

Facial Recognition Technology

Driver – Technology

Related Drivers – Anti-Social Behaviour, Counter Terrorism, Collection and Storage of Personal Information, Neighbourhood Policing, Organised Crime, Collaborative Working Between Forces, Procurement, CCTV, Incident Management, Information Sharing, Mobile Technology, Advances in Technology, 2012 Olympics, Public Confidence in the Police, Jean Charles de Menzes Shooting, Youth Crime

Background

A facial recognition database is being developed to use facial recognition technology to match CCTV images with details of offenders. The system is being developed in a pilot scheme involving Lancashire, West Yorkshire and Merseyside Constabularies. The database currently has over 750,000 facial images after 18 months of collection.¹

Presently, officers in the three forces are able to search electronic photos of offenders in their area to match them with CCTV. Some other forces have been given 'read-only' access. The technology is still at an early stage and not yet able to search on the scale needed for a national database.

The aim for the future is to have all forces store images on a central national database to give immediate access for intelligence and investigation.

Potential Skills Needs

Data collection and management skills – recording and collecting facial recognition data in line with a particular system / database

Data analysis skills – analysis of intelligence from facial recognition databases

IT skills – in the use of facial recognition software

¹ [NPIA \(May 2008\) NPIA Digest. London: NPIA p6.](#)