



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)

Contact Officer: Karen.sleigh@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

1. Legislation

[Advertising of Prostitution \(Prohibition\) Bill - Private Bill](#)

A Bill to prohibit the advertising of prostitution; and for connected purposes.

[Modern Slavery Act 2015](#)

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 ('the Act') received Royal Assent on 26 March 2015.

[Queens Speech](#)

The Queen's Speech contains the following Bills identified below:

- Finance Bill
- Full Employment and Welfare Benefits Bill
- Enterprise Bill
- National Insurance Contributions Bill
- Childcare Bill
- Housing Bill
- Energy Bill
- Immigration Bill
- Trade Unions Bill
- Education and Adoption Bill
- [Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill](#)
- Scotland Bill
- Wales Bill
- High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Bill
- Northern Ireland Bill
- European Union Referendum Bill
- Extremism Bill
- Investigatory Powers Bill

- Policing and Criminal Justice Bill
- [Psychoactive Substances Bill](#)
- Armed Forces Bill
- Bank of England Bill
- Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Bill
- Votes for Life Bill
- European Union (Finance) Bill
- Buses Bill
- Public Service Ombudsman Bill (Draft)

[The Late Payment of Commercial Debts \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

Coming into force: 21 June 2015. Extends to: England and Wales and Northern Ireland
Of interest to: Local Authorities, Finance Dept. Chief Executives, PCCs, and Chief Constables.

2. Strategic policing and crime news

[Financial sustainability of police forces in England and Wales](#)

The Head of the National Audit Office said 'Although police forces have successfully reduced costs, without a thorough understanding of demand or the factors that bear on their costs it is difficult for them transform services intelligently. The Home Office also needs to be better informed to discharge its responsibilities. It needs to work with HMIC, the College of Policing and forces to gain a clearer understanding of the health of the service, particularly around demand and on when forces may be at risk of failing to meet the needs of local communities.'

[Oral statement by Home Secretary Theresa May on the Anderson Report](#)

David Anderson's review into operation and regulation of investigatory powers is published.

[NPCC responds to a review by David Anderson QC, Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation on Investigatory Powers](#)

National Police Chiefs' Council Chair Sara Thornton said:

"Crime is increasingly being committed online or arranged through digital communications, whether by fraudsters, rapists, child abusers or terrorists. At the same time, our access to communications data is rapidly degrading and it is important that the public are aware of the impact this is having.

[PM announces Migration Advisory Committee](#)

New Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) will look at proposals to cut non-EEA work migration and give British people the skills they need. MAC to advise on a funding boost to UK apprenticeships through a new Tier 2 visa levy, a rise on the minimum salary thresholds for migrant workers, and reforms to skills shortage criteria. Proposals on visa salary thresholds to be fast tracked in time for swift action in Immigration Rule changes later this year.

[New measure to make criminals pay legal aid costs](#)

New measures came into force on 1st June which are part of the package of legal aid reforms which make sure that those accused of a crime and wealthy enough to pay for some,

or all, of their legal representation do so.

Review of victims' personal statements

In her second review, the Victims' Commissioner aims to develop a better understanding of victim personal statement processes and what agencies could do better to use facilitate their use constructively. A short survey has been launched to seek people's views.

Use of police custody under Mental Health Act falls

Data collected from police forces across England and Wales shows that there has been a reduction in the use of police custody as a place of safety for people detained under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983.

Northumbria appoints new chief

Northumbria Police has appointed its former DCC Steve Ashman as the force's new Chief Constable.

BTP: 'night tube' will see increased deployment

British Transport Police has announced plans to increase its presence on the London Underground network, ahead of the start of 'night tube' services in September.

Scottish initiative aims to reduce drink driving even further

The Scottish government has launched its latest anti-drink drive effort, in support of Police Scotland's imminent summer safety initiative.

Changes in legislation reflected in new gang definition

The Home Office has published revised statutory guidance to reflect changes to the legislation on gang injunctions.

Forced marriage Guidance

Information and practice guidelines for professionals protecting, advising and supporting victims.

NRCN and Survey featured on BBC Countryfile this weekend

This Sunday (14 June) NRCN chair Julia Mulligan will be appearing on BBC's Countryfile (BBC 1 - 7pm) discussing all things National Rural Crime survey. Latest figures are showing 9922 completed survey responses from rural residents and businesses.

Circular 021/2015: changes to Home Office guidance on police misconduct, unsatisfactory performance and attendance management procedures

This circular contains updated Home Office guidance on the police misconduct and unsatisfactory performance procedures.

3. Developments and reports

Met to get 20,000 body cameras for officers

Plans to equip all Met Police officers with cameras on their uniforms have been announced by the Mayor of London.

[Scottish countryside crime crackdown](#)

Police Scotland has announced a new drive to reduce crime in rural communities north of the border.

[Manchester business take legal highs off shelves](#)

Greater Manchester shop owners are helping in the fight against legal highs by signing up to a new 'responsible retailer' scheme.

[Council launches new IT system to support vulnerable children](#)

A new IT system to map the work being done with over 1,000 vulnerable children in York has been launched by the council. City of York Council has implemented the new MOSAIC system to allow social workers to work more efficiently.

[Care system failing to tackle past trauma, says children's charities](#)

A new framework for children in care would ensure local authorities are held to account for failings in the system, according to an alliance of children's charities.

[G7: Statement by David Cameron and Barack Obama](#)

Transcript of a press conference held on 7 June 2015, during G7 in Germany.

[Local Government Association](#)

Good practice for police and crime panels: Guidance document.

[Competition for new emergency services network contracts reaches final bid stage](#)

Eight organisations are in contention for contracts to run the new Emergency Services Network with bids for all three lots expected back in the next few weeks.

[Study analyses link between psychotropic drugs and homicide risk](#)

A study analysing the Finnish homicide and prescription drug databases discovered that the use of certain drugs that affect the central nervous system are associated with an increased risk of committing a homicide.

[Demand Reduction Partnerships](#)

About Cinnamon Network. Cinnamon Network supports community transformation through the delivery of church-based social action projects.

[Written statement on prison overcrowding](#)

[Andrew Selous](#) (The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, Minister for Prisons, Probation and Rehabilitation): I wish to apologise to the House on behalf of the Ministry of Justice following the provision of misleading information to members. In its annual accounts to be published today, the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) is releasing amended data for prison crowding. It has become apparent that crowding figures previously published in the NOMS Annual Report, and doubling figures published in the Prison Performance Digest, have understated the level of crowding in each year back to 2008/2009. These incorrect figures have in turn informed public statements from the Ministry of Justice, including statements to Parliament.

[Ombudsman calls for segregation to be used more sparingly for prisoners at risk of self-harm](#)

Prisoners at risk of suicide and self-harm should only be kept in segregation units in exceptional circumstances, yet the number of prisoners who killed themselves in these austere settings is at its highest level for nearly a decade, said Nigel Newcomen, the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman (PPO). Today he published a bulletin on the lessons that can be learned from PPO investigations into self-inflicted deaths of prisoners being held in segregation.

[Deaths in prison segregation units: Howard League responds to Prisons and Probation Ombudsman's bulletin](#)

The Howard League for Penal Reform has responded to the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman's bulletin, published today (Tuesday 9 June), on the deaths of prisoners who took their own lives while being held in segregation.

[Shots fired at street cleaning staff by 10 year olds](#)

Street cleaning staff in Wirral have been hurt after youths potentially aged as young as 10 opened fire on them with a ball bearing gun.

[Osborne reveals £230m spending cut for DCLG](#)

George Osborne has revealed £230m will be cut from the Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG) spending budget this year, as part of £3bn saving measures

[Rail Accident investigation Branch – Annual Report](#)

Rail Accident Investigation Branch Annual Report published for the operational period ending 31 December 2014.

[Government boost to help low paid workers progress in their careers](#)

Seven new projects have been launched today by the UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES), aiming to boost the careers of low paid workers in retail and hospitality sectors.

[Government urged to radically reform structure of trading standards](#)

Local authority trading standards services should be abolished and replaced with larger, strategic authorities, according to a professional institute.

[Pothole sensor innovation opens up real-time detection for councils](#)

An innovative research project could soon see cars sharing real-time data on potholes with other drivers and councils, potentially slashing local authority costs.

[Doorstep sports saving society £69m a year](#)

A national programme to encourage disadvantaged young people to join sports clubs is generating savings of £69m a year to society.

[Public Health England](#)

Local Alcohol Profiles for England - June update.

[Policy Press](#)

Women and alcohol.

[Public Health England](#)

Health Profiles - new profiles for each area in England and Wales.

[Restorative Justice Council](#)

Restorative justice champions.

[European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction](#)

European Drug Report 2015.

[Local Government Information Unit](#)

Devolution: a road map.

[Making Every Adult Matter Coalition](#)

Solutions from the frontline: Recommendations for policy makers on supporting people with multiple needs.

[NHS can save up to £5bn a year through efficiencies – Lord Carter review](#)

The NHS could save up to £5bn a year by 2019-20 through a variety of efficiency measures, provided there is political and managerial commitment to take the necessary steps and funding to make this happen, an independent review has suggested.

[Select committees must reflect on own success and failure says IfG](#)

Select committees need to recognise that long-term impact can be as important as short-term change and get better at reflecting on their own successes and failures, a new report has suggested.

[People with a mental health crisis being 'failed' by public services, says regulator](#)

Local authorities are failing to work with health bodies to ensure people having a mental health crisis have access to immediate care, the care regulator is warning today.

[Councils to be hit hard by hike in bankruptcy threshold](#)

Councils and housing associations are likely to be among the hardest hit by the forthcoming hike to the minimum threshold for a creditor's bankruptcy petition.

[Code of Practice on Transport Infrastructure Assets: Guidance Notes](#)

The Guidance Notes provide guidance on the Code of Practice on Transport Infrastructure Assets, giving both engineers and accountants the practical details they need to value their transport infrastructure

[Eye tracking technology helps council redesign website](#)

A council has used eye tracking technology to help redesign its website.

[Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities 2015/16](#)

Code of Practice on Transport Infrastructure Assets: Guidance Notes

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[Creating Services in a Collaborative Environment](#)

The current state of public finances means that the sector needs to urgently and actively consider redesigning services and deploying new delivery models. Challenging the fundamental nature and scope of the services being provided is key.

[The Excellent Finance Business Partner](#)

This publication (published in April 2015) shows how you can enhance your impact by working in partnership with other professional disciplines and decision makers, and also deals with the common pitfalls encountered when developing a business partnering role

[Westminster Hall debate on City Regions and Metro Mayors](#)

John Pugh, Liberal Democrat MP for Southport, moved a debate on city regions and metro mayors. The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, James Wharton, responded on behalf of the Government.

[Demolish council estate high-rise blocks, says housing minister](#)

Housing minister Brandon Lewis has said London's high-rise flats on estates could be demolished and rebuilt to increase housing supply.

[London urged to appoint 'Data Tsar' to transform services](#)

The next Mayor of London should appoint a Data Tsar to monitor and analyse data sets from all the Capital's boroughs to improve public services, a new report is proposing.

[National Audit Office report: Local government new burdens](#)

The NAO's report on *Local government new burdens*, which considers how well the government has applied the New Burdens Doctrine. This sets out how the government would ensure that new requirements that increased local authorities' spending did not lead to excessive council tax increases. The NAO underlines the importance of departments assessing new burdens on authorities not only rigorously but also transparently. In addition, the Department for Communities and Local Government needs to use intelligence better, to improve its understanding of the pressures affecting local authorities' financial sustainability.

[DCLG warned to improve understanding of burdens on councils](#)

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) needs to improve its understanding of the burden's placed on councils' finances, auditors are warning.

[South East councils make devolution bid](#)

Three councils in the South East have presented the Government with a list of 'devolution offers' to help mitigate the pressures of economic growth.

[Climate resilience in Newcastle](#)

Newcastle is a forward-thinking city. In 2012 it experienced a significant flood that affected more than 1,000 homes, disrupting metro, bus and national rail networks, with a knock-on effect on the region's economy. This impact, coupled with research showing the city will see increased amounts of severe weather in future, led to a consensus that the city needs to be better prepared.

[Machine-to-Machine technologies could save councils £400m a year says research](#)

Councils are failing to utilise Machine-to-Machine (M2M) technologies, missing out on over £400m a year in potential savings, according to new research.

[Wales plans e-cigarette ban amid stricter demands on councils](#)

Smoking e-cigarettes could be banned in enclosed spaces and councils hit with new demands over local toilets under new Welsh public health laws.

'Reboot' Universal Credit concludes review

The Government should continue with its Universal Credit (UC) programme but implement 'far-reaching' reforms to address flaws in the policy, a think tank has concluded.

Inquiry seeks examples of how good design improves behaviour

An inquiry has been launched to investigate how good design and architecture can encourage people to behave better.

Funding for children's charities cut by £150m in a year

Children's charities have suffered big cuts in government income which have not been offset by a rise in donations, new data shows.

NEETs at risk of being left behind by government, warns LGA

Councils are calling for the government to return key powers over careers advice, skills and national engagement programmes to them, as councils have a better track record of getting young people into work, education or training than Whitehall.

Councils with slow adoption services will have to merge or outsource them

More councils could be forced to merge or outsource their adoption functions to speed up the placement process. The government says the powers in the new **Education and Adoption Bill** "would only be used if councils failed to take action quickly enough".

Working families could become 'second class savers' under universal credit

Universal credit (UC) contains "many flaws" and is in need of major reform if it is not to treat working families as "second class savers", an independent review of the scheme has found.

High Court rules that PIPs delays are unlawful

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) took an "unlawful and unacceptably long time" to pay the new personal independence payments (PIPs) to two unnamed disabled people, a high court judge has ruled.

Civil Service faces skills shortage due to reduction in recruitment

The Civil Service faces a major skills and talent shortage in the future as it focuses on minimising staffing levels through reducing recruitment, the National Audit Office has warned.

Social care at risk as councils forced to cut another £1bn, says ADASS

More than £1bn will be taken out of social care budgets in 2015-16 because of cuts in council funding, making the whole sector 'unsustainable', a report published by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Service (ADASS) has warned.

Councils urged to save wildflowers by cutting verges later

Many councils are threatening wildflowers and the wildlife that depend on them by cutting verges too early in the year, campaigners have warned.

Research reveals sharp increase in building on greenbelt land

Councils have approved five times the number of new homes to be built on greenbelt land over the past five years, according to a new investigation.

Conservative councillor Gary Porter to be next LGA chair

Gary Porter is to become the next chair of the Local Government Association.

The leader of South Holland District Council will take up the role on 30 June after nobody else put themselves forward for the role.

4. Consultations

[Nottinghamshire - State of the Sector Survey](#)

Nottinghamshire County Council in partnership with the VCS has commissioned an important piece of independent research into the state of the VCS in the County. The survey is being conducted by Sheffield Hallam University, through their specialist Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research. Over 1500 organisations are being directly contacted to complete a survey – the information provided will play an important role in identifying the contribution, scope, nature and experiences of the voluntary and community sector in Nottinghamshire as well as how we can all work together to strengthen the VCS in the County.

[Surveillance Camera Commissioner launches survey](#)

Surveillance Camera Commissioner launches survey to review the operation and impact of the surveillance camera code of practice.

[Consultation on human trafficking](#)

Open date: 29/05/2015

Close date: 29/07/2015

[Office of the Registrar of Consultant Lobbyists](#)

Register of Consultant Lobbyists: compliance policy.

[Consultation is now open on the draft challenging behaviour and learning disabilities quality standard](#)

The draft challenging behaviour and learning disabilities quality standard is now available on the NICE website for consultation. The consultation period starts today, **Friday 29th May**, and finishes at **5pm on Friday 26th June 2015**.

[Bolsover District Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan for Bolsover District.](#)

The Local Plan will set out the vision and objectives for the District out to 2033 as well as the spatial strategy in terms of how much new development will be accommodated in the District over the plan period and where in the District this growth will be located (including site allocations). The Council must have received your comments by 5pm (17:00) on Friday 3rd July 2015 to ensure they are considered.

[NICE: Domestic violence and abuse quality standard – change to consultation dates](#)

This consultation will now run from Friday 29 May until Tuesday 16 June 2015.

[Local Government Association](#)

Remodelling public protection: The future of councils' regulatory services.

[Cabinet Office](#)

Public service ombudsman. Closes 16 June 2015.

[Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Extending the remit of the Local Government Ombudsman to larger parish and town councils. Closes 30 June 2015.

Consultation on changes to the risk assessment framework: June 2015

Open date: 03/06/2015
Close date: 01/07/2015

Public consultation on proposed topics for the 2021 Census questionnaire in England and Wales

Open date: 04/06/2015
Close date: 27/08/2015

Consultation on Proposal for a Cyber Resilience Strategy for Scotland

Open date: 05/06/2015
Close date: 28/08/2015

5. Reviews and Inspections

Short Quality Screening (SQS) of Youth Offending Work in Nottinghamshire.

The inspection was conducted from 11-13 May 2015 as part of our programme of inspection of youth offending work. This report is published on the HMI Probation website. A copy will be provided to partner inspectorates to inform their inspections, and to the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

Criminal Justice Joint Inspection

Joint inspection of the provision of charging decisions

Responding to austerity progress report: Nottinghamshire Police

This report sets out the progress made by Nottinghamshire Police since the publication of the **Policing in Austerity: Meeting the Challenge** report was published in 2014.

Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland

The effectiveness of youth conferencing.

Joint Review of Disability Hate Crime: Follow-up report

This joint follow-up review considered how the police, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and probation service providers (National Probation Service (NPS)/Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs)) have responded to the seven recommendations contained in the Criminal Justice Joint Inspection (CJJI) March 2013 review of disability hate crime.