



## 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

The **Crime and Courts Bill** completed its scrutiny in the Public Bill committee and will return to the floor of the Commons shortly for the report and third reading stages.

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/crimeandcourts.html>

### **Draft Civil Enforcement of Road Traffic Contraventions (Representations and Appeals) (Wales) Regulations 2013**

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2013/9780111532898/contents>

**Radical package of Police integrity reforms announced: The Independent Police Complaints Commission is to be expanded to deal with all serious complaints against the police, the Home Secretary announced.** The move was revealed as part of series of measures designed to ensure the highest standards of integrity in policing. In addition to the expansion of the IPCC, the Home Secretary also announced:

- the College of Policing will publish national registers of chief officers' pay packages, gifts and hospitality, second jobs, and their contact with the media;
- the College will also publish a new code of ethics to be distributed to officers of all ranks. In addition, the College will work with ACPO to create a single set of professional standards on which officers will be tested throughout their careers;
- a national register of officers struck off from the police will be managed and maintained by the College;
- disciplinary hearings against officers who resign or retire will be pursued until their conclusion – with anyone found guilty of misconduct added to the struck-off list; and the College will establish a stronger and more consistent system of vetting for police officers, which chief constables and police and crime commissioners will have to consider when making decisions about recruitment and promotion.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/press-releases/1155613>

### **Commons debate to approve the Local Government Finance Report (England) 2013-14**

- **Feb 13:** The Commons debated the **Local Government Finance Report (England) 2013-14** and after a vote, it was approved by a majority of 78. [Local Government Finance Report \(England\) 2013-14](#)

The Commons debated the **Police Grant Report (England and Wales) for 2013-14** and it was approved by a majority of 76. [Police Grant Report \(England and Wales\) for 2013-14](#)

## 2. Policing and crime key developments

**Statement on police integrity:** The Home Secretary, Theresa May, made a statement to the House of Commons on Tuesday 12 February 2013 on police integrity, outlining the good work of those thousands of officers is undermined when a minority behave inappropriately. In the last year, there has been the Leveson Inquiry, which cleared the police of widespread corruption but called for greater transparency in policing, and the shocking report of the Hillsborough Independent Panel. Also the sacking of PC Simon Harwood and the investigation of several chief officers for misconduct. New announcement this week on an investigation now being led by Chief Constable Mick Creedon into the work of undercover officers from the Metropolitan Police.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2013/february/statement-on-police-integrity/>

**Community Safety Fund:** In 2013-14 PCCs will receive some funding from a new and temporary Community Safety Fund (CSF). Allocations from the CSF to PCCs were communicated on 19th December in a Written Ministerial Statement made to Parliament by the Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice. The Home Office will shortly issue a communication providing more details about the funding streams ending in March 2013. The communication will be posted on the Partners section of the PCC website, and can be found at the link: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/partners/> Grant letters and agreements for the Community Safety Fund will be issued to PCCs and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) shortly.

**National Audit Office report: The UK cyber security strategy: landscape review:** A National Audit Office review of the Government's strategy for cyber security indicates that, although it is at an early stage, activities are already beginning to deliver benefits.

[http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/1213/cyber\\_security.aspx](http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/1213/cyber_security.aspx)

**Alcohol Research UK/Local Government Association:** Licensing and Public Health: An LGA and Alcohol Research UK Briefing.

<http://alcoholresearchuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/lga-aruk-licensing-public-health-briefing.pdf>

**Centre for Public Scrutiny: Your right to know? The future for transparency in**

**England:** This report sets out thinking about transparency in public life and ways to meet its objectives now and in the future. The report defines some key terms:

- Open data – quantitative and qualitative information freely available to be used and reused in different formats, which can lead to;
- Transparency – openness about decision-making processes and the culture, values and assumptions that underpin decisions, which can lead to;
- Accountability – allowing others to judge credibility of decisions and policies..

[http://www.cfps.org.uk/domains/cfps.org.uk/local/media/downloads/L13\\_72\\_CfPS\\_your\\_right\\_to\\_know\\_v4.pdf](http://www.cfps.org.uk/domains/cfps.org.uk/local/media/downloads/L13_72_CfPS_your_right_to_know_v4.pdf)

**HMIP: Children and young people who sexually offend: Missed opportunities to prevent reoffending:** A joint inspection of the effectiveness of multi-agency work with

children and young people in England and Wales who have committed sexual offences and were supervised in the community.

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/publications/inspectorate-reports/hmiprobation/joint-thematic/children-yp-who-sexually-offend-report.pdf>

**Lord Stevens, a former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, has argued that the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) should be scrapped and stronger safeguards introduced to restore public confidence in forces across the UK:** Lord Stevens said: "It is doubtful whether the IPCC has at present either the resources or capacity to undertake competency or conduct investigations. But it is not enough to simply reform or strengthen the IPCC. It needs to be replaced with a new body that can wipe the slate clean".  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/9861697/Police-need-new-system-of-regulation-to-wipe-the-slate-clean-says-former-Commissioner-of-the-Metropolitan-Police.html>

### 3. Reports

**National Audit Office report on Responding to change in jobcentres:** The Department for Work and Pensions' network of jobcentres has coped well in the face of the economic downturn, according to a report by the National Audit Office. The Department has continued to develop these services in the face of major reforms, but it must improve how it tracks and understands performance. <http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/1213/jobcentres.aspx>

**Policy Exchange Paper: Expanding Payment-by-Results: Strategic choices and recommendations:** The decision to expand payment-by-results, whereby providers are paid (or not) for reducing reoffending rates, is a big shift in criminal justice policy. The impact of the Justice Secretary's decision will be substantial, far-reaching and felt by the criminal justice system and those working in it for years to come.  
<http://www.policyexchange.org.uk/images/publications/expanding%20payment%20by%20results.pdf>

**King's Institute of Psychiatry and the University of Bristol:** Experiences of Domestic Violence and Mental Disorders: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis  
<http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0051740>

**Policy Exchange Paper: Outcomes, Not Just Incomes: Improving Britain's understanding and measurement of child poverty:** Reducing child poverty is a vital part of improving the lives of some of the most disadvantaged children in society  
<http://www.policyexchange.org.uk/images/publications/outcomes%20not%20just%20incomes.pdf>

**Prison Reform Trust/Young Lives: Briefing Paper:** Turning young lives around: How health and justice services can respond to children with mental health problems and learning disabilities who offend  
<http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/Portals/0/Documents/turningyounglivesaroundFINAL.pdf>

**NSPCC: All babies count: Spotlight on drugs and alcohol:** This is the first in a series of Spotlight papers which build on the findings of the NSPCC report – *All Babies Count: Prevention and protection for vulnerable babies*<sup>1</sup> which highlighted the pressing

need for effective interventions for parents and their babies. The Spotlight papers focus on the specific developmental importance of pregnancy and babyhood, shining a light on a particular issue for families, policy and practice, in this case parental misuse of drugs and alcohol.

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/resourcesforprofessionals/underones/spotlight-drugs-alcohol\\_wdf94159.pdf](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/resourcesforprofessionals/underones/spotlight-drugs-alcohol_wdf94159.pdf)

**Howard League for Penal Reform: Intelligent Justice: Balancing the effects of community sentences and custody:** Paper on the debate over whether 'prison works', written by three leading criminologists on behalf of the Howard League, provides a framework for new thinking that might provide an escape from the current prisons crisis.  
[http://d19y1po4aovc7m.cloudfront.net/fileadmin/howard\\_league/user/online\\_publications/Intelligent\\_Justice.pdf](http://d19y1po4aovc7m.cloudfront.net/fileadmin/howard_league/user/online_publications/Intelligent_Justice.pdf)

**1.2 million job cuts expected in public sector – IFS:** Public sector job losses could rise above a million by 2018, the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) has warned in its [Green Budget](#).  
[http://www.publicsectorexecutive.com/Public-Sector-News/12-million-job-cuts-expected-in-public-sector--ifs?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Public+Sector+Executive&utm\\_campaign=2127542\\_PSE+Weekly+February+2013+Wk+2&dm\\_i=IJU,19LME,8Z1BIT,4AHY3,1](http://www.publicsectorexecutive.com/Public-Sector-News/12-million-job-cuts-expected-in-public-sector--ifs?utm_medium=email&utm_source=Public+Sector+Executive&utm_campaign=2127542_PSE+Weekly+February+2013+Wk+2&dm_i=IJU,19LME,8Z1BIT,4AHY3,1)

**Department for Communities and Local Government:** English Housing Survey 2010 – Headline report.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-housing-survey-2011-to-2012-headline-report>

**Department for Communities and Local Government:** Live tables on homelessness  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>

**Department for Communities and Local Government:** Rough sleeping in England: Autumn 2012.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rough-sleeping-in-england-autumn-2012>

**Department for Transport:** Reported road casualties Great Britain: Provisional estimates Q3 2012.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reported-road-casualties-great-britain-provisional-estimates-q3-2012>

**Office for National Statistics:** *Focus on Violent Crime and Sexual Offences 2011/12*  
<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/publications/Resources/Downloads/Youth%20Justice%20the%20Scale%20Approach%20-%20A%20framework%20for%20assessment%20and%20interventions.pdf>

**Road traffic estimates for Great Britain: quarter 4 2012:** This statistical release presents data on road traffic statistics in Great Britain up to Q4 (October to December) 2012.  
[Road traffic estimates for Great Britain: quarter 4 2012](#)

**“Community Trigger” needs a bullet: Committee calls for national standard for action on anti-social behaviour:** The Home Affairs Committee publishes its Report on the draft Anti-social Behaviour Bill on Friday 15 February (Twelfth Report, Session 2012-13, HC 836). <http://www.parliament.uk/homeaffairscom>

**A recent survey by the accountancy firm BDO suggests that confidence among UK businesses has fallen to its lowest level in 21 years:** The report claims that the “new normal of economic stagnation” has put businesses off investing, despite improvements in the labour market. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-21387493>

**A further nine hospitals are to be investigated over unexpectedly high death rates in the wake of the Francis Report into Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust:** Sir Bruce Keogh, Medical Director of the NHS, in charge of leading the investigations, said: “These hospitals are already working closely with a range of regulators. If there were concerns that services were unsafe the regulators should have intervened” ([FT](#); [Telegraph](#); [Times](#); [Guardian](#); [Mirror](#)).

**Secure colleges could be introduced to improve the education given to young offenders in England and Wales as most 15 to 17 year olds in custody have been excluded from school:** The green paper, *Transforming Youth Custody: Putting Education at the Heart of Detention*, looks at the free schools programme, as well as the academies programmes, as models to improve education standards for youth in custody and as potential new providers for their education ([BBC Online](#)).

**Attack on police leadership 'surprising and ill judged' says ACPO president:** Association of Chief Police Officers president Sir Hugh Orde has declared that “the current leadership of this service is well qualified” in response to former West Midlands chief constable Lord Geoffrey Dear’s article *‘Most wanted: new leadership for the police’*.

**Sports Minister urges urgent Met action following racism report:** The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has called for clubs and police to act “swiftly and effectively” against acts of racism after a Sky Sports special report identified one player being abused more than 50 times in a single game.

**Apps make child abuse more common say NSPCC and CEOP:** Children’s charity the NSPCC and senior officers from the Child Exploitation Protection Centre have joined together to call for greater controls on smartphone apps, which they say are making it “easier than ever before for people to be bullied and abused online”.

**Disability hate crime helpline launched:** A new free telephone helpline for people with learning disabilities who have been victims of disability hate crime has been launched.

**Communities and Local Government Select Committee – Private Rented Sector:** The Communities and Local Government Committee has decided to conduct an inquiry into the private rented housing sector. The Committee invites submissions from interested parties covering the quality and regulation of private rented housing, and levels of rent within the sector.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/communities-and-local-government-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/private-rented-sector/>

## **International Development Select Committee – *Violence against women and girls***

The International Development Committee held the first evidence session for the inquiry into Violence Against Women and Girls on Tuesday 12 February. The first panel offered the opportunity to hear from women lawyers working to reduce levels of violence in two African countries, Ghana and Tanzania.

<http://www.parliament.uk/indcom>

## **4. Consultations**

### **Surveillance camera code of practice consultation**

Following engagement and consultation with stakeholders and the public, the Home Office is now consulting on its draft code of practice for the use of surveillance cameras. The consultation runs until 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/surveillance-camera-consultation/?view=Standard&pubID=1155177>

### **Consultation on the implementation of direct entry in the police**

The Government is holding a consultation on how to implement these new policies including:

- A national fast track scheme to the rank of inspector
- A direct entry scheme for the rank of superintendent
- Changes to the eligibility for the rank of chief constable

The consultation closes on 28 March 2013.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/police-direct-entry-consultation/>

### **Tougher sex offence sentences proposed**

The Sentencing Council has launched a consultation on its proposals for how guidance on sexual offences should be brought up to date, including recognising the long-term psychological harm they cause. The guidelines will replace existing guidance which was issued following the Sexual Offences Act 2003. 14 week consultation to 14 March.

<http://sentencingcouncil.judiciary.gov.uk/media/858.htm>

Following the **Following the recent Christmas advertising burst, the THINK! drink drive campaign will continue during February and March.** This update gives you an overview of planned activity and the suite of campaign materials available to stakeholders such as the police, road safety professionals, the fire service and members of the public.

<http://shop.dft.gov.uk/THINKShop/>