



## 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, reviews, inspections and audits across policing and crime)
4. **Consultations** (police and crime bulletins, research, consultations and press releases)

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## 1. Legislation

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill](#) - The **Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill** completed the commons committee stage on 16 July 2013.

### [Legislation proposed to close level crossings](#)

A new procedure should be created to close level crossings, the Law Commission has proposed. In a joint [report](#), the Law Commission for England and Wales and the Scottish Law Commission call for the safety regime around level crossings to be improved.

[Licensing Act 2003: amended guidance issued under section 182](#) - Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 provides that the Secretary of State must issue and, from time to time, may revise guidance to licensing.

[Scrap metal laws to stop metal theft come into force](#) - Rogue traders who buy and sell scrap metal for cash face £5,000 fine under new laws designed to stamp out metal theft.

## 2. Policing and crime key developments

### [Automatic 'early release' axed for child rapists and terrorists](#)

In a radical overhaul of sentencing, the Justice Secretary Chris Grayling today announced that criminals convicted of rape or attempted rape of a child or terrorism offences will no longer be automatically released at the half-way point of their prison sentence.

### [Grayling to scrap cautions for serious offences](#)

The use of simple cautions for serious offences will be banned, justice secretary Chris Grayling has announced. The plan follows a review earlier this year and MoJ statistics which show that last year 493 cautions were issued for crimes that would have been heard at the crown court, instead of the magistrates' court, if they had gone to trial. There were 167,758 simple cautions issued to adults in 2012, according to the figures.

### [Serious case review library to protect against child abuse](#)

A new central repository will allow child care professionals to learn from serious case reviews (SCRs), the NSPCC has announced. In collaboration with the association of independent LSCB (Local Safeguarding Children Board) chairs, the NSPCC will make the reviews publicly available to increase learning.

## [West Midlands FRS Road Safety: Drink Driving](#)

Recent road casualty figures have shown the number of deaths involving drink driving in UK are increasing by more than 25% year-on-year, with a large amount of those being young adults. Here, Tony Dire from Concessions Cirkitz International talks about their joint project with West Midlands Fire & Rescue Service which aims to increase awareness of drink driving including their demonstration at the Emergence Services Show 2013.

## [College promises 'step change' for British policing](#)

The College of Policing has formalised its plans to 'enhance and set standards' in UK policing over the coming year with the publication of its Strategic Intent document.

## [Northumbria PCC backs sex worker protection scheme](#)

Northumbria PCC Vera Baird has pledged her support to the pioneering National Ugly Mugs scheme, the multi-agency initiative set up to help protect sex workers from violence and sexual assault.

## [Police Scotland hare coursing crackdown](#)

Police Scotland has launched a new campaign to target those involved in the illegal sight-hunting of hares with dogs – otherwise known as coursing.

[Crime and policing news update: September 2013](#) - Regular update on the latest news and information on police and crime issues.

[Further breakdowns of cautions](#) - This ad-hoc statistical notice presents additional analysis on the use of adult cautions, and has been produced as supporting evidence for the Adult Simple Cautions Review.

## [ACPO position on decriminalisation of drugs.](#)

[Investigation finds use of Taser was justified but recommends further training](#) - An IPCC investigation into the use of Taser by two Merseyside police officers responding to a disturbance at a hotel in Liverpool has found their use of the weapon was justified but recommended further training for one of the PCs.

[IPCC publishes Commissioner Tom Davies' key decisions on Lynette White](#) - *The IPCC* has today concluded its oversight of the Lynette White miscarriage of justice investigation into allegations of misconduct and criminality by former South Wales Police officers.

## [Police face ban on cautions for violent criminals.](#)

## [London police to adopt crime-predicting computer package.](#)

## [Leading police officer calls for legalisation of drugs.](#)

[Kent Police officer blackmailed over sick web chats with 'girl of 13'.](#)

[Criticism over England sex offence cautions.](#)

[Fed: Motorway hard shoulder use 'dangerous'.](#)

[Car thief sprayed with invisible dye in police trap.](#)

[Anger after inspector of police dons uniform at memorial.](#)

[Police alliance: what will change?](#)

[Police chief accuses officers of taking too many hangover-related sick days.](#)

[Theresa May: Deport foreign criminals before appeal.](#)

[Dorset police outsource crime scene guarding.](#)

[Quarter of officers 'at high PTSD risk'.](#)

## [Alcohol Concern](#)

*Guide to Alcohol for Councillors*

## [Centre for Social Justice](#)

*Potential for Partnership: Working together to create safer, healthier communities.*

## [Centre for Social Justice](#)

*The New Probation Landscape.*

## [Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

*Future control room services scheme: summary 'national picture' of fire and rescue authority improvement plans.*

## [Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

*You've got the power: a quick and simple guide to community rights.*

## [Home Office](#)

*Integrated Offender Management: Findings from the 2013 survey.*

## [Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner](#)

*Victims' Voice.*

## [Transition to Adulthood](#)

*Young Adults in Custody: The Way Forward.*

[Guidance on how police forces should carry out officer fitness tests](#) - The interim guidance outlines to forces in England and Wales how they should conduct the fitness tests, which measures endurance and are based on scientific research to match the physical

demands of officer safety training. The standard is also the same as that used when recruiting officers.

## [Filthy Rich](#)

Crimestoppers has launched a campaign to highlight the signs of people living off the proceeds of crime.

## 3. Reports

### [Do 'useful work', or lose benefits – Osborne](#)

Jobseeker's Allowance claimants will face stricter conditions from next April – or risk losing their benefits. Chancellor George Osborne is set to announce the plans at the Conservative Party Conference today in Manchester.

### [Councils 'need to improve websites' – Socitm](#)

Socitm has published the latest figures on the best and worst performing local authority websites. [Data](#) includes the volumes of total web visits and 'failed visits' for a range of services – where people could not access the information they were seeking.

### [Bad management 'tolerated' in leaders – CIPD](#)

A lack of appropriate training can lead to leadership problems, new [research](#) from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) suggests. According to a new survey, 36% of line managers have not received any training for their role, and that 28% of companies did not take any action when they received poor feedback on line managers. 48% said that managers were promoted based on their performance record rather than their people management skills.

### [The Lesbian and Gay Foundation](#)

Part of the Picture: Substance Dependency and Help-Seeking Behaviour.

### [Homeless Link](#)

Working with Jobcentre Plus.

### [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

In-work poverty, ethnicity and workplace cultures.

### [Mental Health Foundation](#)

Starting Today: Future of Mental Health Services.

### [National Centre for Research Methods](#)

Practical considerations in doing research inclusively and doing it well: Lessons for inclusive researchers.

### [New Philanthropic Capital](#)

Beyond Beans: Food Banks in the UK.

**George Osborne MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has announced that long-term unemployed welfare claimants will have to perform 30 hours of community service a week in order to continue receiving benefit payments.**

The new Help to Work scheme, which will be introduced next year, could see as many as 60,000 claimants doing Community Work Placements or being obliged to visit their Jobcentres every day ([FT](#); [Telegraph](#); [Guardian](#); [Independent](#); [Mail](#); [BBC Online](#); [City A.M.](#)).

## **First Social Enterprise Cities announced**

Bristol and Plymouth have been awarded Social Enterprise City status, as part of a Social Enterprise Places scheme run by Social Enterprise UK.

The pilot encourages locals to buy from social enterprises, and nominations can be entered at [towns@socialenterprise.org.uk](mailto:towns@socialenterprise.org.uk).

## **Help to Work scheme announced by the government**

The government has announced Help to Work - a new scheme designed to tackle long term unemployment. For the first time, people in long-term unemployment who are capable of work will be asked to work in return for their benefits, the Chancellor has announced.

## **Cash boosts for councils backing neighbourhood planning**

Councils around the country can claim up to £100,000 a year to help their communities start a neighbourhood plan, with an additional £25,000 for plans that pass a successful examination.

## **Chief Inspector of Probation**

Paul McDowell, currently Chief Executive of NACRO, has been announced as the preferred candidate to be her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Probation. The Justice Select Committee will now decide whether to proceed with the appointment.

## **Needle and syringe programmes**

NICE guidance on needle and syringe programmes is being updated and it is expected to be published in March 2014.

## **New parking reform proposals to support local shops and high streets**

Government ministers have announced a series of proposals for consultation to reform parking rules to help with the cost of living and support local shops. The proposals for formal consultation will be announced shortly.

## **Department of Transport**

Reported road casualties Great Britain: Annual Report 2012.

## **Public Health England**

The Alcohol and Drugs: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment pack.

## **Thousands of teachers from Britain's two largest teaching unions are taking part in a one-day strike today in action over pay, pensions and working conditions.**

The industrial action of members from the National Union of Teachers and the NASUWT will affect 49 local authorities in four regions - the East of England, the East Midlands, West Midlands and Yorkshire and Humberside ([Telegraph](#); [Guardian](#); [BBC Online](#)).

## **4. Consultations**

### **Drinkaware call for evidence on binge drinking**

Drinkaware is launching a review in support of the Government's Alcohol Strategy to develop

a coherent, well evidenced strategy with regard to the role that Drinkaware could play in reducing the harm from public drunkenness and its negative consequences. The consultation runs until 11th October.

**[Consultation on prescription drug tramadol](#)** - The deadline for responses is 11 October 2013.

### **[Greater flexibility for change of use](#)**

In order to support the Government's priorities for making better use of existing buildings a consultation on proposed changes to planning regulations has been launched and will run until 15 October.

### **[Public sector procurement changes to help SMEs win business](#)**

The Government has published its consultation on making public sector procurement more accessible to SMEs – which could mean every public sector organisation having to use the same pre-qualification questionnaire as central Government. The consultation closes on the 17 October.

### **[Alcohol fraud: next steps](#)**

This consultation provides further details and seeks views on the next steps the Government plans to take to tackle existing and emerging threats to the UK alcohol duty regime. The consultation runs until 28 October.

### **Conducting Privacy Impact Assessments Code of Practice consultation**

The ICO is consulting on its draft '[Conducting privacy impact assessments code of practice](#)' and would like to hear views. The deadline for responses is 5 November.

### **[Needle and syringe programmes \(update\): guideline consultation](#)**

NICE is conducting an update of [NICE public health guidance 18 \(2009\)](#). The consultation closes on the 5 November.

### **[Do drug and alcohol workers need a Voluntary Professional Register?](#)**

Skills for Justice is carrying out a consultation and are seeking views of practitioners, employers, membership organisations, commissioners of services and policy makers.

### **[Biodiversity offsetting in England](#)**

This consultation sets out proposals for biodiversity offsetting and how it might be introduced in England. The consultation is open until 7 November 2013.

### **[Consultation on enabling targeted, local alternatives to personal licences to sell alcohol](#)**

The Minister of State for Crime Prevention (Jeremy Browne): A consultation on enabling targeted, local alternatives to personal licences to sell alcohol has been launched.

### **[Registration of providers of social work services](#)**

In January and February of this year, the department consulted on proposals to commence part 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 2008 (CYPA).

### **[Data sharing between public bodies](#)**

The Law Commission has published a consultation paper on the subject of data sharing

between public bodies. The consultation will run until 16th December 2013.

### **[Environment Agency Charges Consultation for 2014](#)**

This consultation sets out our charging proposals for our Environmental Permitting, Abstraction and EU Emissions Trading Schemes. The consultation will run until 20 December 2013.