

Crime Recording

Driver – Technology

Related Drivers – Reducing Bureaucracy, Efficiency, Public Sector Productivity, Mobile Technology, Conservative Party Policing Reform, Safeguarding Children, Race & Hate Crime

Background

The National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS) was adopted by all police forces in 2002 to promote greater consistency between forces in recording crime. The result has been an improvement in the quality of crime recording, but proportionality has been lost in terms of recording the details of incidents and crimes of varying severity or seriousness.

In the Review of Policing it is suggested forces move to a new two-tiered approach to crime and incident recording based on the following areas:

- **Serious:** these offences represent 20% of all crime and should be fully recorded. Success will be measured by bringing offenders to justice and supporting victims' needs.
- **Local:** this broad category represents 80% of all crime and should be recorded in a much more concise way. The approach would be measured by resolutions, public satisfaction and confidence rates. ¹

This will cause a reduction in overall data available and will require careful management at a local level. A streamlined recording process was trialled at the beginning of 2008 for a four month period. A structured project is also being undertaken to address the lack of proportionate response in the service and to create a community focused performance regime for local crime. These proposals are implemented initially by the Staffordshire, Leicestershire, West Midlands and Surrey forces and will be evaluated by the NPIA.

This new initiative in crime recording, introduced in the *Interim*² and *Final Review of Policing*, is also being backed through the *Policing Green Paper*³ and the Government Response to the Green Paper⁴.

Potential Skills Needs

Change management skills – manage change at both an organisational and personal level effectively

Data recording skills – in regard to new crime recording standards

¹ [Flanagan, Sir Ronnie \(2008\) *The Review of Policing: Final Report*. London: Home Office.](#)

² [Flanagan, Sir Ronnie \(2007\) *Independent Review of Policing: Interim Report*. London: Home Office.](#)

³ [Home Office \(2008\) *From the Neighbourhood to the National: Policing our communities together – Summary of Green Paper consultation responses and next steps*. Ref 291441, London: Home Office.](#)

⁴ [Home Office \(2008\) *From the Neighbourhood to the National: Policing our communities together*. Cm 7448, London: The Stationery Office Ltd.](#)