



Restorative Justice and Law Enforcement

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Thames Valley Police Area

- Population – 2.2 millions
- Area – 2,220 square miles
- Consists of the 3 historical counties of
 - Berkshire
 - Buckinghamshire
 - Oxfordshire
- Aim – *Working with our communities to reduce crime, disorder and fear as the leading, caring and professional police service*
- Use of ‘service’ instead of ‘force’



Police Force or Police Service?

Police 'Force'

- The 'Vicious Cycle'
- Reactive
- Narrow, law enforcement focus
- Militaristic
- Hierarchical
- 'Blame culture'
- Backward looking
- Reliant on 'tradition'
- Rule tightening

Police 'Service'

- The 'Virtuous Cycle'
- Problem-solving
- Wider, community safety focus
- Individual responsibility and accessibility
- Acknowledges and learns from mistakes
- Forward looking
- Encourages innovation
- Rights of victims, witnesses and communities



Long Term Priorities

- To reduce crime and increase detections
- To reduce the fear of crime and increase community and road safety
- To provide accessible, responsive, visible and highly-skilled policing
- To engage fully with the public and partners in making Thames Valley safer

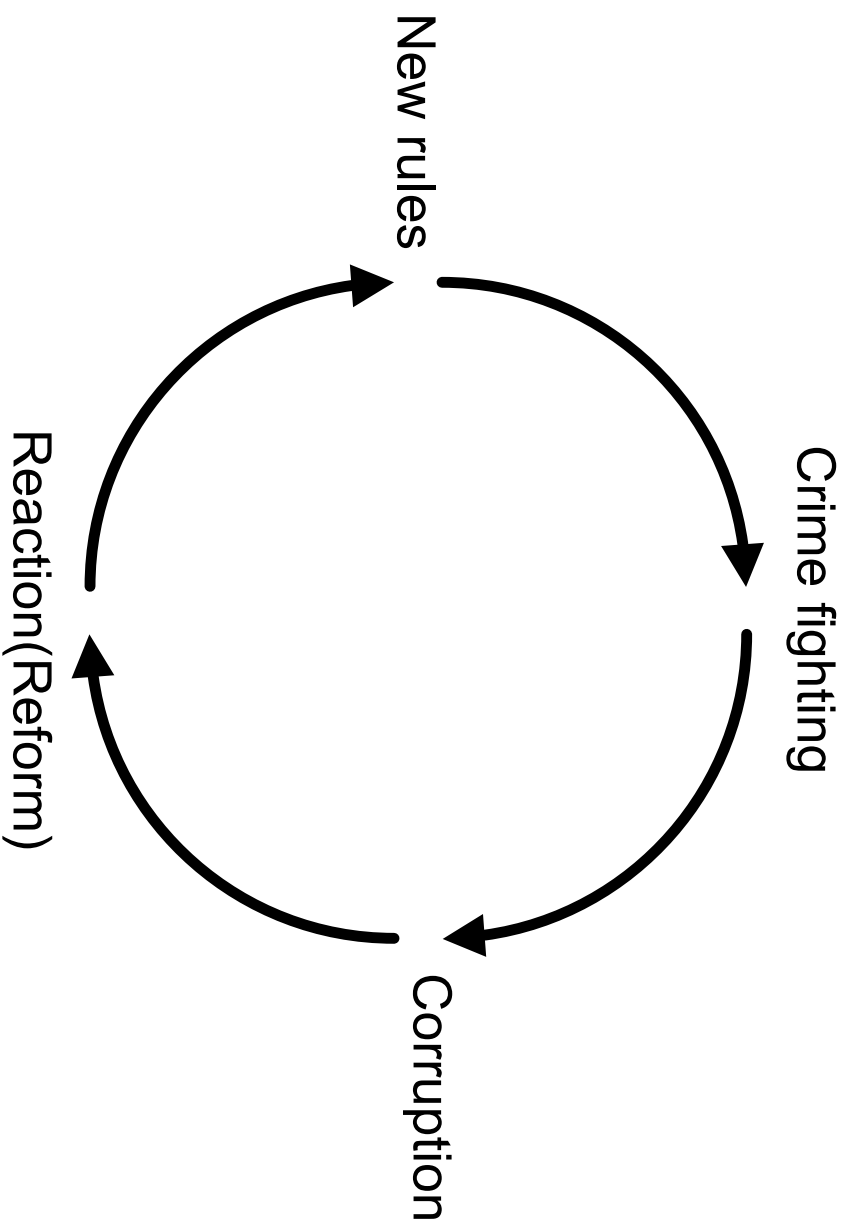


Dilemmas Facing 21st Century Policing

- Increasing globalisation and transnationalism
- A 'New World Order', or disorder
- Rapid technological and social change
- The consequent pressure for security and 'greying' or privatisation of policing
- National governments, under pressure themselves from a critical citizenry, seeking to squeeze more for less
- Increasing questioning of the traditional model of public policing
- Two decades of research questioning the effectiveness of public policing

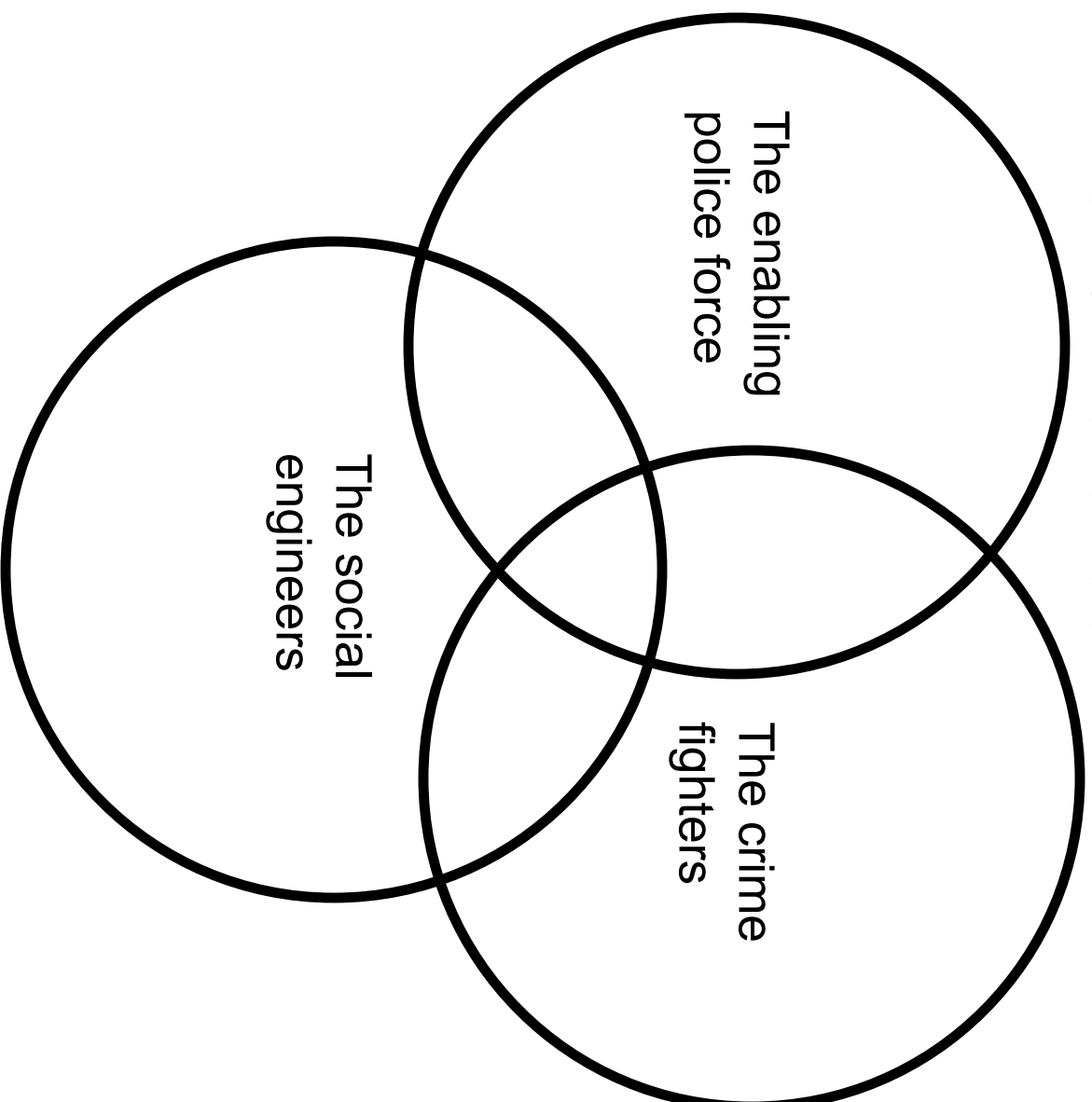


The 'Vicious Cycle'





The '3 Futures'





Ethics in Law Enforcement

- ‘ethics is our greatest training and leadership need today and into the next century: nothing is more devastating to individual departments and our entire profession than undiscovered scandals or discovered acts of officer misconduct and unethical behaviour’

International Association of Chief Police Officers, 1999



What would Restorative Policing look like?

- **Policing in accordance with our Restorative Justice values that:- (ethical dimension)**
 - uses Restorative Justice ideas and techniques to help solve policing problems (*social engineering*);
 - involves and engages with citizens, community and partners (*enabling*);
 - and encourages decentralisation and decision making geographically, operationally to meet national, organisational and local targets (*crime fighting*)
- **which:- seeks, with others, to repair the harm caused by crime and find long term solutions for victims, citizens, community and offenders**



The 'Virtuous Cycle'

