Building Better Relationships (BBR) — England and Wales's Accredited Probation Programme for Partner-Violence Offenders, Run at Scale Without an Impact Evaluation (Cautionary Case)

Gender Equality · Good practice · United Kingdom

Quality score: 48/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

HMPPS's accredited cognitive-behavioural programme for men convicted of partner violence. 33,063 started it in the community in 2013/14–2019/20. A 2023 MoJ feasibility study found only 1 of 21 providers had broadly kept programme integrity, so there is still no impact evaluation.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	1/3
Impact on gender equality	0/1
Effectiveness	0/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	0/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-16

HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) — accessed 2026-11-16

MoJ (2023) — Evaluating the BBR programme: feasibility study — accessed 2026-11-16

MoJ report PDF — accessed 2026-11-16

Renehan & Gadd (2024), British Journal of Criminology 64(5) — accessed 2026-11-16

Transform Justice (2021) — 15,180 completions, no impact evaluation — accessed 2026-11-16

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