Have you got what it takes?

Police.uk: the national website for information and services regarding crime and policing

Home Office

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Important Facts

Police.uk is a Home Office website that provides the public with a range of helpful information and services relating to crime, policing and justice outcomes, in an accessible format that enables them to identify local issues.

Police.uk provides crime and anti-social behaviour data for all police forces in England and Wales, Northern Ireland and the British Transport Police (BTP).

The public can access details of their local neighbourhood policing teams and Police and Crime Commissioner, find out about crime in their area, compare the performance of their local force with others and much more.

Since its launch, there have been over 65 million unique visits to the site and over 450,000 visitors a month on average.

All the data that is used on Police.uk is published on data.police.uk and is available for the public to use.

Background

> "Transparency is at the heart of our agenda for Government. We recognise that transparency and open data can be a powerful tool to help reform public services, foster innovation and empower citizens."
>
> **David Cameron, Prime Minister**

In May 2010, the Prime Minister set out the Government's plans to open up data and information to the public. This included the commitment to publish detailed local crime data statistics every month. Police.uk was launched in 2011 and is now one of the most popular government websites.

Developments

Police.uk has been enhanced since its launch in response to users' demands, policy developments and technological changes. A timeline of developments is presented below:

October 2011 – Introduction of more detailed crime categories and a link provided to HMIC's Crime Comparator tool.

January 2012 – Improved accuracy, Points of Interest added to maps and British Transport Police data added.

May 2012 – Justice outcomes information added.

October 2012 – Introduction of the "Compare Your Area" tool and the publication of PCC election information in advance of the November elections.

December 2012 – Crime maps extended to include the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

January 2013 – "Draw Your Own Area" tool, "See your Stats" tool and basic information about PCCs added.

June 2013 – Launch of data.police.uk, a new open data portal for Police.uk data.

November 2013 – Comprehensive re-launch of Police.uk, including new personalised crime maps, e-mail alerts, new tools for police performance comparison and updates to crime prevention advice

March 2014 – The Ministry of Justice pilots TrackMyCrime, a new service to enable victims to track cases, with the intention to make it available to all forces in due course.

April 2014 – Police recorded crime and police outcomes published.

August 2014 – Stop and search data published on data.police.uk regularly to show how fairly and effectively forces are using stop and search powers.

October 2014 – The majority of police performance data collected as part of the Annual Data Requirement is published on data.police.uk and 101 call handling performance is published.

December 2014 – Stop and search mapping pilots on Police.uk commenced with West Mercia and Nottinghamshire Police.

August 2015 – Online crime reporting piloted to enable the public to report crimes or incidents to their local police forces online.

September 2015 – Procurement information published to allow the public to see how much their local force spends

October 2015 – A new diversity profile published to show how the ethnicity and gender of police officers compares with that of the population of the area they serve

More Information

To meet the public's evolving needs, Police.uk functionalities and services will need to be continually revised and upgraded. Current developments include:

- **New features such as a key word search facility and Welsh language option.**

- **Interactive tools and social media functionality to support accountability and engagement between local people, the police and PCCs.**

The existing contract for Police.uk expires in July 2016. Ahead of that date, the Home Office is working with policing partners to review the existing service to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the public and police.

How can Police.uk help PCCs?

Police.uk has become a valuable resource for PCCs, supporting their engagement with local people.

Information about the role of PCCs, with their names, photos and contact details is available on the website.