

## Cityforum 2022 Digital Forensics Series

A programme of virtual discussions and live events (conditions allowing), concluding with a summary report

Website Draft Agenda

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This timely programme, prepared with police and Home Office guidance, looks at what can be done, at pace to improve the quality of the digital forensics work that is essential to the accomplishment of the policing mission in a highly digitised world. While a number of factors are currently causing delays in investigations and prosecutions (and therefore potentially injustice to victims), lack of digital forensics capacity and capability is an important element; unless resolved the reputation of the British criminal justice system will be undermined.

In two virtual sessions, at a top-level dinner, and in a full day of in-person discussions, this Cityforum project will explore government priorities and the strategic and spending requirements needed to secure improved performance. Current backlogs require urgent action. Future growth in demand will also need to be faced as the digital dimension of crime poses new and complex challenges to those working in the criminal justice system and to the politicians and officials responsible for the protection of the citizen and the wider community.

The Policing Minister keynotes, and the panels, which include serving officers, officials, criminal justice spokesmen, regulators, standards setters and experts from industry and research, are in a position to make a serious contribution to capability and performance.

The police service is unlikely to be able to develop and maintain within its ranks the necessary skills and capabilities in digital forensics; as a result, the contribution of the private sector is and will remain crucial. The agenda offers an opportunity for realistic discussion of how the police and business can work together to mutual advantage, to do what is required, at scale and at speed, and to get ahead of the game in meeting the new threats as technology changes.

The question of what must be done nationally and what must remain local in a system that has so many centres of authority is a fundamental one for digital forensics as it is for other areas of policing. 2022 will see the establishment of the NPCC Digital Evidence Programme and the agenda will look at the benefits, prospects and the pitfalls of this new direction of travel. Structures, governance, finance, skills, partnerships, regulation and accreditation all feature prominently on this Cityforum agenda which will also place great emphasis on the need for consistency. The previous Cityforum digital programme held just ahead of the pandemic was well received. The purpose of this series is to help work out what can actually be accomplished in the first three years of the new programme.

**Date: Thursday 28 April 2022 14:00-16:00 - COMPLETED**

**Webinar One: Digital Forensics in Policing – where do we need to be?**

*Opening comments from the chair*

Sir Craig Mackey former Deputy Commissioner Metropolitan Police Service; Associate Cityforum

**Confirmed**

*APCC positioning on digital forensics*

Mr Darryl Preston PCC Cambridgeshire Constabulary **Confirmed**

*The new Digital Forensics Programme*

Chief Constable Nick Dean Cambridgeshire Constabulary; *Lead for Forensics* NPCC **Confirmed**

*Clever thinking in a rapidly changing environment*

Ms Nina Sunde *Police Superintendent* The Norwegian Police University College **Confirmed**

Mr Giles Herdale *Independent Expert in Digital Investigation & Data Ethics (on ethical considerations)* **Confirmed**

*Contributing to the meeting of basic requirements*

Mr Marc Lees *Director Digital Evidence Management* Magnet Forensics **Confirmed**

Followed by a round table discussion chaired by Sir Craig Mackey with opening comments on the way ahead from Chief Constable Nick Dean

**Date: Tuesday 17 May 2022 14:00-16:00**

**Webinar Two: Securing delivery – making police digital forensics match fit**

*What are the basics we need to get right?*

Ms Mary Calam *former Director General of Crime & Policing* Home Office; *Associate* Cityforum **Confirmed**

*How national working can most contribute to local capability and performance*

Ms Jo Ashworth *Chief Executive Officer* Forensic Capability Network **Confirmed**

Deputy Chief Constable Paul Gibson *Lead for Digital Forensics* NPCC **Confirmed**

*The College and capabilities*

Ms Sarra Fotheringham *Policing Standards Manager Digital & Cyber* College of Policing **Confirmed**

*Encouraging new thinking*

Mr Steve Rick *CEO* Forensic Analytics **Confirmed**

*What the Home Office can contribute*

Mr Alex Macdonald *Deputy Director for Identity Policy* Data and Identity Directorate Home Office **Confirmed**

Followed by a round table discussion chaired by Ms Mary Calam

**Date: Wednesday 22 June 2022 - BT Headquarters, 1 Braham Street, London, E1 8EP - 10:00-16:00**

**Live Summit: Achieving delivery through collaboration and partnerships**

*What have we learned from previous events?*

Mr James Vaughan *former Chief Constable* Dorset & *former Lead for Forensics* NPCC **Confirmed**

*Reflections on a whole system challenge*

Mr Mike Hill *Director of Police & Public Protection Technology* Home Office (until June 2022); *Chief Digital and Information Officer* Cabinet Office (from June 2022) **Confirmed**

*Making sure individual forces and ROCUs can work together*

Chief Constable Stephen Jupp *Suffolk Police; NPCC SOC Lead* **Confirmed**

*Working with and through PDS*

Mr Tony Blaker *Programme Director* NPCC Digital Evidence Programme **Confirmed**

*Assuring ourselves that collaboration can work*

ACE/Vivace to be invited

Lunch guest address

Mr Colin Smith *Head of Digital Forensics* HMRC **Confirmed**

*Meeting the challenges of improved performance*

Mr Tom Gash *Senior Fellow* Institute for Government **Confirmed**

*Change, complexity and the role of industry*

An industry panellist

with Ms Julie Henderson *Detective Superintendent* Bedfordshire Police **Confirmed**

*Change, complexity and police performance*

A view from a Chief Constable and PCC

Day to include two round table discussions, one including Deputy Chief Constable Paul Gibson *Lead for Digital Forensics* NPCC **Confirmed** and Ms Joanne Ashworth *Chief Executive Officer* Forensic Capability Network **Confirmed** and the other to have an industry, technology and collaboration focus.

Day to be chaired by Mr James Vaughan

The series will also cover regulation, governance, performance and accreditation which will be explored through a podcast.