



## 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. **Strategic policing and crime news** (relevant crime and criminal justice information and partners' policy/reports/campaigns)
3. **Developments and 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

### **Criminal Justice and Courts Bill**

On 10 November the Government accepted an amendment at the Lords Third Reading of the Criminal Justice and Courts Bill to give 17 year olds detained in police custody the same rights as children aged 10-16. The Bill is expected to gain Royal Assent in the Spring of 2015.

### **[Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#)**

New tools and powers, with the exception of Civil Injunction, come into effect.

### **[Dangerous dogs: tough new law to prevent attacks](#)**

Police and local authorities are to be given new legal powers to tackle irresponsible dog ownership.

### **[Home Office](#)**

Serious Crime Bill overview.

### **[Home Office](#)**

Statutory instruments plan.

### **[Consumers given new weapon in fight against rogue traders](#)**

Consumers will have greater powers to challenge unscrupulous rogue traders and get their money back under new rights.

### **[Fraud, bribery and money laundering offences guideline comes into effect](#)**

Following a period of training and implementation the definitive guideline on fraud, bribery and money laundering offences came into effect from 1st October 2014.

### **[The Modern Slavery Bill](#)**

This Bill has now been committed to a Public Bill Committee. The Public Bill Committee is expected to report to the House by 14 October 2014.

## **Social Action, Responsibility and Heroism Bill**

The Public Bill Committee is expected to report to the House by **14 October 2014**.

## **[Upcoming secondary legislation published](#)**

### **[Lords invited to endorse Government application to re-join EU justice and home affairs measure](#)**

On Monday 17 November, the House of Lords will be invited to endorse the Government's decision to apply to re-join 35 EU justice and home affairs measures, including the European Arrest Warrant, which, along with some 95 other measures, the Government has opted out of with effect from 1 December 2014.

## **2. Strategic policing and crime news**

### **[UK's first independent anti-slavery commissioner announced](#)**

The Home Secretary has appointed Kevin Hyland as the UK's first ever Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner. The newly-created role will see him spearhead the UK's fight against modern slavery, with a concerted focus on strengthening law enforcement efforts in the UK and internationally and helping to ensure that public authorities identify and support slavery victims effectively.

### **[Interim review of the national referral mechanism for victims of human trafficking](#)**

The national referral mechanism is a multi-agency victim identification and support process.

### **[50 years of campaigning against drink driving](#)**

On the 50th anniversary of the first drink driving campaign, the Government publishes research into the change in attitudes over the years and this year's campaign.

### **[Restorative Justice Week](#)**

Restorative Justice Week is from 16th - 23rd November and the Ministry of Justice has produced a range of promotional materials.

### **[Government launches new Digital Marketplace for public sector](#)**

The government launched its new Digital Marketplace yesterday to help the public sector buy IT services from a wide range of suppliers through one digital storefront.

### **[Serious and organised crime: local profiles](#)**

Guidance on the use of local profiles of serious and organised crime. These will identify the threat, vulnerability and risk from these crime types, with the aim of reducing the impact within a local area.

## 3. Developments and reports

### [Wanless-Whittam Reviews report](#)

An independent review of two Home Office commissioned independent reviews, looking at information held in connection with child abuse from 1979-1999.

### **Traffic Officers provide safe winter driving advice**

Traffic officers will have factsheets and posters to hand out, including advice about driving in adverse weather, planning journeys over Christmas, and checking vehicles before driving long distances in winter.

### [Public sector must work smarter and redesign key services, according to Deloitte report](#)

The public sector will have to work smarter and redesign key services to tackle the deficit and start reducing debt by 2018, according to Deloitte's annual State of the State report.

### [Public Health England announces new funding for drug and alcohol recovery](#)

Public Health England (PHE) has today announced the availability of £10 million of capital funding for services that are helping people in England with drug or alcohol problems to recover from their addiction. Local authorities and service providers are able to apply for capital funding to support recovery-focused projects, following a similar process earlier this year.

### [Alcohol licensing](#)

This written ministerial statement was laid in the House of Commons by Lynne Featherstone and in the House of Lords by Lord Bates. Publishing a consultation on the [Community and Ancillary Sellers' Notice \(CAN\)](#). The CAN will allow particular low-risk businesses and community groups to sell a small amount of alcohol, while providing appropriate, light-touch controls.

### [Value of outsourcing deals increases in local government](#)

The value of outsourcing deals in local government increased by 164% during the third quarter of 2014 compared to the same period last year, new figures reveal.

### [Centre Forum](#)

A place of sanctuary: Creating a fair and efficient asylum system

### [Data sharing for healthcare professionals](#)

The Department of Health is consulting on new guidance for healthcare professionals on sharing information. The consultation runs until 31st January 2015

### [Public Health England](#)

Shooting Up: infections among people who inject drugs in the UK

### [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

Poverty and the cost of living

### [Government should introduce five-year spending plans – Lord O'Donnell](#)

The government should introduce five-year spending plans to match the length of fixed-term parliaments, and institute independent assessment of its infrastructure strategies, according

to former cabinet secretary Lord (Gus) O'Donnell. In a recent [speech to the Royal Statistical Society](#) on 'evidence-based policy making in the era of big data', Lord O'Donnell said: "We now live in a world of five year fixed-term parliaments but nobody has followed up to change our procedures to fit with this new world. We could have a mid-term course correction exercise to refresh the programmes and adjust course depending on how far the public finances had deviated from the projected flight path."

## **More councils merge functions and power as 'combined authorities'**

Council leaders in the West Midlands are the latest to plan a combined authority for their region, which would act as a "lynchpin for the national economic recovery" and create a "Midlands Powerhouse". Greater Manchester's combined authority working since 2011 is widely believed to have contributed to its recent economic and infrastructure successes, and other areas are seeking to emulate the idea. Three further combined authorities were established on 1 April 2014, in the city-regions of Leeds, Sheffield and Liverpool, and the North East Combined Authority was set up later that month.

## **HWBs should not take on full responsibilities for health budgets, say CCGs**

Health and wellbeing boards (HWBs), run by councils and health representatives, have a unique role in joining up health and care commissioning – but are not the appropriate bodies to take on the full responsibilities for health budgets. The point was raised in a new report '[A Shared Agenda – creating an equal partnership with CCGs in health and wellbeing boards](#)' where it is argued that the clinical expertise that CCGs bring play a "critical" and "central" role on HWBs, and one that is vital if integrating health and social care across the NHS and local government is going to become a reality.

## **FCA finds small firms need to manage financial crime risks more effectively**

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has found that many small banks and commercial insurance intermediaries fail to effectively manage financial crime risk. The two reviews published today follow related work by the FCA's predecessor on banks in 2011 and intermediaries in 2010.

## **CMA publishes updated report on how small banks manage money laundering and sanctions risk**

This report follows the Financial Services Authority's 2011 report on *Bank's management of high money-laundering risk situations* (the 2011 AML review) and the subsequent enforcement action and regulatory guidance. It sets out the findings of the Financial Conduct Authority's thematic review into how small banks manage their anti-money-laundering (AML) and sanctions risk.

## **More than 20,000 council jobs to be cut, says union**

Plans are underway to cut more than 20,000 jobs at 26 councils, a survey by the GMB union has found.

## **Public supports more social housing, poll shows**

Most British people would back more council and housing association homes being built in their local area, according to new research.

## **Extra cash for disadvantaged primary children**

Primary schools are to be given an extra £22.5m to help disadvantaged children close the gap with their better-off classmates.

## [Derry unites against community warden death threats](#)

Council leaders in Derry have joined forces to condemn death threats against the city's community safety wardens. Earlier this week it emerged dissident republicans had made the threats against 11 staff from the wardens scheme, which deals with low level antisocial behaviour.

## [Better Care Fund plans branded 'a shambles' by MPs](#)

Plans to save money by merging health and social care have been blasted as 'a shambles' after it was revealed they have delivered less than a third of the £1bn originally estimated. Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Margaret Hodge, said she was 'dismayed' by delays and changes to the Better Care Fund, which had weakened its credibility with local bodies.

## [Maude: £2bn saved in quango cull](#)

Reforming and abolishing public bodies has saved more than £2bn since 2010, according to minister for the cabinet office Francis Maude. He says savings have been achieved in a review of more than 900 public bodies in the last four years in which at least 185 have been abolished and 165 merged into fewer than 70, reducing the overall number by a third.

## [Ombudsman case highlights need for same sex carers](#)

Care providers have been urged to ensure vulnerable clients have access to same sex carers following a case in Warwickshire where a council failed to do so despite it being stipulated in a support plan.

## [Report: north of England missing out on infrastructure funding](#)

The north of England is being hampered by a lack of investment in infrastructure despite contributing more to the UK economy than Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland combined, a report has claimed. The think tank IPPR North argued Government spending is 'highly skewed' towards London and Scotland, particularly when it comes to key areas like transport investment.

## [Overhaul business rates to help small firms and save high streets – LGA](#)

Popular independent traders, family firms and businesses which use local suppliers could pay less in business rates under reforms proposed by councils which could help save England's high streets.

## [Council demands independent inquiry into alleged attacks by Libyan cadets](#)

Cambridge City Council has demanded a full independent inquiry into circumstances surrounding recent alleged sexual attacks involving Libyan cadet soldiers.

## [Cameron announces £15bn 'roads revolution'](#)

Britain's worst traffic hotspots will be targeted in a £15bn roads makeover to be announced by prime minister David Cameron. Hundreds of extra lane miles will be created on motorways and trunk roads as part of a 'roads revolution' to speed up journey times, he told the annual conference of the Confederation of British Industry's (CBI).

## [Performance markings: Home Office equality information](#)

Employee performance ratings for 2012 to 2013 and for 2013 to 2014.

## [Voting shake up needed to reinvigorate democracy, say MPs](#)

Compulsory voting in elections, handing 16 year olds the vote and greater devolution have been proposed by MPs as ways to deal with the 'crisis' facing democracy in the UK.

## [MPs probe scrutiny of Government and councils](#)

MPs tasked with overseeing the DCLG are calling for views on how they can better scrutinise the Government and local authorities in the future. The CLG select committee has issued a call for evidence to inform a report on its work that will be published before the end of Parliament.

## [Tees Valley unveils ambition to form combined authority](#)

Proposals have been launched to create a combined authority in Tees Valley designed to boost investment in the area and give it a 'stronger voice'. The area's five councils – Darlington, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Hartlepool – will begin consultation on the plans next month.

## [Wigan at forefront of world's first smart energy system pilot](#)

Hundreds of homes across Greater Manchester will become the first in the world to trial new green technology designed to reduce energy bills. The smart energy system, developed in Japan, uses air source heat pumps that act as reverse air conditioning, compressing air to generate heat and hot water.

## [Meeting beats tweeting when it comes to getting a job, new research finds](#)

Technology may have invaded every aspect of our lives, but new research shows a personal touch is still the best when it comes to getting a job.

The [2014 Employer Perspectives Survey](#), released today by government skills experts the UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES), shows that despite the meteoric rise of social media, just 7% of employers say they've used it to recruit new staff.

## [Employer Perspectives Survey 2014 now underway](#)

Fieldwork has now begun on the UK Commission for Employment and Skills' (UKCES) 2014 Employer Perspectives Survey (EPS).

## [Councils to double spending on 'inactivity epidemic' finds report](#)

Councils plan to double the amount of money they spend on tackling inactivity, according to a new report. *Steps to solving inactivity*, published by ukactive, reveals that local authorities have allocated 4% of their public health grant on tackling inactivity in 2014.15, compared to 3% in 2012/14. The figures also show that 70% of councils have increased their allocated budget on physical activity.

## [Plymouth unveils ten year health plan](#)

Plymouth City Council has launched a new ten year health plan to tackle the four lifestyle behaviours contributing to more than half the deaths in the city.

## [Government launches new congestion-busting guidance](#)

New guidance that will help reduce congestion and speed up the completion of road works has been published by the Department for Transport.

## 4. Consultations



## [College of Policing and HM Government](#)

Out of court disposals: consultation outcome.

## [HM Inspectorate of Prisons – stakeholder survey](#)

Each year HM Inspectorate of Prisons conducts a survey of its stakeholders, in order to gather feedback on its activities, and to inform future policy and practice. Our 2014 survey is now ready and we would very much welcome your views. Closing date 3 December.

## [UK Borders Act 2007: sanctions for non-compliance with the biometric registration regulations](#)

This consultation seeks comments on amendments to the code of practice following the extension of the biometric immigration document scheme for overseas applicants. Consultation closes on the 23 December 2014.

## [Consultation on the Government's policy on importation of oxycodone](#)

The Home Office has launched a public consultation on proposed amendments on licensing imports of oxycodone in the UK. The consultation runs until 20 November 2014 and is the second consultation on the Government's policy on the import of oxycodone to the UK.

## [Planning and travellers: proposed changes to planning policy and guidance](#)

Proposed changes to planning policy and guidance, ensuring fairness in the planning system, and strengthening protection of the green belt and countryside. Closes 23 November.

## [Open consultation on local policing accountability, leadership and ethics](#)

The Committee on Standards in Public Life (the Committee) has commenced an open consultation on local policing – accountability, leadership and ethics. Closes 30 November 2014.

## [Robbery guideline consultation](#)

The Sentencing Council has launched a consultation on the draft guideline on robbery. The consultation closes 23rd January 2015.

## [Consultation on Victim Charter May 2014](#)

Open date: 14/10/2014

Close date: 14/12/2014

## [Plans for Secure College rules consultation](#)

The purpose of the rules will be to set out the core parameters within which Secure Colleges will be required to operate to ensure that young people are detained safely and securely, and that their educational and rehabilitative needs are addressed. Consultation closes on 27 November 2014.

## [Proposed merger of the local justice areas in North Yorkshire](#)

This consultation was published on 1 October and closes on 31 December. Yorkshire.

## [Local policing – accountability, leadership and ethics](#)

The independent Committee on Standards in Public Life has launched an inquiry into the accountability structures of the police. Consultation closes 30 November 2014.

## Adult social work: knowledge and skills

Open date: 10/10/2014

Close date: 12/12/2014

## 5. Reviews and Inspections

### HMIC: Crime recording thematic to be published on the 18 November

#### IPCC investigates force that gave killer back his guns

The Independent Police Complaints Commission is investigating Surrey Police's decision to return confiscated licensed guns to a man who went on to kill two women.

#### West Midlands Police inspected on child protection

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has today published an inspection report into the child protection work carried out by West Midlands Police, following an inspection in June 2014. This is part of a rolling programme of child protection inspections of all police forces in England and Wales.

#### 2014 Value for money profiles

HMIC has published the latest value for money profiles which provide comparative data on a wide range of policing activities.

#### HMIC Website

Published the first 2014 PEEL update.