



Welcome to the Commissioner's weekly horizon scanning brief:

1. **Legislation** (Legislation, Home Office, APCC, press comments, reports and campaigns relating to strategy, policy and programmes)
2. **Policing and crime key developments** (relevant crime and criminal justice information and partners' policy/reports/campaigns)
3. **Reports** (covering research across political, economic, social, technological, environmental and organisations)
4. **Consultations** (police and crime bulletins, research, consultations and press releases)
5. **Reviews and Inspections** (covering various reviews, inspections and audits across policing)

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1. Legislation

[Modern slavery white paper published](#) - A flagship Bill to tackle modern slavery, the first of its kind in Europe, has been published by the Home Secretary Theresa May.

[SI 2013/2907 The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 \(Victims' Code of Practice\) Order 2013](#)

[SI 2013 No. 2319 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 \(Transitional Provision\) Order 2013](#)

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill](#)

[Offender Rehabilitation Bill](#) - Report, together with formal minutes.

[Immigration Bill - amendments to be considered at remaining stages](#)

European Council adopts financing programmes in the area of justice and fundamental rights
The European Council, meeting in Brussels today, adopted has without discussion two regulations establishing the financing programmes in the area of justice and fundamental rights within the framework of the Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020.

2. Policing and crime key developments

[Public to get a more detailed picture of how crimes are investigated](#) - A new crime statistics framework which will better reflect how the police respond to reports of crime will be launched in the New Year.

[ACPO salutes all those honoured for services to policing.](#)

[Discussions on US style 100 year sentences](#)

Murderers could be given US-style jail sentences lasting more than 100 years, under plans being considered by ministers being put forward in a review of Britain's human rights laws.

[Dozens of hate clerics face being silenced by new anti-terror Asbos.](#)

Government officials have identified 25 hate preachers who face being silenced with new 'Asbo' style anti-terror orders, it has been revealed.

[Police cost-cutting tactics put vulnerable children at risk.](#)

New guidelines from the Association of Chief Police Officers (Acpo) to achieve "considerable savings" in police budgets across Britain expose a potentially crucial flaw in the categorisation of missing people.

[‘Sarah’s Law’ sees 700 paedophiles identified.](#)

More than 700 paedophiles have been identified since the introduction of "Sarah's Law" in 2011, Freedom of Information requests have revealed. Nearly 5,000 requests for information were made in England, Scotland and Wales; one in seven resulted in a paedophile being revealed.

[Metropolitan Police staff to strike on New Year’s Eve.](#)

The Public and Commercial Services (PCS) Union said about 7,500 of its members were to walk out in a dispute over a 1% pay rise.

[Restricted duty officers face £3k pay cut.](#)

Officers on restricted duties are closer to facing a pay cut of almost £3,000 – after the Police Arbitration Tribunal (PAT) ruling.

[Police force pledges more ‘bobbies on the beat’ by scrapping senior ranks.](#)

Wiltshire Police Chief Constable has announced he is abolishing the rank of chief inspector in a bid to put more bobbies back on the beat.

[Manchester revealed to be Cannabis capital of Britain](#)

Police seized 51,000 plants last year, according to Home Office.

[PCC moves to defend dog unit cuts.](#)

Rationalisation in Essex Police.

[Police spent nearly £30k on hiring celebrities.](#)

Television presenters, former sports stars and an actor from The Bill were among those recruited by police forces to help front safety campaigns and attend awards nights, new figures show.

[Police receive 250 calls a week about scams on Gumtree.](#)

Police receive 250 crime and fraud allegations a week connected to the online 'small ads' service Gumtree. After a young mother tried to sell her four-month-old baby on the website, it has now emerged that criminals are using Gumtree to target consumers.

[Prolific offender given just police cautions for fifty crimes spanning 12 years.](#)

A prolific criminal escaped prosecution with a 'slap on the wrist' on 50 occasions, it was revealed yesterday. The unnamed offender was given cautions for dozens of crimes dating back 12 years by Northumbria Police.

[Winsor: HMIC & IPCC 'should not merge'.](#)

HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary says merging inspectorate and complaints watchdog problematic.

[Romanians top UK crime list...before they've even arrived.](#)

[Miners' strike: 'Police fitted me up'.](#)

Thirty years on from the miners' strike there are growing calls for a public inquiry into allegations of widespread miscarriages of justice - with claims that many picketers were arrested on bogus charges and evidence was falsified to get them to court.

[Fury at police who are naming and shaming drink-drivers on internet before they are convicted.](#)

Several UK police forces adopted the new scheme this Christmas and New Year, in order to shame drink-drivers out of re-offending and 'scare' would-be offenders into not getting behind the wheel. Police publish the name, age and sometimes even the address of offenders once they have been charged - either on their website, Facebook or Twitter.

[One third of UK's young offenders return to crime, Ministry of Justice Statistics show.](#)

More than 47,000 criminals aged between 16 and 21 committed new crime in 2011-12 within 12 months of being cautioned, convicted or released from prison

[Assaults on police: 'New offence needed'.](#)

A stronger charge to deal with anyone who assaults a public official in the line of their duty is needed if offenders are to be punished effectively, a senior Fed official has said.

[Tracking technology promises more efficient officer deployment.](#)

An intelligence-led command and control system that can match demand with resources by documenting officer locations and plotting high risk crime areas will improve public confidence, it has been claimed.

3. Reports

Government Response to the Home Affairs Select Committee Report – PCCs Powers to remove Chief Constables

The Government published their response to the Home Affairs Select Committee report, *Police and Crime Commissioners: power to remove Chief Constables*, published on 20 July 2013. The Government agrees with the Committee's view that police and crime panels should fully exercise their powers of scrutiny in examining and deciding whether the proposed removal of a chief constable is justified, and will ensure PCPs are aware of their fundamental responsibility to exercise their powers as set out in legislation. The following section deals with the Committee's comments in more detail.

[Domestic violence](#) - Domestic violence accounted for 15% of all violent incidents in 2011/12. Nearly one third of women and nearly one fifth of men say they have experienced

domestic abuse since the age of 16. This standard note looks at the Government's policy on this area.

[Domestic violence statistics](#) - Summary of statistics on the extent and nature of domestic violence from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW).

[Road accident investigation](#) – Road accident in-depth studies.

The Department for Transport has investigated road traffic collisions for many years to support strategies to make our roads safer. These investigations differ from those of the police because they are designed to understand how people are injured rather than necessarily determine responsibility for the collision.

[Former police chiefs will not have to repay £100k.](#)

An attempt to recover £100,000 paid to two senior policemen who have left the force has collapsed in confusion after the disappearance of their personnel files. [North Yorkshire's](#) chief constable Grahame Maxwell left the police last year aged 51 after admitting misconduct. His deputy, Adam Briggs, also in his 50s, was investigated over misconduct claims and left in 2011.

[Home Secretary urged to throw out compulsory severance.](#)

The Home Secretary has been urged to ratify the Police Arbitration Tribunal's (PAT) ruling on compulsory severance "as soon as possible" – after the controversial measure was sensationally rejected.

[UK electronic visa waiver introduced for Oman, Qatar and UAE](#)

From 1 January 2014 passport holders of Oman, Qatar and United Arab Emirates can visit the UK for up to 6 months with an electronic visa waiver.

The Justice Secretary, Chris Grayling MP, has announced that Serco has agreed to repay £68.5 million to the Government for overcharging on contracts to tag criminals in the UK ([BBC Online](#); [Guardian](#)).

[Cabinet papers reveal 'secret coal pits closure plan'](#)

Newly released cabinet papers from 1984 reveal miners' union leader Arthur Scargill may have been right to claim there was a "secret hit-list" of more than 70 pits marked for closure.

[Margaret Thatcher considered sending the Army into coalfields during miners' strike](#)

The bitter coal strike clashes in Notts in the 1980s could have been complicated by the presence of soldiers, according to official papers released to the National Archive under the 30-year rule.

[Nottingham barristers to strike over cuts to Legal Aid](#)

Barristers in Nottingham are preparing an unprecedented half day strike over the Government's proposed cuts to Legal Aid on Monday. Those practising criminal law will not attend court until 2pm in protest against the Government's treatment of the Criminal Justice System and the Criminal Bar.

[Prison population figures 2014-01-03](#)

Prison population statistics and Prisons and probation statistics.

[Improving safeguarding for looked-after children: changes to the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review \(England\) Regulations 2010](#)

Government response to consultation on improving safeguarding for looked-after children

[Internet: Protecting children](#)

The increasing use of the internet by children and young people has been accompanied by growing concern about online pornography, child sex abuse images, 'cyber-bullying', and 'grooming'. This note focuses on protecting children from harmful material on the internet.

Home Office Research Considers Whether Debut Offences Can Predict Future Offending

Using data obtained from PNC on all first time entrants to the CJS for 2001, 2005 and 2009, Research Report 77, *The Start of a Criminal Career: Does the Type of Debut Offence Predict Future Offending?* considers the relationship between an offender's debut (first) proven offence and their future offending, specifically whether:

- The type of debut offence committed predicted future "chronic" or serious offending careers; and
- The type of debut offence and subsequent re-offending had changed over time.

Home Office Statistical news Release: metal theft, England and Wales – financial year ending March 2013

Recently, the Home Office released a statistical bulletin which presented the number of offences involving metal theft by Force area and rates per 10,000 population for the period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013. During the period, there were 61,349 metal theft offences recorded by Police (2% of all crime), comprising:

- 28,843 (47%) were infrastructure-related, e.g. involving lead roofs, electricity pipes and manhole covers;
- 25,869 (42%) were non-infrastructure related; and
- The remaining 6,637 (11%) were not classified.

BTP Launches Metal Theft Knowledge Bank

On 20 December 2013, the National Policing Lead for Metal Theft/Precious Metal Working Group, DCC Paul Crowther of BTP, circulated to Forces a letter drawing attention to the creation of a knowledge bank resource specifically on metal theft.

National Audit Office Report Assesses Progress of Government Programmes to Help Families with Multiple Problems

The National Audit Office has published a report that suggests two Government programmes, the Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG) *Troubled Families* programme and the Department for Work and Pensions' (DWP) *Families with Multiple Problems*, introduced to help families with multiple challenges, such as unemployment, ASB and truancy, are already having an impact.

Drug Strategy Annual Review: Delivering within a New Landscape

The Home Office has published its second annual review of the drug strategy which highlights the actions taken and the priorities for the year ahead on reducing demand, restricting supply and building recovery. Case studies are also provided.

UK Cyber Security Strategy: Statement on Progress 2 Years on

The Cabinet Office has published a number of documents relating to the National Cyber Security Strategy. Along with a Written Ministerial Statement delivered by Francis Maude to Parliament two other documents were also published by the Government. *Progress against the Objectives of the National Cyber Security Strategy* gives a list of achievements made by the Government over the past year and *The National Cyber Security Strategy – Our Forwards Plans – December 2013* outlines their future plans, priorities and some key initiatives which they will be taking forward over the next 12 months.

College of Policing and ACPO Establish Group to Consider Standards and Guidance for Body Worn Video

In correspondence circulated to Forces by CC Andy Marsh of Hampshire Constabulary, it was stated that the rapid deployment of body worn video (BWV) in Policing has created an urgent requirement for national standards and this is now a priority for the College and ACPO.

[SEN reforms and £70m for councils](#)

The biggest transformation to SEN support for 30 years – currently making its way through Parliament – will give children and parents greater say over their personalised care and assistance.

[Thousands benefiting from work programme](#)

Analysis has shown that in the last six months an increase of 14,000 young jobseekers have found lasting work – normally at least six months

[£78m for local transport schemes](#)

Local authorities have been invited to bid for a £78.5 million slice of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.

[New campaign launched for healthy eating](#)

Campaign will focus on swapping sugary drinks to diet, sugar free options or low fat milk, as it's revealed that by doing so, an average family could save up to three quarters of a 1kg bag of sugar over 4 weeks.

[More people choosing green transport methods](#)

The door to door action plan published by the Department for Transport shows that efforts to make it easier for people to choose greener ways of travelling to and from public transport hubs are effective.

[Special Focus: Alan Piper](#)

Why it is important for local authorities to make the most of public buildings at a time when local authorities are trying to reduce the number of buildings that they occupy, either to generate cash or to reduce overheads in future years.

4. Consultations

[Consultation on out of court disposals](#)

The Government has launched a consultation that sets out the current OOCDD landscape and invites practitioners and the public to share their thoughts about how they should be

reformed. The consultation runs until 9th January 2014.

[Review of UK and EU balance of competences: call for evidence on social and employment policy](#)

The government is carrying out a review of the balance of competences between the UK and the EU. The review will provide an analysis of what the EU does and how it affects the UK. The [Review of the balance of competencies detailed guide](#) provides full details of the review programme. Consultation closes 17 January 2014.

The Home Office have outlined plans to allow holidaymakers and business travellers to pay to skip passport queues when entering the UK. The proposal is part of a consultation paper which aims to cover the costs of the UK Border Force, using the income from passengers to help fund the UK's immigration system ([Telegraph](#); [Mail](#)).

[Local authority parking strategies](#)

The Government has launched a consultation in which it invites views on local authority parking strategies and government options for parking enforcement. The consultation is open until 14th February 2014.

The Public Accounts Committee has revealed that up to £55 billion a year is being lost to the taxpayer due to fraud, error and unpaid taxes. The Committee called on the Treasury to develop a strategy for tackling fraud through the public sector ([Times](#); [Mirror](#); [BBC Online](#)).

[Government approves low-level lights to boost cyclists' safety](#)

More than 80% of cyclists favoured the use of low-level signals during the track-based trials of the system, which works by repeating the signal displayed on main traffic lights at the eye level of cyclists.

[Fingerprint comparison consultation document](#) – Plus [appendix](#).

This is a consultation issued to allow comments from interested parties; all comments will be given consideration when finalising the fingerprint comparison Appendix FSR-C-128 prior to publication. Comments should be sent to FSRConsultation1@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk and should be submitted by 20 January 2014.

[College of Policing's Strategic Intent](#)

Consultation on ideas and views on this important strategic intent.

5. Reviews and Inspections

[IPCC supervising investigation into use of Taser on pupils at special needs school.](#)

[Custody of 17-year-olds to be investigated by IPCC.](#)

[IPCC to investigate Humberside Police's detention of mentally ill woman.](#)

Making best use of police time - Valuing the Police is a major Her Majesty Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) programme to inspect the efficiency and effectiveness of police forces. This work will begin in the new year with the findings to be published in the summer.

Terms of reference for the investigation into the conduct of three Police Federation representatives - Following this incident on 12 October 2012 Mr Mitchell attended a meeting with three Police Federation representatives: Inspector Ken MacKaill of West Mercia Constabulary, Detective Sergeant (DS) Stuart Hinton of Warwickshire Police and Sergeant (PS) Chris Jones of West Midlands Police at his constituency offices in Sutton Coldfield. Immediately after the meeting Inspector MacKaill gave a statement to the media in which he said that Mr Mitchell had “refused to elaborate” on the events of 19 September and that he should therefore resign.

HMIC: Crime Data Integrity Inspection

This inspection covers three stages to begin in December 2013.

HMIC: Value for Money Profiles

Profiles for forces and local policing bodies to assist in making budget decisions.

HMIC Published: Working Together. A review of the arrangements for collaboration between the five East Midlands police forces, commissioned by the police and crime commissioners in the region has been published.

Her Majesty's Inspector of Probation: Published Victim Contact: An inspection of the Victim Contact Arrangements in Probation Trusts.

HMIC published findings from an inspection of South Yorkshire Police's response to child sexual exploitation. This inspection was commissioned by the PCC for South Yorkshire.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) approach to monitoring forces – An overview for the public, forces and local policing bodies

Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary (HMIs) routinely monitor the performance of all police forces to identify apparent issues for closer scrutiny, ensure emerging problems with efficiency and effectiveness are spotted quickly, and problems are resolved quickly with Chief Constables and local policing bodies.

HMIC: Domestic Violence: On 9 September, the Home Secretary commissioned HMIC to look at the effectiveness of the police response to cases of domestic violence and abuse. Started for Nottinghamshire on the 4 November. This is a Home Secretary commissioned Thematic due to be completed by April 2014.

CJJI: Child Protection Arrangements. In June 2013, the HMIC Board agreed a series of child sexual exploitation related inspections to be conducted over the next three years.

HMIC: National Thematic Review – Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). The scope of the inspection is subject to further development but the focus in the prevention of crime.

CJJI: National, Thematic Review: Road Traffic Offences Involving Fatalities

In the light of continuing concern about traffic offences involving fatalities, despite the introduction of new offences in 2008, the review will analyse and assess the quality of police/CPS investigation and prosecution of such cases, and the progress made by the CPS following HMCPSP's 2008 review, establish good practice and make recommendations for positive change. Inspection in 2013/14.

CJJI Inspection: Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

IOM provides an overarching framework for agencies to prioritise interventions with offenders of greatest concern in their locality. This inspection is intended to assist in assessing the impact of IOM and disseminating good practice.

HMCPSP Inspection: Statutory Charging

The previous joint report in 2008 highlighted a number of concerns over the efficiency of the operation of the statutory charging scheme (whereby the CPS took over the responsibility from the police for determining whether an alleged offender should be charged in the more serious or contested cases, by virtue of the Criminal Justice Act 2003). With changes in the landscape implemented in 2010–11 and 2012–13, this follow-up was postponed to 2013-14.

HMIC: Crime Data Integrity. This inspection will examine the effectiveness of the police in dealing with reports of crime by members of the public. The scope is subject to development but is likely to build on the findings of HMIC's previous inspections in this area. Scoping work will include consultation with the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee.

[Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary](#)

Police Custody: Good practice examples.