

About PIEL

Policing is facing many contemporary challenges, which has been exacerbated by limited resources, which, in context, is also during rising crime but falling clear up rates; serious offences such as rape stand at an alarmingly low 1.4% rate for prosecution.

PIEL's ethos is about enabling 21st century policing by consent: the police are the public, the police are the public. This context is holistic, anchored around communities, partner agencies and the private and voluntary sectors, to enable place-based societal betterment, particularly in raising community resilience and aspiration by reducing vulnerability and exploitation that the blight of crime brings.

PIEL is also an operational think tank focused on the future, and as part of that raises the limited, transactional ambition of simply trying to fix repeating problems in a reactive fashion, to move the ambition to more sustainable, transformational and strategic solution-focused policing of the future by tackling underlying causes rather than just symptoms. PIEL is about accelerated capabilities that are relevant to operational capacities: it is a creative thinking powerhouse to drive next generation policing performance.

PIEL, in its innovation and enterprise drive, is all about dynamic and agile learning, so that we are relentlessly pushing the existing boundaries of policing policy and practice, to imagine a better future and find practical ways to make that happen. Agile learning is about exploratory inventiveness, from co-problematized ideation through to prototype building: PIEL is a form of modern-day Bletchley Park where researchers work with practitioners creatively to operationalise ingenuity.

PIEL pursues the prevention of crime, and, as first recorded as a strategic aim in 1829, the absence of crime. To do this, PIEL believes policing by consent is the way to realise that potential, through authentic collaboration with local communities, utilising the best evidence-based practices of health-based and restorative approaches from across the globe.

PIEL seeks to drive policing learning through contemporary approaches to dynamic and lifelong learning that align theory with practice, just as teaching hospitals have done within the health sector, which not only makes learning more relevant and effective but more transparent, meaning trust and confidence in policing can be improved. Such a dynamic empowers an invention laboratory ethos for continual improvement, taking the entrepreneurial initiative away from criminals.

PIEL drives critical reflection, by drawing on global research and practice from around the world to continually challenge and stretch effective performance in a changing landscape where yesterday's mere compliance is never good enough for tomorrow's emergent need. The difference is this: where others passively observe and curate out of date data, PIEL's insistent and proactive focus is all about tomorrow, where we continually drive better policing with no boundaries other than our bold imagination.