Dissertation Draft

# Introduction:

The implementation of lockdown protocols by the United Kingdom Government on 26th March 2020 created a unique environment by restricting movement among non-essential workers and limiting social contact (Johnson, 2020). The primary reason was to reduce the spread of the disease and ease the burden on the National Health Service. However, the effects of this lockdown spread to all sectors, including hospitality, construction, education, travel, and the judicial system (ONS, 2020). From March 26th 2020 lockdown measures legally came into force and the UK police were given extra enforcement powers to reduce the spread of coronavirus, including the ability to instruct members of the public to return home or leave an area (UK Gov, 2020). The lockdown required non-essential shops such as pubs and clothing stores to close and for non-essential workers to work from home if possible. Those that could not work from home were furloughed, with one in four people that had been employees having been on furlough at some point between March 2020 and June 2021 (ONS, 2021). Lockdown restrictions gradually relaxed, with restrictions being eased fully in August 2020. However, Coronavirus cases started to rise again with a new 3-tier system being introduced in October 2020. The UK entered a second national lockdown on November 5th 2020 which lasted for 4 weeks. Tougher restrictions were then announced for London and South East England over the Christmas period, with a new tier 4 “Stay at Home” alert level. More regions of England enter the tier 4 level after Christmas, until the third national lockdown occurs on January 6th 2021. This lasts until March 29th 2021, when the “Stay at Home” order ends but people are encouraged to stay local. From this point onwards, restrictions are gradually relaxed with non-essential shops reopening and most legal limits on social contact are removed on July 19th 2021.   
This report investigates the effects of the national lockdowns on crime rates and more specifically arrest outcomes over the full coronavirus period of March 2020 to August 2021.

# Bibliography:

Johnson, B. 2020. Prime Minister’s statement on coronavirus 25th March. Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus (COVID-19): 25 March 2020 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) accessed [29/06/22]   
Langton, S. Dixon, A. Farrell, G. 2021. Six months in: Pandemic Crime trends in England and Wales. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40163-021-00142-z> accessed [29/06/22]  
Office for National Statistics (ONS), 2021 An overview of workers who were furloughed in the UK. Link: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/articles/anoverviewofworkerswhowerefurloughedintheuk/october2021> accessed [29/06/22]  
Office for National Statistics (ONS), 2020. The impact of the coronavirus so far: the industries that struggled or recovered. Link:  
UK Gov. 2020. Police given new powers and support to respond to coronavirus. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/police-given-new-powers-and-support-to-respond-to-coronavirus> accessed [29/06/22]