

NEWS RELEASE



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Citizens-centred services key to policing by cooperation

New technology can transform community justice by redefining the relationship between services and the citizen, according to Northgate Information Solutions.

In a response to the Home Office's green paper on policing, Northgate however warned that change management strategies must be put in place before technology can add value. Staff should be prepared, the impact on service development analysed and pre-emptive measures put in place to deal with any new demand.

Speaking today, David Meaden, Managing Director of Northgate Public Services, said:

"New technology can be a powerful tool to encourage collaboration at a local level. We all of us have a responsibility to prevent and reduce crime, and the police service alone cannot deliver safer neighbourhoods.

"There is no one-size fits all solution to policing. Local flexibility should operate within a national framework. This allows citizens to benefit from local initiatives and engagement, safe in the knowledge that they are not subject to a postcode lottery."

-ENDS-

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Notes to editors

1. Northgate is a technology services company with a difference. It is committed to high quality public services and understands the public sector. That knowledge is core to its business.
2. Northgate's task is to enhance public sector value through intelligent use of people and information technology systems and to share in the economic and social benefits that this brings.
3. Northgate assists local authorities and the police to promote community well-being by helping them provide citizens with accessible and responsive one-stop services. Northgate is the country's leading provider of penalty notice systems.