



# VIDEO ENABLED JUSTICE

## VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

**Tony Blaker: Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police**  
Video Enabled Justice is a program that we're running from the office of the Sussex police and crime commissioner and it's in Kent, Surrey, Sussex and it will be Norfolk and Suffolk as well

**Katy Bourne: Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner**  
It came about from an idea of why can't we do what we need to do better? And why can't we as a criminal justice system work more effectively together

**Tim Godwin: Accenture**  
The VEJ as a policy proposal from the courts and the police has been in existence now for quite a few years but it's never actually been able to be delivered at an industrial scale, sufficient to drive out the obvious benefits you get from a video enabled Justice

**Tony Blaker: Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police**  
What we found is there are inefficiencies and issues around some of the qualities and some of the processes and how these things happened locally

**Tim Godwin, Accenture**  
The reason for that is the technology wasn't user-friendly, the technology wasn't done for the users such as custody officers, legal bench managers and so what's being built for the Sussex police crime commissioner is the digital tools that enable that take place.

**Tony Blaker: Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police**  
So video enabled justice as a program is trying to make sure that there are standards around

the quality of the hearings, the technology, the audio, the video, how the defendant is introduced into the hearing so they understand what's happening,

**Tim Godwin, Accenture**  
The first thing was to actually get agreement... I thought it was a big step that the police crime commissioner could convene the courts with the probation service, with the Crown Prosecution Service and the police to work together collaboratively.

**Katy Bourne; Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner**  
I haven't seen any programs so far that have worked across so many different Partners in criminal Justice and actually started to deliver on the ground as this program is already doing and it's only because of the will of all partners to move in the right direction

**Tony Blaker: Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police**  
All transformation is difficult because you are taking the people from an existing set way of working, with a comfortable.. familiar with the location where they work

**Tim Godwin, Accenture**  
I think the other thing which was very good strategic decision was to start small and then scale up

**Katy Bourne; Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner**  
This is about taking that technology and making even more efficient than it currently is - so that



all the bureaucracy around the system actually is a lot more efficient. We talk about a criminal justice system but actually it's almost like it's individual systems and what we're trying to do with this is make everybody work together more efficiently and more effectively and ultimately it's a better experience for everybody.

Tony Blaker: Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police

We have put that the new technology into the court in Medway, in Kent and 2,276 hearings have been heard over the last 8 months, about 80% of them during the week

I have seen great improvements in the way that the hearing are being held, the consistency of the hearings and we are starting to see some real benefits in terms of getting cases dealt with promptly and effectively.

Katy Bourne; Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner

You know we're not at the end state yet but using the tool that we use within video enabled Justice that allows the booking system to move more smoothly and that takes that sort of physical interaction out

Tony Blaker: Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police

There's been a great investment from the police transformation fund through the Sussex police and crime commissioners office ...to really progress this at pace and when people see that you can have a really efficient system where you can give quality justice to people using video it makes common sense for the criminal justice system to spend this money as effectively as it can.

Katy Bourne: Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner

This is really quite forward thinking so that's the exciting part about it... video enabled justice for me is about enabling access to justice for everybody.

Tony Blaker: Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police

If you read the Crown service model, published by HM Courts and Tribunal Services video hearings, the use of video is a key component of how we'll deliver criminal justice in the future so we hope to provide the basis of an effective use of video in the 21st Century for a reformed Courts & Tribunal Service working with our partners.

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