

Back up has arrived Lenovo and UK police

A closer look at the issues affecting police forces around England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. And how Lenovo, advanced by AMD technologies, can provide the support needed to keep communities safe.



Smarter
technology
for all

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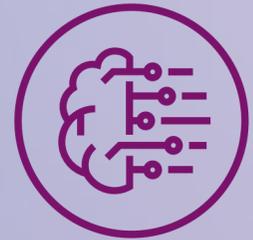
Supporting police forces around the UK

Recent years have shown just how important it is to stay on top of ever-changing criminal trends.

As the custodians of masses of sensitive and highly-prized data, the public sector often sees itself in the cross hairs of cybercriminals.

At the same time as fighting off these sophisticated attacks, the police force finds itself significantly overstretched. Since 2015, workloads have increased by 32%, staff and officer numbers are down and the number of police-recorded crimes per thousand of population is up by 44%.

With high staff turnover and fewer experienced officers, the police service needs more help than ever to reduce the burden on its workforce. In this guide, we look at six key challenges that we believe the UK's police forces are facing and how Lenovo solutions, advanced by AMD Ryzen™ PRO and AMD EPYC™ processors, can help to overcome them. It's a different kind of backup, but one we know you'll welcome all the same.



Issue 1

More digital data to process

Criminals are exploiting technology with unprecedented speed

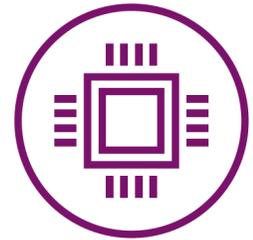
Technology is now involved in 58% of crimes in England and Wales. To make matters worse, the victims in these cases are not getting the support they need or deserve. Almost 90% of cybercrime cases are closed immediately without further investigation. This is little surprise given that less than 1% of police resources are dedicated to cybercrime, despite it accounting for more than 40% of cases.

Just as AI is enhancing the use of technology in our daily lives, it is also reshaping serious online criminality. Police forces are already seeing evidence of AI-enabled crime across financial fraud, phishing and romance scams.

58% of crimes in England and Wales involve technology

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In response, there is an urgent need for law enforcement to develop their own AI expertise in order to detect and deter such activity. Lenovo systems with AMD Ryzen™ AI PRO processor capabilities can accelerate secure AI-driven analytics, giving officers faster, smarter tools to identify threats before they escalate.



Issue 2

Unsuitable technology

Equipment is hindering, rather than helping investigations

For a member of the force, an old piece of equipment can mean the difference between an hour spent helping the public, or an hour spent chasing emails and waiting for slow servers to load. An hour that officer will have to make up for later.

Saddling the hardworking members of police forces with equipment that makes their jobs harder rather than easier is not only inefficient. It's bad for morale and potentially even unsafe.

While there is budget available for technology, it is often just enough to maintain the status quo. The Chief Scientific Adviser to Policing estimates that 97% of today's science and technology investment is allocated to maintaining existing technologies.

Both estimates represent missed opportunities for investment in new, more modern, secure and strategically aligned solutions that can help the police force work smarter and more efficiently. For example, Lenovo ThinkStation P620 workstations, advanced by AMD Ryzen™ Threadripper™ PRO processor, deliver the speed, power, and reliability forensic teams need to process evidence quickly and accurately.

Losing hours to legacy technology

Investigators spend around 770,000 hours a year manually redacting text.

An 80% saving in time efficiency through digital redaction could free up 618,000 officer hours.





Issue 3

You don't know what you don't know

A challenging environment makes sharing IT knowledge difficult

Like many industries, the police force is seeing increasing numbers of experienced employees reaching retirement age. So much so that 36% of current police officers have under five years of service with the force.

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This means a lack of experienced officers to pass on knowledge and fewer opportunities for staff to learn from each other. At the same time, the National Policing Digital Strategy 2025-2030 reports that advanced data capabilities remain a challenge due to poor digital literacy, inconsistent data-led decision making and inadequate technology platforms.

As well as attracting new recruits, the force must focus its efforts on upskilling and reskilling current staff to create a workforce equipped with the digital skills to meet modern policing demands.



Issue 4 Keeping hold of officers

An increased workload and lack of public support is behind many early resignations.

Policing is by no means an easy job. With long hours, high stress and the need to make difficult, split second decisions, it can take a heavy toll.

The Police Federation of England and Wales (PFEW) warns that the police service is 'broken' - with underpaid, overworked, and under threat employees risking a public safety crisis.

Public support is also in decline. In March 2025, 51% of adults said they had no/not very much confidence in the police to tackle crime locally, compared to 39% in October 2019.

The impact on staff is clear and significant. Over half (57%) say their morale is low while around nine in ten believe the same of their force (88%) and the police service as a whole (92%). More than 14,500 officers were signed off work over the financial year 2023-24 due to stress, depression, anxiety or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) - up 9% on the previous year.

These factors and more have resulted in a 142% increase in voluntary resignations, with an estimated 10,000 officers set to leave the force every year by 2027. The PFEW estimates resignations of experienced officers will cost the taxpayer £10 billion over the next five years.

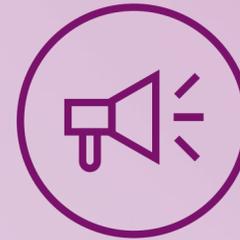


Issue 5 Funding Issues

Lack of investment is also making officers leave the force

The issue of police pay is rarely far from the headlines as officers feel the pinch of successive budget cuts. As of 2024, three quarters (76%) were unhappy with their basic pay, and two-thirds (65%) were dissatisfied with their overall remuneration package.

Unsurprisingly, increasing workloads coupled with perceived inadequate pay is causing rising numbers of officers to leave the force. And it is a situation that looks unlikely to change any time soon. The National Police Chiefs' Council reported in 2025 that the projected £1.2 billion shortfall in police funding is expected to grow.



Issue 6 Recruitment and support

UK efforts are failing in the long-term

A lack of funding and dissatisfaction with pay and benefits not only causes officers to leave the force. It is also making it difficult to attract new recruits.

While the UK government has pledged to add 13,000 officers to ease low staffing levels, it appears unlikely to translate into more boots on the beat.

Paul Sanford, head of the NPCC's finance coordination committee, believes it will be incredibly difficult to achieve these numbers with budgets at stretching point and no sign of extra funding or support from the government.

So how can Lenovo and AMD provide backup?

As we've highlighted, many police officers are overwhelmed by increasing workloads, especially due to increases in digital evidence. And they are often pulled in multiple directions, thanks to ever-tightening budgets and availability. To such an extent that police forces are unable to attract and develop new recruits in the ways they want to.

Officers want backup - and Lenovo can be the reinforcement they need. With AMD Ryzen™ PRO processors designed for secure mobile performance and AMD Smart Technologies enabling energy-efficient computing, Lenovo equips officers with the tech to free up their time and providing them with innovative new tools to be more efficient than ever before.



Let us handle the grunt work

We know that police work isn't all chasing bad guys down alleyways and cracking international crime syndicates like TV dramas lead us to believe. The skilled teams that work in digital forensics often need to spend a great deal of time in front of a screen or in a lab.

Outdated technology can slow this vitally important work down and cause unnecessary strain on the personnel using them.

Lenovo solutions can speed up the digital processes that help solve crimes, while doing a lot of the administrative grunt work in the background. Not only freeing up officers' time, but allowing experienced officers to share their knowledge and skills with their colleagues. For example, training new recruits and helping them settle in quickly to life in the force.

Savings equivalent to one additional force member



Both officers in public-facing roles and highly skilled digital forensic personnel spend a lot of time on admin tasks as they work to solve cases. The speed and efficiency of Lenovo workstations are estimated to cut the time it takes to complete these tasks by 25% per officer. In real terms, this means for every four people, Lenovo offers the same boost in efficiency as one additional member of the team. And because these systems are advanced by AMD processors, forces can count on both responsiveness and robust security features built into the hardware.

Simple, Flexible, Reliable

Police work is a round-the-clock profession. One that's most often fueled by dedication, a heartfelt conviction to serve the public and a need for reliable technology. Whether it's processing offenders at 2am, submitting reports at lunchtime or checking shift patterns before the day begins, officers need to know they can access vital systems any time of day.

With 43 territorial forces in the UK, it's not a simple case of one-size-fits-all. Each has different systems in place and their own requirements. Lenovo solutions are flexible enough to fit in around existing legacy systems and won't disrupt vital ways of working. Our AMD-advanced ThinkPad X13 laptops, for example, give mobile officers reliable performance and all-day battery life, while AMD EPYC™ processor-based servers keep sensitive data secure and accessible. Officers can rely on Lenovo hardware and software running for as long as they do. Crime doesn't stop at 5pm - so neither should your digital support.



We're listening and ready to help



It's not an officer's responsibility to manage a technology crisis on top of their workload. Which is why the flexible solutions Lenovo offers work with forces to take the strain of unplanned IT events.

Our shared-partnership approach and partner ecosystem aims to share knowledge and best practices. That way, we're always in the best possible position to offer solutions that are tailored to what officers really need.



One step ahead of crime

The National Police Digital Strategy 2030 was originally published in 2020 to drive much needed digital transformation across the police force. Since then, several external factors, including COVID-19 and the cost of living crisis, have prompted a mid-point review to ensure its continued suitability in the current environment.

Republished in spring 2025, the refreshed National Police Digital Strategy 2025-2030 , sets out the latest key areas of focus and provides the frameworks necessary to ensure forces work collaboratively and embrace the latest technologies to keep communities safer.

The updated report outlines the “once-in-a-generation opportunity to deliver significant, tangible change across policing” due to rapid advancements in technology. And the need to keep pace as “digital advancements... continue to move rapidly”.

Achieving both of these aims will require significant upskilling and reskilling of officers and other police force staff to ensure they are equipped to protect the public with the latest and best digital tools at their disposal.

Helping officers get up to speed



Lenovo and our partners can be your squad’s dedicated technology trainers so that your workforce is prepared for everything. Your officers already have the policing skills. With our devices, advanced by AMD Ryzen™ PRO and AMD Ryzen™ AI PRO processors, they also gain secure AI-enhanced workflows and long-term platform stability. We can also act as a bridge between young recruits, who generally lack experience, and more senior officers who can’t be everywhere at the same time.

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Ready to join forces?

Get in touch today to find out how Lenovo solutions, in collaboration with AMD, give your teams the backup they need.

Email policesupport@lenovo-business.co.uk today for more information.

