16
Doing test for first time was stressful/anxiety provoking	12	No effect	9	No real effect	7	Allow an external support person	4	Continue using for sexual offence supervisees/ap plicants	7
Doing the test was more comfortable the second or third time around	2	There was more trust afterwards	4	Don't trust police – won't cooperate	4	Clarity over test result	4	Not sure about continuing with sexual offence supervisees/ap plicants	3
It's mostly accurate	8	There was less trust afterwards	2	Made life easier in some way	3	Clarity over whether polygraph is mandatory or voluntary	5	Don't continue with sexual offence supervisees/ap plicants – it's not accurate	3
It's not at all accurate	6	I came off register as a result	1	I have become more insular – I don't go out	1	Discuss test outcome face to face with OM soon after	6	Not asked question	3
I'm open minded regarding accuracy	2			I did another test to show I was telling the truth	1			It should be used with other types of offences	7
Professionally conducted	6								

³⁷ Numbers of respondents making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 16 since some made multiple comments (e.g., views on polygraph).

Comparison supervisees' views on polygraph use during supervision³⁸

Views on polygraph	No of supervisees/4	Possible effect on supervision	No of supervisees/4	Future polygraph use	No of supervisees/4
It's mostly accurate	2	No effect	2	Continue using for sexual offence supervisees	2
It's not at all accurate	2	Depends on result	1	Don't continue with sexual offence supervisees – it's not accurate	1
I've never been offered a polygraph but if I was I would refuse	2	Less trust afterwards	1	Not asked about continuing with sexual offence supervisees	1
I've never been offered a polygraph but would love to do one	1			It shouldn't be used with other types of offences	2
I would take a polygraph but can't on medical grounds	1			Not asked about other offence types	2
Nervous if I had to do a polygraph test	2				

³⁸ Numbers of supervisees making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 4 since some made multiple comments (e.g., views on polygraph).

Suspects' views on polygraph use in police investigations³⁹

Views on polygraph	No of suspects/ 3	Impact on investigation experience	No of suspects/ 3	Future use of polygraph	No of suspects/ 3
I'm unsure if it's accurate	2	Time will tell	1	Continue using it	2
It's not at all accurate	1	Test was halted – no impact	1	Continue using with suspects of other types of offending	2
Professionally conducted	2	No impact	1	Do not use with anyone	1
Experience intimidating	1				
Experience fine	2				
No impact on relationship with Investigative Officer	3				

³⁹ Numbers of suspects making a comment about a particular theme do not always add up to 3 since some made multiple comments (e.g., views on polygraph).