

Statement

1 February 2011

Information Commissioner's response to the Government's crime mapping initiative

Information Commissioner, Christopher Graham, said:

"I welcome the drive to improve accountability through greater transparency. Crime mapping can be an effective means of letting people know what crimes are taking place in their local area, although care needs to be taken as this can potentially have an impact on the privacy of individuals such as victims or witnesses.

"We are pleased to have had the opportunity to provide advice about the privacy implications and that our advice has been incorporated into many of the safeguards that have been put in place. It will be important that this initiative is reviewed to ensure that the privacy safeguards are effective in practice."

ENDS

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For all general queries, please contact the ICO customer services team on 0303 123 1113.