



research school of **informatics**

Project Title:	Mobilising the information and knowledge environment within the Leicestershire Constabulary
Student Name:	Rachael Lindsay
Supervisor Name:	Dr Tom Jackson & Dr Louise Cooke
Start/End Date:	July 2007 – July 2010
Funding Source:	Loughborough University
Department:	Information Science

Project Description:

After completing a degree in Information Management and Computing at Loughborough, I developed a particular interest in the application of knowledge management to real world problems.

I intend to take this interest further by applying knowledge management principles to the achievement of the Leicestershire Constabulary's policing objectives. Police organisations are highly knowledge intensive. Recently, the government has invested £50 million of public money into a mobile information technologies initiative for UK police forces as a result of recent speech from the Prime Minister to equip 10,000 police officers with handheld computers by the end of 2008. Mobilising information and knowledge processes of policing organisations will grant police officers direct access to information previously accessed only by radio communications or by returning to a police station to use a desktop computer; where police officers can access information related to entities such as suspects, car registrations, warrants of arrest and will be able to record statements, view photographs and capture signatures and fingerprints electronically while on the go. Consequently, the highly bureaucratic nature of policing may be altered, by reducing the need for lengthy paper-based processes and call operators to relay information. As such, this is leading towards possible realisation of a theoretical 'mobile knowledge management' concept within the policing arena.

The project aims to optimise and evaluate the mobilisation of information and knowledge processes within the Leicestershire Constabulary. In doing so, it aims to gain a theoretical understanding of knowledge management within a policing context. It is intended that the research will help to identify the reuse of crime related information and improve knowledge sharing in police networks, leading to requirements for mobile technologies and crime scene recording.