

Hack the Police 2

The Original UK Policing Hackathon

Executive Summary



Over the weekend of 9-10 December 2017, the UK's original policing hackathon returned for in collaboration with the Goldsmiths University Forensic Psychology Unit, exploring the potential for technology to help police achieve best evidence, improve the quality of the relationship between police and public to support the fight against crime.

With thanks to our supporters:



Thanks also to our media partner, Policing Insight

Overview

Hack the Police was conceived in 2013 by a group of police officers and staff inside the Metropolitan Police who wished to re-energise the service, and demonstrate the benefits of technology and new approaches to policing. In 2017, after a long hiatus, Hack the Police returned - this time in collaboration with the [Forensic Psychology Unit](#) (FPU) at Goldsmiths.

The central goal: to explore new ways for police to work with victims and witnesses.

The event opened to a greeting from the team lead [Edwin Burns](#) (Goldsmiths FPU), and then welcomes from the [Metropolitan Police](#) Commissioner Cressida Dick, and [Katy Bourne](#), PCC for Sussex and the Police IT Company.

Forensic psychologists [Fiona Gabbert](#) and [Gordon Wright](#) lead opening talks, presenting their work on self-administered interviews - designed to help police and public quickly capture and identify important information and key witnesses.

Police officers Daniela Pretelt (Surrey and Sussex) and Sean Penrose (MPS) volunteered their time to help development teams learn about policing, investigations, process, and opportunities for technology to make a difference.

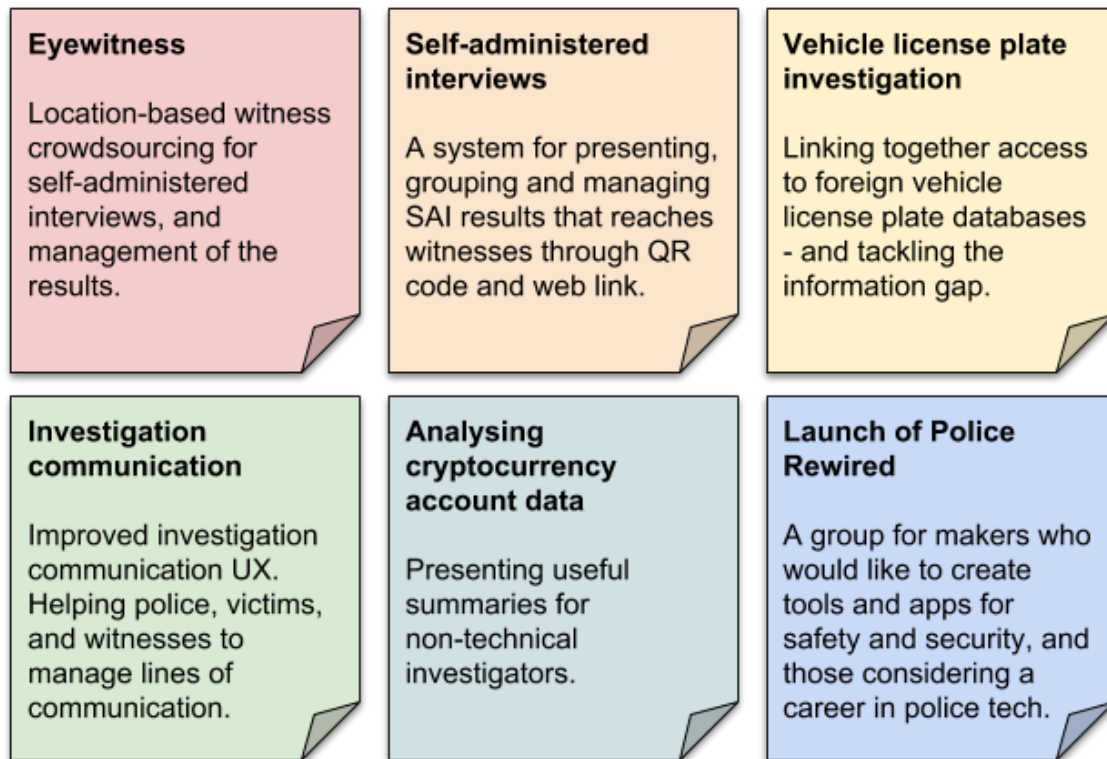


Projects

Approximately 20 developers attended the event, and organically formed into several teams around several projects.

The primary goals and prizes related to SAI, and two teams formed around the challenge of gathering SAIs from the public and delivering them meaningfully to the police.

Other topics included tackling vehicle crime linking fragmented access to license plate databases across Europe, analysing and presenting cryptocurrency account information, and managing complex threads of communication.



Prototypes Developed

During the 36 hour competition, several projects reached demonstration phase - including both self-administered interview tools, the communication threads UX, and the vehicle license plate investigation. These prototypes were presented and demonstrated to the judges and attended.

- Two teams tackled the challenge of distributing, collecting, and managing digital self-administered interviews (SAIs).
- Other teams explored other areas of policing, such as vehicle license plate data, communication between police and witnesses and cryptocurrency accounts.

Prizes and Awards

Prizes were awarded in the following categories:

- Collecting better first-hand evidence, and reducing false suggestions.
- Improving the comfort of citizens and building rapport in the interview room.

The judging panel comprised:

- Fiona Gabbert, Goldsmiths Forensic Psychology Unit
- Gordon Wright, Goldsmiths Forensic Psychology Unit
- Karen Sayer, MPS
- Omar Saad, MPS
- Hayden Pronto-Hussey, MPS

Winners were awarded a framed canvas of the Hack the Police poster, created by internet icon and celebrated graphic artist [HappyToast](#).



Next Steps

2018 marks the launch of [Police Rewired](#), an social enterprise and community of coders, designers and makers who wish to build apps for public safety, or are considering a career in police technology.

Police Rewired will bring together speakers from the police technology industry, investigators, and leaders to hold events that prepare our coders for the challenges of a career in police tech.



Going forwards, the group will also host and promote some of the demos created by teams from Hack the Police, and other tools going forwards. Over the course of 2018, Police Rewired will begin a programme of speaking events, workshops and professional events, as well as promoting vacancies in policing tech organisations to our community as well as seeking out opportunities to work for and with police.

Resources

- Policing Insight 2017-12-04:
[Hack the Police 2: The return of the original UK policing hackathon](#)
- Police Rewired:
 - policecoders.org on the web
 - [Police Rewired](#) on twitter
 - [Police Rewired](#) on facebook

See also:

- [The Police Rewired Makers Community Roadmap 2018](#)
- [The Police Rewired Mission Document](#)
- [The Police Rewired Benefits Pitch](#)