

PROBABLE Futures RAi UK 2026 Keystone Project Review

INTRODUCTION

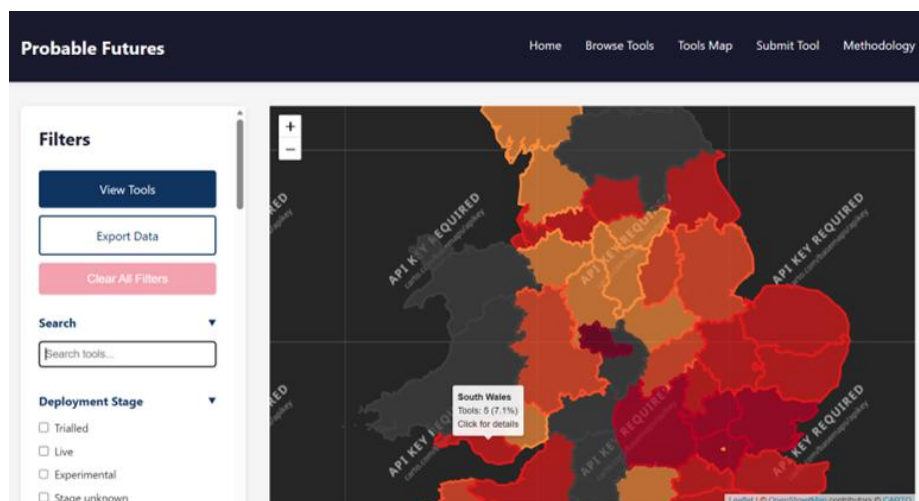
The RAi UK AHM - Keystone Projects Evaluation Report Review Committee Joint Report (December 2025) commended [PROBABLE Futures](#) for its substantial policy and practitioner engagement and potentially world-leading interdisciplinary work, and recommended outcome tracking, dissemination to inform use of AI in courts, and carefully considering public dissemination. We will discuss how we have made progress with these recommendations in the updates below. Further background about the project can be found in the introduction to our 2025 review report [here](#).

PROGRESS WITH OUR WORK PACKAGES

WP1 – Mapping the Ecosystem

In 2026, WP1 has progressed from methodology development to delivering a substantial, publicly accessible evidence base on the use of probabilistic AI across law enforcement and the wider criminal justice system in England and Wales. The mapping exercise has now identified over **70 AI tools** that are deployed, being trialled or piloted, or under development across the criminal justice system, covering applications ranging from contact-centre triage and witness statement drafting, to digital forensics and facial recognition.

A major milestone was the publication in June 2026 of [The Use of Probabilistic AI in Law Enforcement and the Criminal Justice System of England and Wales](#). The report represents the culmination of the first phase of the WP1 mapping exercise and draws on public sources alongside interviews conducted between May 2025 and January 2026 with police officers, government officials, legal professionals, oversight bodies, academics and technology vendors. It identifies areas in which AI is already generating real operational value (such as transcription, redaction, crime analysis, vulnerability identification and officer welfare), while emphasising the need for clearly defined operational problems, appropriate system design and robust evaluation. It also flags major governance risks, including the **fallibility of a nominal 'human in the loop'** and the potential for errors to compound when AI systems are linked (chained) together. To address these issues, the report sets out **26 actionable recommendations** for key stakeholders (including the Home Office, Police AI, and the College of Policing), focusing on independent evaluation, transparency, standardised procurement, workforce training, and further research into the chaining of AI systems. An [interactive mapping tool](#) was launched alongside the report on **24 June 2026** at an online stakeholder event attended by **79 participants**. The mapping tool was also presented as a potential foundation for the type of transparent, accessible registry envisaged in the **Home Office January 2026 White Paper, From Local to National: A New Model for Policing**.



Interactive Mapping Tool

The research has received **broad sectoral, public, and international attention**, with coverage in specialist and public-interest outlets including [Police Professional](#), [Policing Insight](#), the Society of Evidence Based Policing's [July 2026 research briefing](#), [Praeventionstag](#), [Spotlight Magazine](#), and [Phys.org](#). Human rights organisation [Liberty](#) featured the mapping in a public online briefing on AI and policing, while [Statewatch](#) featured the report and mapping in its analysis of police AI regulation, including quotes from Dr Evdoxia Taka and Dr Temitope Lawal. Dr Lawal was also invited to discuss the findings on *The Last Show*, a programme broadcast across the Corus radio network and subsequently distributed in podcast form through iHeartMedia. Dr Taka and Dr Lawal were also invited to present the interactive mapping tool at the APCC AI and Governance Oversight Group on 1 October 2026.

Our work has also generated new opportunities for academic and professional engagement. On 13 January 2026, Dr Lawal presented the paper *'Fragmented Futures? A Systematic Mapping of Probabilistic AI Tools in Policing Across England and Wales'* in Oslo at the Policing in Digital Society Conference hosted by the Norwegian Police University College. He was subsequently invited as a keynote speaker at the launch of [SPRITE+ new Policing and AI Community of Interest](#), and has been appointed to the Independent Academic Advisory Group of the **Police Federation** of England and Wales, whose inaugural meeting held on 5 October 2026. These opportunities have extended the reach of WP1 beyond project audiences to **policing professionals, national and international academic networks, policy audiences, professional bodies and the wider public.**

The launch also generated **ongoing direct engagement with the Home Office**. Following attendance at the event, the Head of AI, Automation and Emerging Technology within Policing Policy at the Home Office, contacted the project team to propose an extended meeting followed by regular meetings every two months. Discussions include the recommendations in the WP1 report; comparison between the PROBabLE Futures mapping and the Home Office's internal AI registry; potential government-level warning markers or restrictions for AI use cases; and findings on deskilling, and cognitive passivity in the context of wider police reform. This has established an **ongoing knowledge-exchange relationship between WP1 and national Government and policing policy stakeholders**, while also enabling the project team to identify AI deployments that may not be readily visible through public sources. In particular, the Home Office has indicated that its internal registry contains additional entries, including AI implemented through national policing programmes rather than individual police forces. This provides an opportunity for WP1 to further validate and expand its mapping as the work progresses. Stakeholder engagement has also included a meeting with **Andy Read, NPCC National Capabilities Manager – CCTV**, in February 2026, supporting further understanding of AI-enabled CCTV applications within policing.

The qualitative research dataset has supported **targeted academic publications**, including a [position paper](#) published in the ACM International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI) 2026 proceedings on cascading risks in chained AI systems in policing which was presented by Dr. Taka on 5 October 2026 in Napoli, Italy. A second paper is pending in the *International Review of Law, Computers and Technology* (subject to completion of amendments), while a third article on the limitations of the 'human-in-the-loop' construct is finalised and ready for submission.

Overall, 2026 has marked a significant transition for WP1 from the development and validation of its mapping approach to the delivery and dissemination of a substantial public-facing evidence base. The combination of the published report, interactive mapping tool, 26 recommendations, **79-person launch event, specialist media coverage, wider public engagement and establishment of regular dialogue with the Home Office** has significantly extended the reach and policy relevance of the work. The mapping provides a foundation for continued monitoring of AI adoption across the criminal justice system, while the strengthened relationships with national stakeholders create opportunities to refine the evidence base and contribute to ongoing discussions around transparency, evaluation, and responsible AI deployment.

WP2a – Lessons from History

WP2a focused on learning lessons from history and comparative domains through case studies of technological innovation in law enforcement and other sectors. The work examined previous experiences of technology development and deployment to identify lessons for effective decision-making, governance and AI methodologies, helping to mitigate similar challenges arising with AI in law enforcement. WP2a developed four [policy briefs](#), *Lessons for Law Enforcement Use of AI*, covering breathalysers and speed cameras, forensic DNA profiling, AI in healthcare and polygraphs, and informed multiple consultation responses, workshops and presentations, including the [project response to the Government consultation on a new legal framework for law enforcement use of biometrics, facial recognition and similar technologies](#). The policy briefs were launched at an **in-person event in London in December 2025** involving technology company, third-sector, Government and policing representatives, and were presented at the **EASST 2026 Conference** in Krakow in September 2026 (Carole McCartney, Angela Paul, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Kyle Montague, Neoma Ogbonna 'AI in Healthcare and CJS', (Panel), 8-11 September 2026, EASST 2026 Conference, Krakow). A full academic paper on one of the case studies is currently under review at a policing journal. The lessons learnt from this and other WPs will also form the basis of a keynote address at a 'AI in Policing' event in London on 8th December 2026 (Carole McCartney).

WP2b – Storytelling

WP 2b used storytelling and narrative methodologies to explore the lived experiences of community members who may be affected by the use of AI in law enforcement. The work aimed to understand how AI may affect marginalised communities and to identify lessons for the responsible deployment of AI in real-world, high stakes, contexts. Completed in the summer of 2026, the team delivered storytelling workshops with organisations and individuals with lived experience to uncover narratives of the potential impact of AI on their relationship with the police. These workshops ensured that the communities voices and experiences were captured, including **ethnic minority communities, care leavers, people with experience of mental health challenges, and women**.

Since completing the workshops, the team has published expert analysis on the [use of storytelling as an effective methodology](#) for exploring the impact of AI on marginalised communities, as well as delivering a session with the **Home Office** on how storytelling approaches can be incorporated into its own community outreach strategies. In October 2026, the team published a policy brief, [Responsible AI for Policing Violence Against Women and Girls \(VAWG\) – Women's Perspectives](#). Three further papers are currently in preparation for publication, examining how AI augmentation can influence trust and trustworthiness in police-community relationships, how underrepresented groups perceive technological solutions in policing as well as how AI influence police decisions when engaging with the community. The findings have also informed further work on conceptualising bias, with the aim of helping police, technology developers and community members better understand how different perspective and experiences influence their understanding of AI, fairness, and risk.

WP3 – Law Enforcement AI of the Future

WP3 examines emerging and future applications of AI in law enforcement, with a particular focus on the risks associated with deploying LLMs and LLM-based tools in policing and their potential impact on case progression. The work brings together computing science and legal perspectives to identify practical and specific risks associated with the use of AI in criminal justice.

Since the last report, a two-day **workshop and hackathon on evaluation benchmarks for LLMs** in policing and criminal justice, organised with the National Police Chiefs' Council and Home Office, was held in November 2025. A subsequent [policy brief](#) was published (further academic publications are pending). On the back of this workshop, Dr Jorgensen and Professor Oswald were invited to join the **Home Office's advisory group for its AI-enabled language tools evaluation project**. A decision on a submission to AISI 2027 is pending. In addition, we are in the final stages of arranging a **secondment** to Police AI for Dr Jorgensen to work on evaluations and issues of human-in-the-loop, with publications planned.

Linked to Oswald's membership of the Home Office's **Science and Technology Ethics Advisory Committee** (STEAC), Lawal, Paul and Oswald researched and published '[Remote AI weapons detection: Reversing 'stop and search' to 'search and stop'?](#)' (Legal Studies, 2026), together with a [analysis piece](#) published by CETaS (ATI). The ideas behind the research have been presented at the National NPCC CCTV conference (Marion Oswald, 'It's not all about face – AI remote weapons detection, and stop and search' 13 April 2026) and at the BILETA annual conference 2026 (Marion Oswald, Temitope Lawal, Angela Paul 'Remote AI weapons detection: Reversing 'stop and search' to 'search and stop'', 16-17 April 2026, BILETA annual conference 2026, Aberystwyth University).

Calder, Taka, Tiarks, Sevegnani and Oswald have researched the issue of LLMs in policing and risks to [case progression](#) identifying 15 policing tasks that could be implemented using LLMs and 17 risks from their use, illustrating over 40 examples of impact on case progression. This research has been extensively disseminated to stakeholders, by Calder in particular, and was presented by Sevegnani at the **Data for Policy Conference** in Barcelona in September 2026 at a panel which included the Deputy Director of Police AI (Michele Sevegnani, Temitope Lawal, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Muffy Calder, Claire Paterson-Young, Jennifer Dunkwu, Michael Maher, Lewis Lincoln Gordon, Marion Oswald 'The 'Cookbook' for Responsible AI in Policing and Criminal Justice', (Panel), 8-10 September 2026, Data for Policy Conference 2026, Barcelona). Taka presented this work as an invited speaker at the Global Summit 2026 organised by the **AI Standards Hub** in Glasgow and together with Calder hosted a round table discussion on the assurance of LLMs in Criminal Justice following the presentations. Calder was an invited speaker, on this work, to a **Home Office/ Ministry of Justice cross government criminal justice working group** in January 2026, and by invitation, she will present the findings at the **Women in AI Security** workshop at the Royal Institution in November 2026. Following the workshop in January, Mr Justice Johnson, England's lead IT Judge and chair of the **Criminal Courts Improvement Group AI Working Group** requested to meet with Calder and Oswald to hear about their findings and recommendations concerning how LLMs can be used in policing and the impacts within criminal justice system. An article in the International Review of Law, Computers and Technology is pending (subject to completion of amendments).

Our research relationship with police AI specialists continues to be strong. We were one of only two academic projects invited to have a stand at the high-profile **launch of Police AI** in June 2026 at the Science Museum. Oswald was an invited panel participant discussing 'Balancing Pace with Responsible Adoption' with the Head of Police AI and others, and our own 'recipe' for responsible AI in policing was featured in a publication commissioned by Police AI (and on our own merchandise!) (see image below). The **NPCC/PROBable Futures responsible AI checklist for policing** was featured prominently in the related police and Home Office communications around the launch, scaffolding Police AI's commitment to a responsible approach.

Based around an idea from Dr Michael Maher, this launch event also inspired a new blog (published by RAI) on the concept of '**vibe policing**', exploring the question of what happens when AI removes the everyday routines that created modern police culture in the first place (Michael Maher and Marion Oswald, [Vibe Policing and a new Life on Mars?: The AI policing culture, September 2026](#)). This issue was also discussed by Oswald in an invited talk to a conference on AI and policy organised by the **London Assembly** in July 2026 and is likely to feature in the pending conference report.

Taka, Sevegnani, and Calder (University of Glasgow) formed a collaboration with another two institutions, **University of Southampton** (involved researchers: Dr Athina Georgara, Dr Adarsh Valoor, and Prof. Gopal Ramchurn) and **National Physical Laboratory** (NPL), to develop and validate an **uncertainty quantification system for Facial and/or Object Recognition Technologies** (FRT and ORT). This would enable law enforcement to make informed, evidence-based decisions while ensuring demographic equitability and responsible deployment. Taka was awarded a £5,000 award in **AWS Cloud Credit** by RAI's Responsible Compute Call to support the operations of this project.



Dr Mackenzie Jorgensen, Laura Gower and Dr Michael Maher at the launch of Police AI

WP4a – Experimental Oversight

WP4a develops a participatory framework for oversight of AI in law enforcement and criminal justice, building on findings from the [BRAID project on ethical review within West Midlands Police](#). Key activities in 2026 have resulted in the development and operation of an **Experimental Advisory Committee**, bringing together participants from diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise, including community representatives, academics, industry professionals, and practitioners from the criminal justice and policing sectors. This approach was designed to recognise the value of different forms of knowledge and to explore how multidisciplinary and community perspectives can contribute to meaningful oversight of AI-enabled technologies. The Experimental Advisory Committee held three meetings in 2026 (May 2026 – review and discussion of Facial Recognition Technology; June 2026 – review and discussion of the COPA Tool; and August 2026 – review and discussion of Pimloc's Secure Redact).

These meetings have provided an opportunity for committee members to review specific technologies, question their intended and potential uses, identify ethical and practical concerns, and reflect on the information and processes required to support effective oversight. The meetings generated learning about how an advisory body can operate in practice, including how expertise is shared, how different perspectives are negotiated, and how community and professional knowledge can be incorporated alongside technical and academic expertise. Since completing the meeting, reflective interviews with members of the Committee have now commenced. These interviews are being used to explore participants' experiences of the oversight process, including their perceptions of participation, the value of bringing different forms of expertise together, the challenges associated with scrutinising complex AI technologies, and how the oversight process could be strengthened. Finally, the learning from the Experimental Advisory Committee is also informing the creation and development of the **Police.ai Advisory Committee**. Further information on the outputs for this WP can be found in Appendix 1.

WPs4b&5 – Jury Deliberation and Trial Processes with AI (Mock Trial)

This work package is developing and conducting **two mock trials in Scotland and England** to examine the impact of AI tools on criminal trial processes. The trials will investigate jury responses to AI-based evidence, the role of expert witnesses in presenting such evidence, and the implications for legal practitioners. Through systematic data collection on jury deliberation, barristers' case preparation, and judicial summation practices, we aim to generate insights into effective methods for presenting and communicating AI evidence in court. The

ultimate objective is to produce comprehensive guidance for policy and practice on navigating AI technologies within criminal justice proceedings. The work package started with a **scoping literature review** of previous mock trials and many consultations with national and international researchers (including those from the Swansea University, University of New South Wales, Monash University, and Birmingham City University) on how to effectively conduct a mock trial to achieve our research aims. The scoping review paper has now been expanded to include a **design space model** that can be used by future researchers wanting to carry out mock trial research. In this respect, the review is one of a kind and is expected to be a significant contribution to the field. The paper will include approximately 96 studies, which have been analysed to produce 11 design dimensions, a task that has never been carried out before. The paper is to be submitted to the **Journal of Psychology, Crime and Law** in November 2026 (lead author Dr Angela Paul).

This has been a year of significant progress for the mock trial work package, with the case materials, expert input, and data collection framework now all in place. We received an example fictional case scenario from a Scottish advocate at the start of the year, which formed the basis for our case. After a longlist of AI tools was identified from our WP1 mapping exercise, a shortlist was created. After refining the scenario and deciding on possible AI tools, we produced two scenarios to take to the [World Café focus group](#) we held, with experts from the fields of policing, computer science, law, psychology, and linguistics. Expert input has shaped the scenario throughout. The World Café transcript analysis uses qualitative content analysis with insights counted for existence rather than frequency, and by using distinct participants within each table and phase. An interim report informed the scenario and court documents. The full analysis will inform a paper, planned for *Psychology, Crime & Law* (lead author Dr Katherine Jones).



Dr Angela Paul and Dr Katherine Jones hosting the World Café event

The WP4b team held regular working group meetings with individuals from COPFS, the CPS, and JUSTICE to refine our materials further. Scottish advocates also advised on the details of Scottish criminal procedure. With these now complete, we are ready to examine how explainable AI evidence is, how well people understand it, and what legal weight probabilistic outputs carry. Each element of the work package, leading up to our first mock trial in November, has been carried out with great attention to detail to ensure the materials are as realistic as possible, and with a data collection framework designed to collect the most impactful research.

We have recruited a **real judge, prosecutor, defence advocate, police officer, and expert witness** to take part in our mock trial, which is no small feat. All the conference calls with the prosecutor and expert will be recorded and analysed, as well as the preliminary hearing on the 6th of October. Actors have been recruited to

play the witnesses and the accused. The live mock trial will be video recorded and adapted as needed for future research. Fifteen mock jurors will participate in our first trial in person on the 11th of November, before taking part in group deliberation on the 12th of November. The second trial will take place in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in March 2027. A pilot of the mock trial study is taking place on the 16th of October with Northumbria University students, to ensure we are fully prepared for the trial days, with any contingency plans already in place.

The wealth of data collected will be analysed and turned into a series of publications in 2026 that focus on the findings regarding AI evidence in the context of jury decision-making, expert witness presentation, judge and counsel preparation, as well as comparisons between the Scottish and English trials.

These findings will feed into the project's central output: a co-produced framework for responsible probabilistic AI, aimed at law enforcement bodies and policymakers, as well as the CPS, COPFS, and wider legal community. The [Lord Advocate for Scotland](#), along with the **Principal Crown Counsel, Ashley Edwards, KC** will be attending the Glasgow trial on the first day to observe and meet the team, which is a testament to the importance and impact of this research activity. Further information on the outputs for this WP can be found in Appendix 1.

WP6 – Developing a Framework/Responsible AI Checklist for Policing

As the research in the above WPs comes to fruition, we have continued our planning for a project framework drawing on the project's research and stakeholder engagement to support the responsible development, procurement and use of AI in law enforcement. Discussions at a team away on 15 September 2026 in Glasgow determined that we will produce guidance on 'Irresponsible' AI in law enforcement, building on the findings and recommendations from our research and the existing responsible AI checklist for policing, and linked to our publications and policy briefs that provide advice on best practices. Our framework is designed based on the **who, where, and what of irresponsible AI in law enforcement with real life examples**. The framework will be structured across different points of the criminal justice system (the where) for relevant stakeholders (the who, e.g., police, technology vendors, CPS). For the actual content (the what), we will provide examples of irresponsible AI practices, and for each, provide questions so that the 'user' can understand if their work or organisation might be at risk of engaging in such practices. We also will provide examples from law enforcement domestically and internationally. In addition, we will include a supplementary FAQ.

WP7 – Communication and Influence (including engagement with RAI and impact activities)

Further highlights not mentioned above include:

- **Four Consultation Responses** during 2026: NPL, data regulation, use of AI for court documents, the Government's new biometric legal framework [Consultation Responses - PROBABLE Futures](#)
- **RAi community engagement** such as: Mackenzie Jorgensen, Michele Sevegnani, RAI, 25-28 April 2026, RAI UK/NeXT Sandpit on Responsible AI Assurance, Singapore; Blog: Marion Oswald, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Kyriakos N. Kotsoglou, Temitope Lawal, [Just saying...5 things the High Court in the Thompson case thinks should be asked about police live facial recognition](#), 7 May 2026; Dr Lawal is a member of the **organising committee** for the RAI UK All-hands meeting 2027.
- **Report:** Elizabeth McClory-Tiarks, Claire Paterson-Young, Michael Maher and Michele Sevegnani, Artificial Intelligence in Probation, 10 July 2026, HM Inspectorate of Probation <https://hmiprobation.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/document/artificial-intelligence-in-probation/>
- [PROBABLE Futures guidelines for live facial recognition trials](#)

- **Invited Conference Speaker:** Nneoma Ogbonna 'AI Assurance in Justice and Emergency Services' webinar panel, 23 April 2026, AI Assurance in Justice and Emergency Services
- **Stakeholder Event:** Evdoxia Taka, Muffy Calder, 'Keystone Projects Workshop', AI Standards Global Summit, 16 March 2026, Glasgow
- **Prize-winner:** Aleeyah Mahmood, 2026 Ken Russell Postgraduate Prize, awarded for the best postgraduate paper at the British and Irish Law Education and Technology Association Conference 2026 for the paper 'Algorithmic Suspicion: How AI-Supported Tools Reshape Legibility and Accountability in Stop-and-Search'.



Prize Winner Aleeyah Mahmood (PhD Student)

A list of key communication and engagement activities since January 2026 is set out in **Appendix 1** (separate attachment).

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The PROBAbLE Futures project's governance ensures effective management, oversight, and a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach. It operates as a hybrid model, combining planning following PRINCE2 waterfall methodology with agile, iterative methods for specific tasks. The project's governance framework has several key components (please see Probable Futures Organogram Appendix B):

- **Inclusive full team meetings:** Instead of a traditional project board, the project holds monthly full team meetings. The PI and Project Manager are accountable for overall project management and liaison with RAI UK;
- **Independent Advisory Board:** Comprised of members from policing, academia, and law, this board was appointed within the first two quarters of the project. It meets annually in a hybrid format to review progress, advise on subsequent phases, and the final framework. It forms an oversight function for the RRI and EDI elements of the project;
- **Project Management and Methodology:** The project adopts a phased approach which is adaptable and flexible, responding to opportunities from the wider RAI ecosystem. The core objective of developing a framework for responsible AI (WP6) will be an iterative process, continuously capturing learning and impact from research activities and co-producing the final output with partners and stakeholders to ensure its adoption. This flexible approach is particularly useful for tasks such as developing the Responsible AI checklist in an iterative manner. Evaluating the framework as we go will be crucial to its long-term effectiveness;
- **Project Structure and Risk Management:** The project's work is organised into seven work packages (WPs). While each WP is led by two Co-Is and/or PI, the team's research fellows take a leading role within the WP activities. The project uses a risk register to identify and mitigate potential challenges, such as difficulties in recruiting staff with specialist skills or gaining access to sensitive data.

ALIGNMENT TO EDI, RRI, AND TRUSTED RESEARCH PRINCIPLES

The PROBAbLE Futures project is grounded in a deliberate and sustained commitment to Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), and Trusted Research principles. These are embedded throughout the project's lifecycle and inform our governance structures, research design, capacity-building, and external engagement.

Throughout 2026, the project continued to embed equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) across its activities in line with the principles set out in the project's Equality and Inclusion Policy (v1.2) ([EDI policy](#)) including the

commitment to monitor the diversity of contributions obtained through the research process and to promote equitable opportunities for participation. To support this, an **EDI monitoring form** was developed based on the project's EDI policy and through Northumbria University ethics to collect demographic information from participants engaging with project activities and events. The data gathered has been monitored and reviewed throughout the project to assess the diversity and representativeness of engagement and to identify any potential gaps or barriers to participation. In addition, the team undertook a structured exercise to collate and review emerging EDI issues and considerations across project workstreams, helping to inform project delivery, stakeholder engagement approaches, and future recommendations relating to the fair and inclusive development and use of AI within law enforcement and criminal justice contexts.

We continue to operationalise RRI principles through the project's leadership and management processes. The Project RRI Lead (Prof Claire Paterson-Young), Principal Investigator (Prof Marion Oswald), and Project Manager (Laura Gower) coordinate the integration of ethical guidance and regularly review the processes within the project. Management meetings are structured to encourage open dialogue, collective ownership, and responsiveness to emerging ethical and practical challenges. Our Research Fellows contribute to co-design processes for engagement activities and participate in structured peer learning, through regular meetings, co-produced outputs and engagement in dissemination events.

Our project's multidisciplinary Advisory Board comprising senior figures from policing, law, government, human rights, digital ethics, and academia continues to provide external scrutiny and strategic insight, and we have also convened a mock trial working group with a small number of external experts to help to scrutinise and critique the mock trial materials and planning.

The research itself incorporates RRI and EDI considerations, with the **experimental advisory body** contributing key insights in this regard, and project's methodological and disciplinary diversity: eliciting rich, situated accounts of AI's perceived impacts. Research fellows Mackenzie and Lawal are leading a **collaborative autoethnography** to reflect on the benefits and challenges of working in an interdisciplinary stakeholder-focused research team – the initial work will be presented at the RAI all-hands meeting in 2027.

IMPACT ON ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF AND ECR CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Our team combines expertise in **computing science, law, criminal justice, social innovation, participatory methodology, project administration and project management** and includes those who are experienced in **interdisciplinary research** and those, including our research fellows, who are **building their skills and expertise** in this area, and have now had the opportunity to engage with UKRI's Responsible AI programmes. Our approach to interdisciplinarity continues to be underpinned by practical knowledge of an operational context built up through **deep interaction with that context**. The project has given everyone an opportunity to grow their knowledge of AI, law enforcement and criminal justice, and interdisciplinary approaches, in order to generate research, ideas and knowledge that can deliver impact in the real-world. Our work packages deploy a combination of team members with **multiple perspectives** to each research activity, with every package led by Co-Is/PI from at least two different disciplines. This has avoided the creation of disciplinary silos, while allowing individual team members to also pursue additional discipline focused outputs alongside main project activities, such as the submission to AISI 2027. We have also built our knowledge and experience of stakeholder and policy engagement by development in policy briefs alongside academic publications, such as the recently prepared policy brief on [AI and Violence Against Women and Girls](#).

Through the WPs, team meetings and regular project engagement activities, we have further developed our understanding of each other's disciplines and identified areas where misunderstandings or disconnects might occur, such as definitions of key terms and approaches to outputs and dissemination. We have also been able to **learn lessons from each other**, for example in the deployment of particular research techniques (such as interview-based research by the computer science researchers), and increasing the technical knowledge of the law and social innovation teams.

Our approach to **ECR career development** is both experiential and holistic, integrating on-the-job training with mentorship and leadership opportunities. ECRs, who are 100% employed on the project, are actively engaged in all research phases. WPs feature ECRs taking the lead on specific areas within WPs, and acting as spokespeople for the project. This model fosters a genuine collaboration, moving beyond a top-down structure. ECRs also attend conferences outside their core discipline, such as law researchers attending AI-focused events, broadening their technical and conceptual understanding. The project also provides experience in software like NVivo and encourages peer-to-peer learning through internal workshops, where fellows introduce different AI concepts. Senior staff actively support ECRs' development by providing training and mentoring, eg. for semi-structured interviews with stakeholders. We encourage ECRs to contribute to policy advice, with Research Fellows leading the drafting of consultation responses. Team away-days have included sessions focused on enhancing knowledge of impact and publication support. These opportunities have translated into tangible achievements, including Dr Taka being awarded **Responsible AI AWS credits** and Dr Jorgensen taking on a Co-Investigator role in the **CAPTAIN project**. Together, these activities equip ECRs with the skills, experience, networks and leadership opportunities to progress their careers and establish independent research profiles. Our PhD students are often involved in research activities, publications and events.

CHALLENGES AND RISKS

Visas, for international travel for non-UK nationals, are increasingly complex and has had a detrimental impact on the ability of research fellows to attend conferences. A continuing risk is the retention of talent particularly as half of our Research Fellows are non-UK nationals and must consider their visa status as well as future employment.

Our project operates the most integrated form of interdisciplinary research, where multiple disciplines work together to deliver the research, and team members not only focus on their immediate WP activities and goals, but on how their WPs interlink and integrate, and contribute to the broader framework. It is crucial that the academic Co-Is can focus on these activities as well as on writing, external engagement and building understanding between disciplines. It is fair to say that in the current in-flux budgetary and staffing environment for Universities in the UK, this can often be a challenge for Co-Is, potentially causing issues for progress.

Staffing capacity is an increasing risk as the project approaches its final year. Fixed-term Research Fellows may seek alternative employment ahead of the end of their contracts, potentially affecting the delivery of project activities. To mitigate this risk, the project aims to complete all core activities six months before the project end date, reserving the final six months for lower-risk dissemination and impact activities that can be sustained by Co-Investigators (Co-Is) should Research Fellows leave the project. Although project support staff are also employed on fixed-term arrangements, they have been seconded from other University departments, making their continued involvement until the end of the project more likely. In parallel, potential follow-on funding opportunities are being explored to support the legacy of the project.

PLANS FOR REMAINING YEARS OF THE PROJECT AND FINAL THOUGHTS

The remaining years of the project will involve **consolidation** of our research findings into our final framework as discussed above. It will also involve focusing on **AI of the future** in law enforcement, including the opportunities and risks of LLMs and agentic AI and questions of evaluation and benchmarking, including building on our stakeholder relationships by way of secondment and advisory activities. The **mock trials** themselves will make up a significant part of our remaining research activity, bearing in mind the considerable amount of data that will be produced, which will require analysis and publication, with findings built into policy recommendations and our final framework. Interdisciplinarity and productive working relationships will remain key, especially as we draw together all the project findings into one consolidated framework.

Professor Marion Oswald. MBE (PI), Laura Gower (PM) and the PROBabLE Futures Team, 14 October 2026

APPENDIX 1: PROBabLE Futures Key Activities and Outputs 2026

Date	Category	Activity / Output	Author(s) / Attendees / Presenter(s)
12 Jan 2026	Governance	PROBabLE Futures Advisory Board Meeting	PROBabLE Futures Team and External Stakeholders
20 Jan 2026	Event	Risks of LLMs in policing - Workshop invited speaker	Muffy Calder
21 Jan 2026	Event	Biometrics and Surveillance Camera commissioner workshop on facial recognition consultation - Invited workshop participant	Marion Oswald
29 Jan 2026	Event	OPCSA AI in Policing and P-ACEs workshop	Carole McCartney
9 Feb 2026	Event	Meeting with Andy Read, NPCC National Capabilities Manager – CCTV	Evdoxia Taka, Temitope Lawal and Kyriakos Kotsoglou
Feb 2026	Consultation Response	Government consultation on biometrics, facial recognition and similar technologies	Marion Oswald, Carole McCartney, Kyriakos N. Kotsoglou, Alexandra R. Taylor, Muffy Calder, Jennifer Ekene Dunkwu, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Evdoxia Taka, Temitope Lawal, Claire Paterson-Young, Katherine Jones, Adrian Weller, and Kyle Montague
Feb 2026	Publication	Should the Facial Recognition (Biometrics) Regulation Framework include Private Actors?	Nneoma Ogbonna and Aleeyah Mahmood (PhD students)
16 Mar 2026	Event	Keystone Projects Workshop at AI Standards Hub Global Summit 2026 – Invited speaker: Challenges & Risks in assuring LLM-based applications in Criminal Justice	Evdoxia Taka and Muffy Calder
20 March 2026	Conference (WP4b)	True Project Workshop: The Courtroom as a Linguistic Arena: Language, Law, and the Pursuit of Justice in Criminal Trials, Swansea University	Katherine Jones and Angela Paul
31 Mar 2026	Event	PHAWM Workbench demo	Evdoxia Taka
Apr 2026	Consultation Response	Response to CJC Consultation: The Use of AI for Preparing Court Documents	Kyriakos N. Kotsoglou, Temitope Lawal, and Marion Oswald
25-28 Apr 2026	Conferences	RAi UK/NeXT Sandpit on Responsible AI Assurance	Mackenzie Jorgensen, and Michele Sevegnani
5 May 2026	Event	Session 1: WP4a Experimental oversight body meeting	Jennifer Dunkwu
7 May 2026	Event	UCL P-ACE Public Trust Sandpit	Marion Oswald

May 2026	Publication	Don't Let AI Do the Policing: Findings from a Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on Evaluating Large Language Models for Policing	Nneoma Ogbonna, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Muffy Calder, and Marion Oswald
May 2026	Publication	Responsible AI in criminal justice: LLMs in policing and risks to case progression	Muffy Calder, Marion Oswald, Elizabeth McClory-Tiarks, Michele Sevegnani, and Evdoxia Taka
8 Jun 2026	Event	UCL Policing Academic Centre of Excellence (P-ACE) Sandpit Workshop- Sensing and Surveillance	Temitope Lawal
8 Jun 2026	Event (WP4b)	PROBabLE Futures Mock Trial World Cafe	Katherine Jones and Angela Paul – With external stakeholders
10 Jun 2026	Event	Police AI Launch Event - panel session titled 'Balancing Pace of Adoption with Responsible Adoption'.	Marion Oswald
10 Jun 2026	Event (WP4a)	Police AI Launch Event- project stall at event	Michael Maher, Temitope Lawal, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Laura Gower
16 Jun 2026	Event	Session 2: WP4a Experimental oversight body meeting	Jennifer Dunkwu
Jun 2026	Publication	The Use of Probabilistic AI in Law Enforcement and the Criminal Justice System of England and Wales	Temitope Lawal, Kyriakos N. Kotsoglou, Evdoxia Taka, Marion Oswald, Michele Sevegnani, and Muffy Calder
Jun 2026	Policy Brief	AI, Law Enforcement, and Community Perspectives: Storytelling as an effective methodology	PROBabLE Futures Team
Jun 2026	Blog	5 things the High Court in the Thompson case thinks should be asked about police live facial recognition	Marion Oswald, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Kyriakos N. Kotsoglou, and Temitope Lawal
24 Jun 2026	Event	PROBabLE Futures Mapping Launch	PROBabLE Futures Team and External Stakeholders
13-15 Jul 2026	Conference (WP4a)	VIII International Conference on Evidence Law and Forensic Science - AI and Evidence	Kyriakos Kotsoglou
13-16 Jul 2026	Conference (WP4a)	The Annual ACM Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces - Participatory Oversight of AI in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice- Process description	Jennifer Dunkwu
21 Jul 2026	Event	Policing for London in the Age of AI conference - London Assembly, invited speaker on governance	Marion Oswald

Jul 2026	Consultation Response	PROBabLE Futures submission in response to the Government open call for evidence on data regulation in the age of AI and other data	Temitope Lawal and Marion Oswald
Jul 2026	Publication	Guidelines for Police Live Facial Recognition Trials	Jennifer Dunkwu, Claire Paterson-Young, Kyri N. Kotsoglou, Carole McCartney, Evdoxia Taka and Marion Oswald
Jul 2026	Blog (WP4b)	When AI in a Trial Goes on Trial, the Technology Might Not Be the Central Challenge: Insights from a World Café	Katherine Mary Jones, Marion Oswald, Angela Paul, Lizzie Tiarks, Carole McCartney, Kyle Montague and Kyriakos N. Kotsoglou.
Jul 2026	Publication	Artificial Intelligence in Probation	Elizabeth McClory-Tiarks, Claire Paterson-Young, Michael Maher and Michele Sevegnani
27 July 2026	Press	East Midlands Today, Evening News: Carole McCartney guest slot on police trials of LFR	Carole McCartney
27 Aug 2026	Event	Session 3: WP4a Experimental oversight body meeting	Jennifer Dunkwu
6-9 Sep 2026	Conference (WP4a)	8th International Conference on Law Enforcement & Public Health Vulnerability, policing and public health	Jennifer Dunkwu
8-10 Sep 2026	Conference	Data for Policy Conference 2026 - The 'Cookbook' for Responsible AI in Policing and Criminal Justice (Panel)	Marion Oswald, Temitope Lawal, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Muffy Calder, Claire Patterson-Young, Jennifer Dunkwu, Michael Maher, Michele Sevegnani
8-10 Sep 2026	Conference (WP4a)	Data for Policy Conference 2026 - Promoting transformation: An examination of the role of an Advisory Committee for the use of AI in policing and criminal justice' (Paper)	Claire Patterson-Young, Michael Maher
8-11 Sep 2026	Conference	EASST 2026 Conference - AI in Healthcare and CJS - panel	Carole McCartney, Angela Paul, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Kyle Montague and Aleeyah Mahmood
Sep 2026	Publication	Vibe Policing and a new Life on Mars?: The AI policing culture	Marion Oswald, Claire Paterson-Young, and Michael Maher
1 Oct 2026	Event	Invited talk at APCC AI and Governance Oversight Group: PROBabLE Futures' AI Register for Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice: Method and Tool Demonstration	Evdoxia Taka, Temitope Lawal
16 Oct 2026	Event (WB4b)	Pilot Mock Trial	Mock Trial Team
12-14 Oct 2026	Conference	AIES Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society - Effectiveness, Efficiency,	Mackenzie Jorgensen and Nneoma Ogbonna

		or Fairness: What Stakeholders Believe Matters Most for Language-Based AI System Evaluations in Policing	
12-14 Oct 2026	Conference	AIES Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society - Prompting critical reflection on AI within policing through responsible AI reports	Mackenzie Jorgensen, Muffy Calder and Marion Oswald
Oct 2026	Consultation Response	NPL Call for Evidence: AI testing, evaluation and assurance	Mackenzie Jorgensen, Evdoxia Taka, Michele Sevegnani, Kyle Montague, Muffy Calder, Marion Oswald
Oct 2026	Blog (WP4b)	When AI Enters the Criminal Courts: Two Mock Jury Trials from the PROBabLE Futures Project	Angela Paul, Elizabeth McClory-Tiarks, Kyriakos Kotsoglou, Marion Oswald, and Mackenzie Jorgensen
Oct 2026	Publication, Event	28 th ACM International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI) (5-9 October 2026): The Need for Assessment of the Cascade Effects from Sequencing AI Systems in Policing	Evdoxia Taka, Temitope Lawal, and Michele Sevegnani
Oct 2026	Policy Brief	Responsible AI for Policing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) – Women’s Perspectives	PROBabLE Futures Team
Oct 2026 (forthcoming)	Online Webinar	Invited speaker on AI governance in criminal justice – Law Commission of Ontario	Marion Oswald
22 Oct 2026 (forthcoming)	Conference	Paper at Digital Justice & Policing 2026	Michele Sevegnani
Forthcoming	Publication (WP4a)	Enhancing ethical oversight: overcoming epistemic injustice to promote community representation in police oversight ethics committees, AI and Ethics.	Marion Oswald, Claire Paterson-Young, Michael Maher, Elizabeth McClory-Tiarks, Gita Gill
Forthcoming	Publication (WP4a)	Policing, and Ethics Committees: The establishment of rights-based claims in pragmatic and cyclical environment, Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice	Marion Oswald, Claire Paterson-Young, Michael Maher, Elizabeth McClory-Tiarks
Forthcoming	Publication (WP4a)	Promoting transformation: An examination of the role of an Advisory Committee for the use of AI in policing and criminal justice. Journal TBC	Claire Paterson-Young, Michael Maher, Jennifer Dunkwu
Forthcoming	Publication (WP4a)	Recipe for Participation. Practical Guide	Claire Paterson-Young, Michael Maher, Jennifer Dunkwu
Forthcoming	Conference (WP4a)	Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA) Conference, Northumbria University, planned for March 2027	TBC

Forthcoming	Event (WP4a)	Joint Workshop with PF, PACE-LAB and Biometrics Commissioner on the newly drafted legal framework for biometrics in law enforcement, planned for January 2027	TBC
Forthcoming	Publication (WP4a)	'Simulating a Courtroom: Towards A Design Space for Mock Trial Research' planned for the Journal of Psychology, Crime and Law	Angela Paul, Katherine Jones, Elizabeth Tiarks, and Kyle Montague
Forthcoming	RAi all-hands 2027	4-5 submissions	PROBabLE Futures team

APPENDIX 2: PROBable Futures Organogram

