

Tardis-style police boxes being backed for

Kent



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TARDIS-style police boxes are being backed by Kent police commissioner Ann Barnes as a way of boosting the fight against crime.

The idea a modern version of the blue box, made famous as Dr Who's Time Machine, was dreamt up by leading independent think tank, Policy Exchange.

Mrs Barnes says the "police pods" or "Skype in a box"

could be located in supermarkets and people could communicate directly with police staff to report crimes or concerns.

Hi-tech versions with 3D screens showing virtual police officers have already been introduced in Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

Mrs Barnes says the scheme could improve neighbourhood policing - making it more visible and available. She plans to ask the Home Office for funds.

Policy Exchange report, *Rebooting the PC - Using innovation to drive smart policing* - talks of "a modern version of the Tardis police box" which it describes as "technologically-enabled police contact points featuring two-way audio-visual technology."

It says: "They could be used to report crime, provide witness statements, discuss concerns and priorities, and access information."

They could be sited in shopping centres, hospitals, even large office blocks and any other locations where the public spend a lot of time, said the study.



Read more: <http://www.canterburytimes.co.uk/Tardis-style-police-boxes-backed-Kent/story-18971582-detail/story.html#ixzz2TpxKoLV>
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