

Keeping Up With Advances in Technology

Driver – Technology

Related Drivers –Counter Terrorism, Collection and Storage of Personal Information, E-Crime / Cybercrime, Fraud, Organised Crime, Recession, Reducing Bureaucracy, Collaborative Working, Demand Management, Efficiency, Procurement, Public Sector Productivity, Border Security & Immigration, DNA Advances in Technology, Facial Recognition, Mobile Technology, Data Mining, 2012 Olympics, Public Confidence in Policing

Background

In his *Review of Criminality Information* Sir Ian Magee recommended that organisations in the Public Protection Network should ensure that arrangements are in place to keep abreast of technology development, its application and its acceptability via horizon scanning, technology evaluation and impact analysis.¹ Business process and models also need to change to keep pace with what technology can do.

For example, the technology exists to locate, scan and search finger marks from a crime scene and potentially identify a suspect in less than 30 minutes so that the arresting officer could be waiting outside the perpetrator's last known address when he/she returns. However, existing business processes preclude this, therefore officers at crime scenes cannot react as quickly as the technology would allow.

The custody suite is another area where the use of technology has increased dramatically in the last few years. However, much of the technology is not joined up, and without this, and business process redesign, the job of the custody sergeant is still difficult.¹

Potential Skills Needs

Technical skills – staff to stay up to date with advancements in technology to maximise the use of the new tools available

IT process management skills – ensure new technologies integrate with current systems to maximise effectiveness

¹ [Magee, Sir Ian \(2008\) *The Review of Criminality Information*. London: Home Office.](#)