



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.

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill](#) - Government response. Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee.

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

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

[Counter-terrorism Bill Committee Stage Report](#) - This paper has been published for the Report Stage debate on the Counter-Terrorism Bill. The bill is wide-ranging but the most contentious provisions relate to pre-charge detention, post charge questioning and inquests and inquiries.

[Criminal Justice and Courts Bill](#) - The Criminal Justice and Courts Bill will make wide ranging reforms to the justice system as well as targeted provisions to protect the public better and reduce reoffending.

2. Policing and crime key developments

[Blue Light Services working towards future collaboration](#) - The Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA), the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives (AACE) and the Association of Police Chief Officers (ACPO) have worked together to agree a number of key principles regarding future collaboration as a professional response to the changing financial climate in order to secure public health, safety and wellbeing.

[Work underway to change the face of local policing](#) - The College of Policing is leading a programme to establish a clear evidence base of "what works" in the field of local policing.

[PCCs and chiefs 'on a steep learning curve'](#)

Officers and police and crime commissioners (PCCs) remain "on a steep learning curve" as the new governance regime continues to bed-in, senior Fed officials have said.

[MPs to debate forcing Fed changes through](#)

Backbench MPs have tabled a debate in which they will propose the government legislate to implement all the changes to the Police Federation recommended by the recent independent review.

[Panels cannot scrutinise PCCs 'because of role confusion'](#)

The government must clarify the role of police and crime panels so they can properly scrutinise and elected commissioners amid concerns that there is confusion over the relationship between the two, a report has said.

[PCC rejects custody outsourcing](#)

A police and crime commissioner (PCC) has decided to keep a force's custody detention officers in-house, after the chief recommended outsourcing them. Sue Mountstevens, the elected individual for Avon and Somerset.

[Funding boost for programmes that reduce reoffending](#)

In recognition that social action has an important role to play in reducing reoffending, 12 organisations will benefit from £2.4 million through the Rehabilitation Social Action Fund (RSAF), a [Centre for Social Action](#) programme. The grants will provide the chosen organisations with resources to demonstrate what works and deliver social action programmes at a greater scale, for example in new prisons and communities.

[Postcode lottery: police recording of 'honour based violence'](#) - On Thursday 6 February 2014, the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO), a leading women's rights charity campaigning to end all forms of 'honour' based violence, including forced marriage, child marriage and female genital mutilation, publishes new research which reveals that 1 in 5 police forces are failing to properly record 'honour' based violence cases, which puts lives at risk, including in some of the areas with communities in which honour based violence is most likely to occur.

[Crime and policing news updates](#) - This collection brings together all documents relating to police and crime news updates.

[Policing Statistics](#) - Data from police forces in England and Wales covering police personnel, police powers and procedures and firearm and shotgun certification.

Policing and Criminal Justice Minister Damian Green's [speech](#) to the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners.

[Ending violence against women and girls in the UK \(updated\)](#) - 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.

[The police service has been clear that so-called honour based abuse is unjustifiable](#) - HMIC is consulting on potential thematic inspections for 2014/15 including honour-based abuse.

[Perspective of the College of Policing from the frontline](#) - College Frontline Champion for Cheshire, PC Dan Reynolds, shares his view about the College and the challenges ahead.

3. Reports

[Investigated or ignored?](#) – An analysis of race-related deaths since the Macpherson report.

[Kent Police have made considerable improvements to crime recording – and the momentum must be sustained](#)

An interim report has found that Kent Police has made considerable improvements to its crime recording process and has responded positively to the findings of a 2013 inspection by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) – the focus must now be on ensuring the progress is sustained.

[Female genital mutilation \(updated\)](#) - Brings together all documents relating to Female genital mutilation.

[Police finance](#) – Brings together all documents relating to police finance including the final police allocations for 2014 – 2015.

[Child Sexual Exploitation and Protecting the Public from Dangerous People practice and training](#) - New national policing guidance on child sexual exploitation, which includes lessons from Operations Yewtree and Operation Bullfinch, has been published as part of an overhaul of training and practice in public protection.

[Police Facebook page appears to show trainees blacked-up, wearing Nazi uniforms and making racist and homophobic jokes.](#)

[Reported road casualties Great Britain: annual report 2012 \(Updated\)](#) - Reported road casualties figures for 2012.

[Chief constables are working to increase morale](#) - Chief Constables Council has not created a list of national actions to increase morale in the service because this is a role for individual chiefs.

A19: [Age discrimination police could win pay-outs.](#)

Police forces could be forced to pay out millions of pounds in compensation to former officers who have won age discrimination claims after being forced to retire. A ruling on test cases brought on behalf of 250 officers found that five chief constables improperly used police regulations to get rid of the officers on age grounds.

[£440k compensation for police officer who smashed up OAP's car.](#)

PC Mike Baillon, 47, quit after 16 years on the force when he was mocked over a YouTube video of him battering the Range Rover of 74-year-old stroke victim Robert Whatley.

[Woman becomes first person to be jailed for 'trolling herself'.](#)

Michelle Chapman, from Cornwall, is thought to be the first person in the UK to have been prosecuted for "trolling" herself.

[Police have made significant progress on honour-based violence but there is more for agencies to do](#) - Research finds that, while police have made real progress on honour-based violence, one in five forces are not fully recording cases.

[ACPO and NBCF definition of business crime](#) - The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), together with the National Business Crime Forum (NBCF), have announced that a definition of business crime has now been formally agreed.

[Metropolitan police chief says sorry to Andrew Mitchell over Plebgate.](#)

Sir [Bernard Hogan-Howe](#), the Metropolitan [police](#) commissioner, visited parliament on Wednesday to apologise in person to the former chief whip [Andrew Mitchell](#) on the eve of the sentencing of an off-duty officer who admitted he falsely claimed to have witnessed the Plebgate row.

[Will the Met Police's new approach to conducting stop and search help rebuild public trust?](#)

The government's policy on stop and search is once again under the spotlight. In the aftermath of inquest into Mark Duggan's shooting, the police, Home Office and home secretary have all spoken about the need for a fairer and less divisive stop and search policy.

[Police target 'cutters' in campaign against UK female genital mutilation.](#)

A senior [police](#) officer has appealed for information about the "cutters" who carry out female genital mutilation on young girls, as pressure grows over the failure to bring a single prosecution in the UK for the abuse, which is thought to affect tens of thousands of girls.

[Essex PCC to revise 3.5% council tax increase plan downwards.](#)

Nick Alston said his original plan could cost the force £2 million because the increase exceeded the government's referendum threshold, set at two per cent.

[Police officer 'took speeding points on behalf of his civilian police worker girlfriend'.](#)

[Water safety collaboration in Manchester](#)

GMP has joined forces with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service to demonstrate to the public the importance of being safe when near the water.

[Time for a change? Policing the UK Fire Service](#)

Following the recent publication of *Policing For A Better Britain*, Tony Prosser draws comparisons with the Fire Service and looks at ways the services can work together.

[Powers for reviewing and scrutinising Police and Crime Commissioners clearly defined](#)

The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) and the Local Government Association (LGA) have published a review of Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) first year. The report makes three recommendations:

1. The Home Office should set out when Police and Crime Commissioners should publish information;
2. The Home Office must set out what relationship PCPs and Police and Crime Commissioner should have; and
3. PCPs should have a more visible role in holding policing to account.

[‘Plebgate’ PC Keith Wallis jailed for a year.](#)

PC Keith Wallis, 53, admitted a charge of misconduct in public office last month at the Old Bailey.

[UK’s Wildlife Crime Unit secures two years’ funding.](#)

The National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCUC) will be able to tackle wildlife crime for a further two years after the UK government announced more than £500,000 funding until 2016.

[‘No cuts to numbers of police officers and PCSOs’ in Gloucestershire.](#)

Police bosses have vowed not to cut the number of cops and PCSOs in Gloucestershire for the next two years.

[Wiltshire Police to lose 173 officers over three years.](#)

The Police and Crime Commissioner Angus Macpherson plans to reduce the overall numbers of officers by nearly 15% - 173 fewer police officers by 2017.

[Police will have ‘backdoor’ access to health records despite opt-out, says MP.](#)

The database that will store all of England's health records has a series of "backdoors" that will allow police and government bodies to access people's medical data.

[Campaigners’ anger as police apply for government cash to pay Hillsborough inquests costs.](#)

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright said he was seeking the special grant funding from the Home Office towards meeting the legal, insurance, compensation and other costs arising from the new Hillsborough inquests and related investigations.

[Metropolitan Police staff to join tube workers on strike.](#)

Thousands of Metropolitan staff are set to walk out for two days in a row over pay, a move that will coincide with the London Tube strikes planned next week.

[Rape statistics reveal ‘inconsistencies’ between forces](#) The Rape Monitoring Group has published statistics outlining the number of sexual crimes reported in the UK in the past year, as well as details of force outcomes.

Speaking at a *Reform* conference last week on ‘A strategy to fix Healthcare’, Professor Michael Porter urged policymakers not to ignore the outcomes that matter most to patients.

Following on from the conference, an article in *The Economist* covers Professor Porter's recommendations and claims that the focus on clinical outcomes must be extended to long-

term outcomes for patients in order to improve care and lower costs at the same time ([Economist](#)).

The Centre for Public Scrutiny yesterday published research: ***Police and Crime Panels: the first year*** attached below. While the Centre for Public Scrutiny is an independent charity it has produced this research following a commission from the Local Government Association. It has been made available to all Police and Crime Panels and will likely contribute to LGA/Police and Crime Panel members' evidence sessions at the Home Affairs Select Committee Inquiry into Police and Crime Commissioners.

The [new standards and Restorative Service Quality Mark](#) (RSQM) have been designed to give those involved in the restorative justice process confidence that effective practice is taking place.

[A new Home Office initiative to support the police to secure value for money in IT procurement and business solutions was launched.](#)

The Evidence Based Decision Support (EBDS) service allows customers to work directly with expert industry project teams, ensuring the most appropriate technology and business solutions are identified whilst delivering best value for money.

[Sexual predators let back into the community without treatment say prison inspectors.](#)

Prison reports show that despite an increase in the number of prisoners held for sex offences, the number of offenders completing treatment programmes has fallen as prisons holding special treatment courses have closed.

[Special constables save Humberside Police £1.2m in nine months.](#)

[Drinking alcohol during pregnancy could be ruled a crime.](#)

4. Consultations

[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.

[Future funding of the Housing Ombudsman](#)

The Government has announced a consultation on the proposal to extend the Housing

Ombudsman's existing fee charging model to local authority landlords from April 2014. This consultation closes on 30th January 2014.

[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.

[Plan for joint inspections by Criminal Justice inspectorates](#)

On 15 January the four Criminal Justice Inspectorates published a consultation setting out the proposed joint inspection activity in the criminal justice system from 2014 to 2016. The consultation asks two specific questions, 'Do any work streams duplicate, overlap or clash with inspections or other work you have planned (or are otherwise aware of) for 2014/15 or 2015/16? Are there any other subject areas that warrant inclusion in our criminal justice joint inspection programme?'. The consultation closes on 31 January.

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

Consultation on ideas and views on this important strategic intent.

[Climate Change - Enforcement and Sanctions Guidance](#)

This consultation explains a proposed approach to enforcement for the European Union Emissions Trading System, CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme and Climate Change Agreements. Closing date 21 March 2014.

[The Transforming Rehabilitation programme and the LGPS](#)

This consultation paper relates to the draft statutory instrument that enacts the technical changes to the local government pension scheme (LGPS). The draft regulations allow the continued participation in the Local Government Pension Scheme by employees engaged in probation services (within the Secretary of State for Justice's Transforming Rehabilitation Reforms) when they are transferred to the National Probation Service or a Commercial Rehabilitation Company. The Regulations allow for the benefits of all probation services employees (past and present) to be administered by one administering authority and for the transfer of all past service liabilities in relation to those employees to that one authority. The consultation closes on 10 February and the regulations are planned to come into effect on 1 April.

[12th February 2014](#) - Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

[14th February 2014](#) - Community Life Survey

5. Reviews and Inspections

[HMIC announces new programme of annual inspections](#)

[Making best use of police time](#)

[Terms of reference for the investigation into the conduct of three Police Federation representatives.](#)

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.

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.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary

Police Custody: Good practice examples.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The Home Affairs Committee has announced an inquiry into female genital mutilation (FGM).

Joint inspection of police custody facilities

On 7 January, HMIC announced that under the scrutiny requirements of the UN Optional Protocol against Torture, the UK is obliged to ensure regular and independent inspection of all places of detention.