



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

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

This Order brings the revised code of practice entitled 'The Code of Practice for Victims of Crime' into operation on **10 December 2013**. The revised code of practice replaces the code of practice that was brought into operation on 3 April 2006 by SI 2006/629. PCCs are 'service providers' and therefore signpost victims to the relevant pages of the GOV.UK website.

[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](#)

[The Police \(Amendment\) Regulations 2013](#) - These Regulations amend the Police Regulations 2003 to implement recommendations 3, 16, 17 and 18 of the Independent Review of Police Officer and Staff Remuneration and Conditions: Final Report.

[Circular 016/2013. Firearms \(Amendment\) Rules 2013 and Firearms](#)

[\(Amendment\)\(No.2\) Rules 2013](#) - This circular advises recipients that the provisions as indicated in the Firearms (Amendment) Rules 2013 and the Firearms (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 2013 can now be used.

[European Commission's proposals on Eurojust and the European Public Prosecutor's Office](#) - The government has decided not to opt in to the European Commission's proposal for a Regulation on the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Co-operation (Eurojust)

at this time. The government will, however, conduct a thorough review of the final agreed text to inform active consideration of opting into the Eurojust Regulation post adoption.

[Attorney General and the Lord Chief Justice issue revised guidance to the legal profession on disclosure](#)

The Attorney General, Dominic Grieve QC MP and the Lord Chief Justice for England and Wales the Lord Thomas have published a revised judicial protocol and revised guidance on the disclosure of unused material in criminal cases.

[PM taskforce recommends new powers to tackle extremism.](#)

New measures to tackle extremism and radicalisation across the UK have been proposed by the Prime Minister's Extremism Taskforce.

[Judicial protocol on the disclosure of unused material in criminal cases](#) - The Lord Chief Justice has issued a new protocol on the disclosure of unused material in criminal cases. It is intended to complement the new guidance produced by the Attorney General, and the two documents should be read together.

2. Policing and crime key developments

[Autumn Statement 2013](#)

The statement provides an update on the government's plans for the economy based on the latest forecasts from the Office for Budget Responsibility.

[Results of the Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting in Brussels](#)

Home affairs ministers took note of the communication provided by the European Commission on the free movement of EU citizens and their families and concluded that work will continue in cooperation with the member states on the basis of the five actions outlined in the communication.

[James Brokenshire speech on cutting organised and serious crime](#) - Speech given by James Brokenshire on 3 December 2013 on Cutting Organised and Serious Crime.

[National Fraud Authority](#) - The Home Secretary made this written ministerial statement to the House of Commons on 2 December 2013 announcing the closure of the National Fraud Authority.

[Clare's Law to become a national scheme](#)

The Government has announced that the scheme allowing police to disclose to individuals details of their partners' abusive past is to be extended to police forces across England and Wales from March 2014.

[Stalking](#) - Two new criminal offences of stalking have been in force for a year now. This note explains why they were introduced and what is being said about implementation of the new law.

[Rape: We need an open and honest conversation about rape and sexual offences.](#)

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Martin Hewitt, the national lead for adult sexual offences, says victims must be encouraged to report incidents but also have a right to expect a more honest approach to discussions about the realities of prosecuting rape claims.

[Rape investigations: Force announces independent research](#)

Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe has said research into the way sexual offences are investigated is being carried out after admitting he was “shocked” at claims that crime figures have been manipulated. Appearing before the Home Affairs Select Committee, the Commissioner said an outside organisation would be examining cases of rape and sexual assault over at least the past two years

[Gaps in data hindering child trafficking fight](#) - The UK must immediately introduce an independent Anti-Trafficking Commissioner to improve Government responses weakened by a lack of data on child trafficking, ECPAT UK said in its latest evidence submission to the All Party Parliamentary Group on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.

[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.

[Ending violence against women and girls in the UK](#) - In 2012 around 1.2 million women suffered domestic abuse, over 400,000 women were sexually assaulted, 70,000 women were raped and thousands more were stalked. These crimes are often hidden away behind closed doors, with the victim suffering in silence. Fewer than 1 in 4 people who suffer abuse at the hands of their partner - and only around 1 in 10 women who experience serious sexual assault - report it to the police. We are determined to support victims in reporting these crimes, and to make sure perpetrators are brought to justice. We all need to do more to prevent violence against women and girls happening at all.

[Domestic violence services ‘at breaking point’](#)

Services to help female victims of domestic violence are at “breaking point” because of “shocking gaps” in funding, Women's Aid has warned. The charity said that, on one day in 2013, 155 women and 103 children were turned away from refuges in England.

[Early intervention on youth crime could solve £60bn problem.](#)

Campaigners have urged Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) for England and Wales to make early intervention a priority as the best and cheapest way of preventing youth crime – which costs an estimated £60bn annually.

[Even the police now admit that crime is soaring.](#)

Figures show rising muggings, burglary and theft. Police statistics, property crime has soared between April and September. Smartphones and tablet computers are a target both on the street and through break-ins. Shoplifting is also on the rise.

[Service ‘was unprepared’ for cuts debate.](#)

The Police Service must be better prepared for a discussion with ministers over the impact of any future spending reviews, the National lead for finance and resources has said. Avon and Somerset Chief Constable, Nick Gargan.

[Chief: Forces 'don't need to be artificially large'.](#)

[Police disciplinary system: Minister promises further reforms.](#)

Minister announces intention to reform disciplinary processes further as funding from forces will be transferred to IPCC.

[Northants to wipe out Chief Superintendent rank](#)

The force will not replace its chief superintendents when they retire, after the PCC claimed there were too many managers.

[New guidance issued to ensure youth offending teams remain effective](#)

New statutory guidance has been issued to Youth Offending Teams and local partners in England to ensure youth justice services remain effective in a changing landscape.

[Radical overhaul of sentencing continues](#)

From this month community sentences will have to include an element of punishment, as the radical overhaul of sentencing continues.

[New approach to prosecuting child sexual abuse published](#)

The guidelines and joint protocol for information sharing.

[Government's progress on the recommendations from the Equality and Human Rights Commission Inquiry into disability-related harassment](#)

The response sets out the commitment to tackle disability related harassment and how it is planned to be taken forward to address the issues identified, including through *Challenge it, Report it, Stop it* - the Government's plan to tackle hate crime.

Property crime, including break-ins, muggings, and shoplifting of basic foods, has risen by up to 10 per cent from April to September this year, particularly in the North of England. The rise in property crime marks a reversal of recent trends which has seen crime falling, with the British Crime Survey reporting this year that crime was at its lowest level since the survey began in 1981 and had more than halved since its peak in 1995 (Telegraph print only; [Times](#); [Independent](#)).

[Local MP wins national road safety award for campaigning alongside bereaved family](#)

Andrea Leadsom, MP for South Northamptonshire, has been given a national road safety award by the charity Brake and Direct Line Group for her work campaigning alongside a local bereaved family to improve young driver safety.

3. Reports

[MOPAC: Business Crime Strategy](#)

The strategy focuses on the '4 Ps' from preventing crime in the first place by designing it out, preparing the response through establishing better governance and a continuity of police response, protecting SMEs and those vulnerable to economic crime through awareness campaigns and easier to navigate information on cyber-fraud, through to pursuing it through robust enforcement activity around places and key crimes affecting business like cyber-fraud. Key speakers include the Camden Business Improvement District, the Federation of Small

Businesses, the retailers Next, Westfield Shopping Centres, the Metropolitan Police, the City of London Police, and the National Crime Agency.

'Romanians take the jobs Britons on welfare shun': The UK should be grateful says Bucharest minister

Mariana Campeanu, Romania's labour minister, said migrants 'contribute greatly to GDP' and should be welcomed for filling vacancies in agriculture and hospitality.

RBS and NatWest blame DECADES of scrimping on IT for Cyber Monday fiasco that EMPTIED customers' bank accounts and left millions unable to access their money

The extraordinary admission came as customers at Royal Bank of Scotland and NatWest threatened a mass exodus over the repeated failures.

Flagship back-to-work scheme for troubled families gets just 720 people off the dole

The Whitehall spending watchdog warned the scheme was 'under-performing' and urged ministers to intervene more quickly when things go wrong.

'Plebgate' row PC to sue Mitchell

PC Toby Rowland, the officer at centre of "Plebgate" row, is to sue former cabinet minister Andrew Mitchell for libel.

Cyber Monday 2013: Police issue top ten tips to avoid online fraud.

Restorative justice pilot scheme to begin at 10 courts.

Energy measures to cut green levy on bills

The government is introducing measures to cut household energy bills by an average £50 a year, funded through closing tax avoidance loopholes.

Call for a single public services ombudsman

The local government ombudsman should be reformed, a review by Robert Gordon CB has recommended, potentially by merging it with the parliamentary and health service ombudsman.

MoJ announces reforms for female prisoners

Two women's prisons are to close, the Government has announced in a package of reforms for female prisoners.

JRF warns that cuts are 'creating a divided society'

Deprived areas of England and Scotland are seeing larger budget cuts than affluent ones, research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) suggests.

Department for Communities and Local Government

Fire and rescue authorities: operational statistics bulletin for England 2012 to 2013.

Home Office

Metal theft, England and Wales, financial year ending March 2013.

Ministry of Justice

Local Justice Reinvestment Pilots: demand on the Criminal Justice System, year 2.

[Office for National Statistics](#)

Crime Statistics, Focus on Property Crime 2012/13.

[Carnegie UK](#)

The Rise of the Enabling State. The Trust argues that a new model of public services, based on a new relationship with citizens and communities, is required.

[Centre for Justice Innovation](#)

Better Courts Case-study: West London Drug Court.

[Demos](#)

The state of the art: A literature review of social media intelligence capabilities for counter-terrorism.

[Home Office](#)

Domestic Violence Protection Orders - Impact assessment.

[Home Office](#)

Evaluation of the Pilot of Domestic Violence Protection Orders.

[Home Office](#)

The start of a criminal career: does debut offence predict future offending? Looks at the relationship between an offender's debut offence and their future offending, using data from Police National Computer.

[Lord Stevens of Kirkwhelpington QPM](#)

Policing for a Better Britain.

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

Coping with the cuts? Local government and poorer communities

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Justice Reinvestment Pilots: second year results.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Results from the Surveying Prisoner Crime Reduction Survey.

[Office for Children's Commissioner](#)

Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups 'If only someone had listened'.

[University of Manchester](#)

Patient suicide: the impact of service changes. National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness.

[THINK! Highlights 'snowball effect' of drink-driving](#) - THINK! campaign shows consequences of drink drive conviction on future employment.

The Prison Service is recruiting 1,000 more officers to tackle staffing shortages, and is expected to re-hire some of the 3,000 who have left in the past two years ([Times](#)).

The Prime Minister, David Cameron, has said that due to migration from inside the EU he may be unable to reduce net migration to his target of 100,000 people per year by 2015. Mr Cameron said “I made the pledge of trying to get net migration down... on the basis that, actually, over the previous period migration flows within Europe have been relatively balancing out; when it’s been migration from outside Europe that’s been topping up the numbers” ([FT](#); [Telegraph](#); Times print only; [Mail](#)).

The National Audit Office (NAO) has said that elements of the Government’s “Troubled Families” programme are under-performing.

The NAO said that the Department for Work and Pensions £200 million scheme to place 22 per cent of individuals attached to the programme into employment had only achieved 4 per cent of its target (Independent print only; [BBC Online](#)).

[Neighbourhoods encouraged to work on neighbourhood plans](#)

The plans put communities in charge of setting out the homes, shops and amenities they want in their neighbourhood

4. Consultations

[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.

[Rents for social housing from 2015 to 2016](#)

The Government has launched a consultation into proposed changes to rent policy for social housing, to apply from April 2015 onwards. The consultation will run until 24th December 2013.

[Competition and Markets Authority: vision, values and strategy](#)

This consultation sets out the Competition and Market Authority (CMA’s) proposed: Vision, strategy and values. This was opened on the 1 October and is due to take full effect by 1 April 2014

[Legislative Reform Order: Changes to entertainment licensing](#)

This consultation is about implementing reforms to entertainment licensing via a Legislative Reform Order. It sets out proposals to amend the [Licensing Act 2003](#) so that certain entertainment activities in defined circumstances no longer require a licence before they can take place. The consultation closes on 17 December 2013.

Government ministers have announced a public consultation to decide on pension scheme charges, expected to cap management fees charged by pension providers at around 0.75 per cent.

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Sajid Javid MP, said the plans would ensure

“someone’s saving will deliver the biggest possible returns and not be eaten away at by a variety of charges and fees” ([F.T.](#); [Telegraph](#); [Times](#); [Mail](#); [Mirror](#); [BBC Online](#); [City A.M.](#)).

[Ministry of Justice Consultation on Transforming Management of Young Offenders](#)

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has today launched a consultation into proposals on changes to the way young adult offenders are managed in custody and access support and services to reduce their reoffending. Consultation closes 13 December.

[Transforming management of young adults in custody](#) - The Government believes that the context in which young adults are managed in custody has changed and therefore is proposing a new approach to managing young adults that takes into account the challenges of this age group as well as ensuring they benefit from wider reforms. The consultation closes on 19th December.

[24th December 2013 - Rents for social housing](#)

[New statutory powers for the Forensic Science Regulator](#) - The Government has launched a consultation seeking views on whether new powers should be given to the Forensic Science Regulator. The consultation runs until 3rd January 2014.

[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](#)).

5. Reviews and Inspections

[IPCC outlines scope of investigation into the death of Leon Briggs](#) - The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) is today outlining the parameters of its investigation into the death of Leon Briggs. Mr Briggs, 39, died on 4 November after he was restrained and detained by Bedfordshire Police at the junction of Marsh Road and Willow Way, and taken to Luton police station. The IPCC has been informed by Bedfordshire Police that he was detained under section 136 of the Mental Health Act.

IPCC: **[Findings following inquest verdicts into the deaths of Marek Wojciechowski and Oisín Twomey in Torquay](#)** - Inquest verdicts into the deaths of Marek Wojciechowski and Oisín Twomey in Torquay mark the end of the Independent Police Complaint Commission’s

(IPCC) investigation in to Devon and Cornwall Constabulary's response to a high risk missing person on the 6th July 2012.

[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: Freeing Up Police Time](#)

Following a review of the progress made with the issues raised in HMIC's 2010 report *[Stop the Drift](#)*¹, HMIC intends to scope an inspection to identify what else might be done to reduce unnecessary burdens on forces. This will include (but not necessarily be limited to) an examination of how police efficiency and working practices should be improved through the use of modern technology. The on site inspection will take place on 2-5 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.

¹ In this joint review, HMIC and HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPISI) found that while significant effort has been made in recent years to improve efficiency in both the custody and criminal justice process, there are still a number of issues identified in past reports on this subject which continue to generate delays in processing cases.

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 is 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.

[IPCC investigation finds significant failures by Cambridgeshire Constabulary call handlers.](#)

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

Police Custody: Good practice examples .