



Co-developing Technological Solutions

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Aim

One of 3PO's key aims is to develop technical interventions to prevent, manage and mitigate online harms. The solutions proposed include reactive harm reporting and mitigation tools, as well as proactive monitoring and risk assessments.

Tools for the prevention and mitigation of online harms

Her picture got taken and used, the name of where she worked, what area she worked, what area she lived in...

There's been instances of police officers **having their profile taken and forms of accounts being made up**.

Common challenges and proposed solutions

Common challenge	Solution	Purpose
Lack of understanding of privacy settings	Focus on Prevention (individual): Self-assessment tool to understand one's privacy settings online, with tips for staying safe.	Providing a guided check-up of one's privacy and security settings on social media, with tips for the ideal settings depending on the desired visibility level. The tool provides notifications when providers change privacy options.
Lack of consistent reporting system in forces for online incidents/harms	Focus on Mitigation (individual and organisation): Harm Reporting tool to report incidents of online harm involving officers/staff or their families.	Reporting online harm incidents with the option to add evidence, providing personalised advice/guidance, panic button for emergency situations.
Need for better mechanisms to gather OSINT on online harms	Prevention + mitigation (organisation): Situational Awareness tool to locate potential threats against officers or to gather OSINT.	Proactive scanning to monitor social media for mentions of the force or officers, reactive scanning to gather OSINT on incidents, red teaming to help individuals prevent confidential/private information from leaking.

Focus: Self-assessment tool

The 3PO Self-Assessment tool is currently in development and made ready for testing. The results and feedback will enable further development and refinement of the tool. The final self-assessment tool will be freely available to police personnel and their families.

Something that looks at your privacy settings is definitely something that's needed.

*I think it's basically **like going to your GP and getting a health check**. And it's giving you the warning signals of anything that needs to be addressed now rather than wait until it takes effect.*

Tool features

The tool **shows all privacy settings available for a given social media platform**, provides descriptions, and makes suggestions depending on your desired visibility level. It also shows additional resources to learn more about privacy and security.

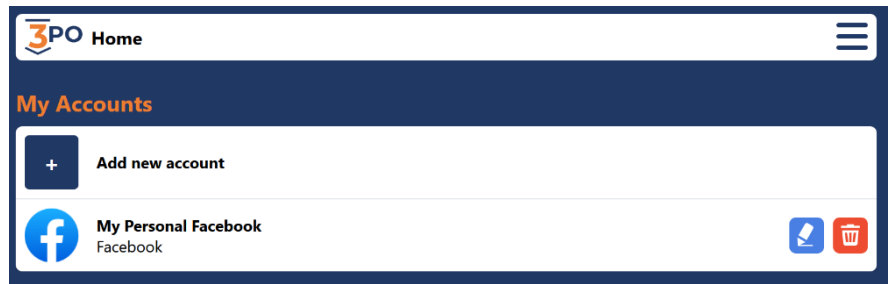
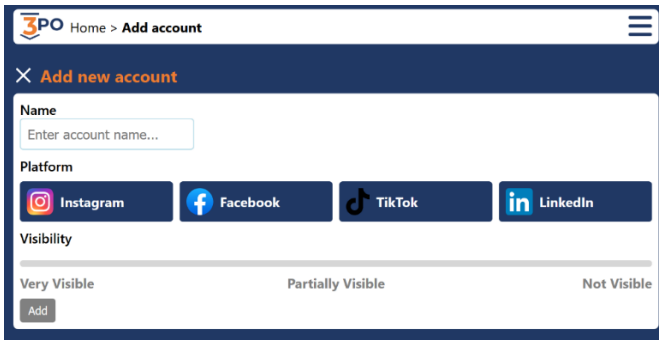
The tool **provides notifications whenever the privacy settings of a given platform change** and it highlights which privacy settings have been actioned and which ones still need to be checked.

The tool will be **hosted by 3PO/CENTRIC** and forces will not have access to it as an organisation to ensure protection of personal privacy.

With security in mind, **no links between the tool and your actual social media accounts are made**. The tool only asks what type of platforms you use, without requesting handles or login details.

The tool stores very limited data: your email address, the password you set up, and details of your privacy settings. All **data is strongly protected** using tried and tested industry standard protections (e.g. password hashing, access control systems).

Initial designs



Recommendations

Our engagements indicate that police officers, staff and their families perceive technological solutions as a valuable approach to stay safer online. The 3PO self-assessment tool aims to support building privacy literacy for individuals and families. Next to this, capabilities for police forces are required for a 'broader picture' on ongoing or emerging risks, to avoid that responsibility is handed only to individuals or families. Also, technical solutions, while valuable, need to operate in tandem with organisational approaches (support by managers, policies, training) as well as better public awareness and supportive legal and policy adjustments. A core interest for 3PO will be how to create integrated solutions that build on each other for protection from online harm.

