



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

[Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act 2014](#)

This Act received Royal Assent on 18 July and relates to EC Directive 2006/24/EC, the retention of communications data and the authorisation of the interception of telecommunications.

[Social Action, Responsibility and Heroism Bill](#)

This Government Bill was presented to Parliament on **12 June 2014**. The Bill had its second reading debate on **21 July 2014**. This Bill has now been committed to a Public Bill Committee who will scrutinise the Bill line by line. The Public Bill Committee shall meet on a date yet to be announced. The Public Bill Committee is expected to report to the House of Commons by **14 October 2014**.

[Serious Crime Bill](#)

This Bill was presented to Parliament on **5 June 2014**. Line by line examination of the Bill took place during the third day of committee stage on **15 July 2014**. Amendments discussed covered clauses 62, 63, 65, 67, 69 and 70 of the Bill. Report stage – further line by line examination of the Bill will begin on **14 October 2014**.

[Criminal Justice and Courts Bill](#)

This Government Bill completed its passage through the House of Commons on **12 May 2014**. The Bill was carried over to the 2014-2015 parliamentary session and had its first reading in the House of Lords on **18 June 2014**. Line by line examination of the Bill took place during committee stage on **23 July**. Amendments discussed covered clauses 29, 36, 38, 39 and 42 to 48 of the Bill. Committee stage continued on **28 July** when further amendments were discussed. Report stage – further line by line examination of the Bill is scheduled for **20 October 2014**.

[Second reading of the International Development \(Official Development Assistance Target\) Bill \(private bill\)](#)

[Immigration Act 2014 has received Royal Assent.](#)

[Care Act 2014 has received Royal Assent.](#)

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 overarching documents](#)

[Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014](#)

[The Criminal Justice Act 1988 \(Reviews of Sentencing\) \(Amendment\) Order 2014](#)

[SI 2014/1798 Immigration Act 2014 \(Specified Anti-fraud Organisation\) Order 2014](#)

SI 2014/2125 Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Commencement No. 5) Order 2014

These Regulations came into force on **1 September 2014**.

SI 2014/2122 Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2014

These Regulations came into force on **1 September 2014**.

2014/2120 Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Surcharge) (Amendment) Order 2014

This Order amends the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Surcharge) Order 2012 and came into force on **1 September 2014**.

SI 2014/2097 Video Recordings Act 1984 (Exempted Video Works) Regulations 2014

These Regulations come into force on **1 October 2014**.

SI 2014/2081 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment No. 2) (England, Wales and Scotland) Regulations 2014

These Regulations come into force on **5 September 2014**.

SI 2014/1963 Police and Crime Commissioner Elections (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2014

SI 2014/2042 The Data Retention Regulations 2014

2. Strategic policing and crime news

[South Yorkshire PCC departure](#)

A major force is suffering from a "serious democratic deficit" as a result of the resignations of both a police and crime commissioner and his deputy, it is feared.

[PCC legislation must be 'repaired or redrawn'](#)

Analysts and PCCs themselves say legislation setting out election protocols and ability to remove a PCC from office needs to be repaired.

[Date of Autumn Statement announced](#)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne has announced in Parliament that he will be presenting his Autumn Statement on 3 December.

Chief Constable of Wiltshire Police investigated by IPCC

The IPCC is investigating the Chief Constable of Wiltshire Police, Patrick Geenty, an inspector and a detective constable from the force in relation to the way they dealt with complaints lodged in 2008 and 2009. Those complaints had been about the way the force handled allegations of sexual abuse.

APCC: Enhancing the democratic accountability of Police and Crime Commissioners

The APCC is developing proposals which will be presented to government before the end of the year on views of the powers of Police and Crime Panels and whether there is a need for a new power for the Home Secretary to recall a PCC in exceptional circumstances.

[Louise Casey to lead new Rotherham investigation](#)

Solace, which represents local authority chief executives, has welcomed the appointment of Louise Casey to lead the independent inspection of Rotherham council.

[Association of Chief Police Officers/Crown Prosecution Service](#)

Protocol on the appropriate handling of stalking offences between the Crown Prosecution Service and ACPO

[Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner](#)

Crime and Religion in Lancashire Report. The Leader of Lancashire County Council, County Councillor Jenny Mein and Police and Crime Commissioner, Clive Grunshaw, are both committed to tackling hate crime and incidents of hate across Lancashire.

3. Developments and reports

Scottish Referendum

Clear poll results 44.7% Yes, 55.3% with a 84.51% turnout, will trigger a constitutional discourse on devolution.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

User Guide to Neighbourhood Justice Panels (NJPSs)

[Home Office](#)

Additional guidance for health bodies on exercising functions under Licensing Act 2003

[University of Leicester](#)

The Leicester Hate Crime Project

[Centre for Crime and Justice Studies](#)

The market revolution in criminal justice

[Centre for Social Justice](#)

Social Solutions: Enabling grass-roots charities to tackle poverty

[New initiative launched to rehabilitate female offenders](#)

The Ministry of Justice has entered into an innovative collaboration with the London College of Fashion in HMP Holloway

[THINK! you're never too good to be a better rider](#)

The Government has launched their latest road safety campaign

[Security Minister: UK communities are stronger together](#)

James Brokenshire meets religious leaders on visit to mosque in London.

[Local service reforms to save £10 for every £1 spent](#)

Local Government Minister Kris Hopkins announced today (12 September 2014) that 77 local authorities will share £9 million investment as they join up services and reduce costs for taxpayers.

[York Council uses tool to help families](#)

The [City of York Council's Family Focus Team](#) has developed a new tool aimed at identifying strengths and weaknesses in vulnerable families. The Family Wheel tool examines all areas of family life. This includes health and well being, education, employment, offending behaviour, drug use, finances, and housing.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Justice Data Lab statistics: September

[Labour Market Statistics, September 2014](#)

- The main findings of this release are that employment continued to rise and unemployment continued to fall. These changes continue the general direction of movement since late 2011/early 2012.
- For May to July 2014, 73.0% of people aged from 16 to 64 were in work, up from 71.6% for a year earlier.
- The unemployment rate for May to July 2014 was 6.2%, the lowest since late 2008

[Greener fire engines, ambulances, buses and taxis on the way](#)

Over 1,000 local authority vehicles from buses to fire engines will be cleaner and greener after Transport Minister [Baroness Kramer](#) announced [successful bidders for the £5 million Clean Vehicle Technology Fund \(CVTF\)](#).

[Fire and rescue bulletin 49/2014](#)

This bulletin covers the emergency services mobile communication programme - invitation to tender, procurement of a replacement incident recording system and a Code of Practice on the release of sky lanterns.

[Fire and rescue – operational statistics published](#)

Operational statistics for the fire and rescue service in England were published on 27 August, including data on staff, injuries, fire safety audits of buildings and community fire safety.

[New data protection guidance for the media](#)

The ICO has today published Data Protection: a guide for the media, a practical tool designed to help those who work in the news media to understand their obligations under the DPA.

[New international data sharing agreement on the way](#)

The global processing of personal information requires an international approach to ensure our data is being looked after when it passes outside of the UK.

[Ministry of Justice served with £180,000 penalty following encryption errors](#)

The Ministry of Justice received a monetary penalty of £180,000 following a serious breach of the Data Protection Act. The breach was caused by the loss of an unencrypted hard drive at HMP Erlestoke in Wiltshire in May last year. The drive contained sensitive information relating to 2,935 prisoners.

The Liberal Democrats released their [pre-Manifesto](#) and associated [policy paper](#), “Protecting public services and making them work for you”.

[Public sector leadership less ethnically diverse than private](#)

There is significantly less ethnic diversity in public sector leadership roles across the UK than with senior roles in FTSE 100 companies, a new study has revealed.

[Councils must not pay senior staff ‘over the odds’, MPs warn](#)

Councils must seek better ‘market information’ to make sure they are not paying over the odds for their senior staff, the Communities and Local Government (CLG) Committee says.

[Government cuts protections for travellers to tackle unauthorised sites](#)

The government plans to introduce new measures to crack down on unauthorised travellers’ sites.

[Liverpool chief executive faces questions over Rotherham failings](#)

Ged Fitzgerald, chief executive of Liverpool City Council, is to be quizzed by political leaders in the city about his actions when he was in charge at Rotherham from 2001-03, when children were being sexually exploited but the council failed to act.

[Penalty clause of up to £400m if probation contracts cancelled](#)

The next government could face a penalty clause of £300m-£400m if it tries to cancel the controversial probation privatisation contracts. The Labour Party has pledged to scrap the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) contracts that outsource probation services should they win the next general election.

[Birmingham to cut another 6,000 jobs](#)

Up to 6,000 council jobs are to be axed in Birmingham over the next four years, as the leader of the council announces its workforce will be dramatically reduced.

[Department for Education](#)

Behaviour and discipline in schools

[Department for Health](#)

Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer 2013: public mental health priorities

[Global Commission on Drug Policy](#)

Pathways to drug policies that work

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

Welfare sanctions and conditionality in the UK

[National Housing Federation](#)

Prescription for Success

[Telling the Story of Local Authority Financial Statements](#)

CIPFA/LASAAC has issued its annual consultation to seek local authority and other key stakeholders views on the changes to the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code'). CIPFA/LASAAC needs responses from local authority accounts preparers to ensure that the proposals for change represent the key transactions in local authority accounts and that these changes work on a practical level.

[Empower councils over junk food or face 'bankrupt' NHS](#)

The NHS could go 'bankrupt' if more powers over fast food, alcohol and tobacco aren't handed to councils - its chief has warned.

4. Consultations

[Home Office Consultation: Strengthening the law on domestic abuse](#)

The Home Office is consulting on whether the current law on domestic abuse needs to be strengthened to offer better protection to victims. The closing date for responding to the consultation is **15 October 2014**.

[Revised PACE code A](#)

The consultation runs until Monday 20 October 2014. The changes in this draft have been made in order to implement the government's commitment as set out in the consultation on stop and search.

[Strengthening the law on domestic violence](#)

This consultation seeks views on whether the current law on domestic abuse needs to be strengthened to offer better protection to victims. It is specifically focused on whether we should create a specific offence that captures patterns of coercive and controlling behaviour in intimate relationships, inline with the government's non-statutory definition of domestic abuse. Closing date 15 October 2014.

[Ketamine rescheduling consultation](#)

The Home Office is seeking views on the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) recommendation to reschedule ketamine to Schedule 2 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulation (as amended) (the 2001 Regulations). The consultation runs until 3rd November 2014.

[Consultation on NICE quality standards](#)

The Health and Social Care Quality Programme and teams across NICE have worked together to update the quality standards process guide. The main elements of the process guide that have been updated are the review and update of quality standards and the inclusion of developmental statements. Closes on the 3rd September.

[Framework regulation integrating business statistics \(FRIBS\)](#)

Close date: 07/10/2014

[Consultation on the renewal of the EU Internal Security Strategy](#)

Close date: 03/10/2014

[Restricting non-residents' entitlement to the UK personal allowance](#)

Close date: 09/10/2014

[College of Policing Consultation on new guidance to help police officers and investigators tackle female genital mutilation](#)

The consultation runs for 10 weeks and closes on **30 September 2014**.

[Have your say on the National Minimum Wage](#)

Consultation closes on the 29 September 2014.

[Data policy for a Public Data Corporation](#)

Views wanted on how to provide accessible public sector information. The consultation will close on 27 October 2014.

[HMRC Consultation: Tackling offshore tax evasion a new criminal offence](#)

The Government has announced its intention to introduce a new strict liability criminal offence. This consultation seeks views on the design of this offence. The consultation period runs to **31 October 2014**.

[Equality and Human Rights Commission call for evidence on religion or belief issues](#)

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has launched a major call for evidence from individuals and organisations about how their religion or belief, or that of other people, may have affected their experiences in the workplace and in using the services and facilities they need in everyday life. Feedback can be given by completing the online survey by **14 October 2014**.

5. Reviews and Inspections

[Her Majesty's Inspector of Probation](#)

An inspection of the work of Probation Trusts and Youth Offending Teams to protect children and young people

[CJJI: Resettlement provision for adult offenders: Accommodation and education, training and employment](#)

A joint thematic review by HM Inspectorate of Prisons, HM Inspectorate of Probation and Ofsted

[HMIC: Core business](#)

An inspection into crime prevention, police attendance and the use of police time