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Dyslexia: An examination of the experiences and perceptions of dyslexic police officers serving in Dorset Police**.**

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

A research study is being conducted at Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) by *Danny Bothwick*

Please refer to our [Research Privacy Notice](https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/university-solicitors-office/data-protection/privacy-notices/privacy-notices.aspx) for more information on how we will use and store your personal data*.*

**Background**

 Dyslexia in police officers is not rare and iit is my intention to undertake research within Dorset Police. The research will take place during a period where police officers and their employers are subject to the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998, and the Equality Act 2010. In the study, I would like to understand how police officers define and understand dyslexia together with their perception and experience.

In this study I am examining the experiences and perceptions of dyslexic police officers in the operational role. I am exploring the issues and challenges that dyslexic police officers face. In 2010 disability discrimination legislation includes disabilities of with dyslexia is included. In this study I am exploring the experiences and perceptions of dyslexic police officers who have joined the police service before and after this change in the law. I am studying for a BA degree in Education and Professional Training. This study began in May 2019 and is expected to be concluded in August 2019.

This is a self-funded research study

**What will you be required to do?**

You have been chosen because you have disclosed to that you identify yourself as being dyslexic, that you have been screened or assessed as dyslexic or that you believe yourself to be dyslexic. You have also been chosen because you are a serving a police officer. It is your experiences and perceptions that are the centre of this study. At this time it is unclear exactly how many other volunteers will participate in this study, however it is possible that up to five others may be selected.

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw from this research at any time and without giving a reason and it will make no difference to the way you are treated.

Firstly, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire. This will include some personal but not intimate questions such as; your name, age, gender, station, force and contact details. It will also contain questions relating to any dyslexia screening or assessment that you may have undertaken since leaving school.

Some weeks later we will meet at a mutually agreed place and time. This may whilst you are on or off duty. I will ask you some questions relating to your experiences and perceptions as a police officer engaged on operational duties. Our discussion (interview) will be digitally recorded. The interview will be transcribed at a later date. Occasionally it may be necessary to seek a brief follow-up interview, either by telephone or face to face.

There is no budget for this research, nor any funding for the time that you complete the questionnaire or interview. Light refreshments will be available at the interview and the interviews will be conducted at a place, date and time of mutual agreement. During the transcription phase of this study and subsequent publication I may wish to use a number of verbatim quotes or extracts from the interview. I will ensure, as far as is possible, that these quotes or extracts maintain your anonymity and do not compromise your confidentiality.

When this research began there was little if any published research regarding dyslexia within Dorset Police. It was the researcher’s experience that some dyslexic police officers were treated very well in the operational role; however it was reported that many dyslexic police officers experienced difficulty operationally and some resigned very early in their service. This research is believed to be the first structured academic examination of the experiences and perceptions of dyslexic officers, tutor constables, supervisors and managers in the UK. There is no promise that this study will help you personally, but the information I get might help improve individual and organisational understanding of dyslexic adults in the police service, their tutors, supervisors and managers.

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with during the study or any possible distress you might suffer will be addressed. The detailed information on this is given in Part 2.

All the information about your participation in this study will be kept confidential. The details are included in Part 2.

Participants in this study will be required to:

1. Complete a questionnaire
2. Agree to be interviewed
3. Agree for the contents of the interview be recorded and included in a final thesis. A copy of which will be held by the university

**To participate in this research you must:**

1. **Be over 18 years of age**
2. **Be a Police officer employed by Dorset Police**
3. **Been assessed as being dyslexic**
4. You will have to give up interview time with no financial reward. It is possible that when the results of this research are published it may generate debate within Dorset Police.

**Procedures**

You will be asked to answer question relating:

1. Your dyslexia
2. Family history
3. Primary schooling
4. Educational background
5. University
6. Your experience of being dyslexic and a police officer.

**Feedback**

1. You will be able to view your transcript
2. You will be able to amend any inaccuracies in the transcript
3. You may request an interview with the researcher to discuss any aspect of the research.

**Confidentiality and Data Protection**

The following categories of personal data (as defined by the [General Data Protection Regulation](https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/) (GDPR)) will be processed:

* *The following personal data categories that will be collected and processed are: Name, age, DOB, Gender, Rank, Family history, work history, Education history, and Current role*.

We have identified that the public interest in processing the personal data is:

* *The processing of personal data is necessary to produce a full analysis of participants >.* Personal data will be used  *Personal data is to be used in the context of providing a statistical analysis within the research>*.
* **What will happen if I don’t want to carry on with the study?**
* If you withdraw from this study all of the data and personal information will be destroyed without delay. I may seek your permission to retain and use some elements of your contribution; however I will comply with your wishes. Your details will be removed and deleted from the secure IT storage device used to store the audio recordings, scanned questionnaires and subsequent transcriptions. You will receive written confirmation when this has been completed. You can withdraw at any time and without offering any reason. This can be done in writing, via email or in person.

Data can only be accessed by, or shared with:

* *The following will have access to the research: Canterbury Christ Church University: Supervision, the chair of my supervision and examiners of my research. There is no intention to share the data with. Dorset Police or outside outside the European Economic Area (EEA)* .

The identified period for the retention of personal data for this project:

* *Data will only be stored for the duration of the research and subsequent examination.* .

If you would like to obtain further information related to how your personal data is processed for this project please contact *Main researcher: Danny Bothwick: e-mail:* *danny.bothwick@dorset.pnn.police.uk* *Work Mobile 07926075400* .

You can read further information regarding how the University processes your personal data for research purposes at the following link: Research Privacy Notice - <https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/university-solicitors-office/data-protection/privacy-notices/privacy-notices.aspx>

**Dissemination of results**

All the information about your participation in this study will be kept confidential. The details are included in Part 2.

*The results of the research will be published in the form of a thesis, which Canterbury Christ Church University will hold a copy of in their CCCU library*

**Process for withdrawing consent to participate**

You are free to withdraw your consent to participate in this research project at any time without having to give a reason.

**What if there is a problem?**

If you have any concerns or wish to make a complaint regarding your participation in this research study, you should direct your concern or complaint to the principal researcher Danny Bothwick. If however your complaint relates to Danny Bothwick or you do not feel able for any reason to contact him you may contact his Research Supervisor, Dr Ian Jasper of Canterbury Christ Church University. His contact details are included in Part 1 of this information sheet.

**Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?**

As far as is reasonably practicable and with all due diligence on behalf of the principal researcher and university supervision team. All information which is collected about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. The collection, handling, storing, using or destroying of data will not contravene the legal or regulatory requirements of any part of the UK. Specifically the requirements of the Data Protection Act will be fully met regarding all data collected in this study. Prior to interview you will be invited to review and check for accuracy any information that the researcher has created and stored about you. You can request to see any information relating to you at any time during this study and up to five years after it is completed. Any disclosure by participants, other than those which amount to criminal conduct, will not be acted upon or reported by the researcher. This is so that the participant and researcher can have open and candid discussions without the fear of being reported for disclosing something inappropriate.

**What will happen to the results of the research study?**

The results of this research will be published initially in the form of a BA thesis. Electronic copies will be sent to the supervising tutors for review and marking. The submission of the thesis is expected to take place in August 2019. If you would like access to the thesis following submission please contact Danny Bothwick.

It is the intention of the researcher that this study should be used to raise awareness of dyslexia within Dorset Police.

**Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research is the original and independent work of Danny Bothwick. The research is being conducted with and supervised by Canterbury Christ Church University. The research was self-funded by the researcher Danny Bothwick.

**Who will review the research?**

This research will be reviewed both by the MA supervision team and by Canterbury Christchurch University; Education Facility School of Teacher Education Ethics Committee.

**Thank You.**

Unless you have any further questions, Thank You for taking the time to read this information. I appreciate it very much. If you would now like to take part in this research study please sign and date the attached consent forms. You will be given a personal copy of the forms to take with you for your future reference.

You may read further information on your rights relating to your personal data at the following link: Research Privacy Notice - <https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/university-solicitors-office/data-protection/privacy-notices/privacy-notices.aspx>

**Any questions?**

**Please contact:** Danny Bothwick. E-mail: danny.bothwick@dorset.pnn.police.uk

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Supervision: Dr Ian Jasper; Work Mobile: 07834745037. E-mail: ian.jasper@canterbury.ac.uk

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