



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

[Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill: Receives Royal Assent](#)

[Home Office publish code of practice on powers of entry](#)

[Proceeds of Crime Act Draft Code of Practice](#)

[Motion to approve an SI on Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism](#)

[Government to create new domestic abuse offence](#)

[The Immigration Act 2014 \(Transitional and Saving Provisions\) Order 2014](#)

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

[Serious Crime Bill – overarching documents](#)

[The Modern Slavery Bill](#)

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

[Upcoming secondary legislation published](#)

[Criminal Justice and Courts Bill](#)

2. Strategic policing and crime news

[Written statement on Terrorism Prevention and Investigation Measures](#)

[EU-wide traffic-offence information exchange will improve road safety across Europe](#)

For the first time, the 28 EU member states will soon be able to exchange on traffic offenders and to pursue fines back home, even when the offence has been committed in another country.

['Significant cost saving' for emergency services network contract](#)

Intense competition between bidders for the contracts to run the new Emergency Services Network (ESN) is offering the prospect of significant cost savings for the taxpayer, the Home Office revealed.

[International Crime and Policing Conference 2015](#)

Home Office conference explores thinking on cutting crime in a changing world.

UK joins international security alert system

More foreign terrorists, murderers and paedophiles will be kept out of the country after the UK successfully negotiated access to vital European data.

[National scheme to end new FGM cases by 2030](#)

The Local Government Association and Barnardo's have secured £2m in government funding to set up the scheme.

[New measures to end Female Genital Mutilation](#)

On International Day of Zero Tolerance, the Government announced further measures to bring FGM to an end.

[Balance North East](#)

Public Health and the Licensing Act 2003 - Briefing on Public Health Participation in Statements of Licensing Policy.

[May to announce review into welfare of detained immigrants](#)

Home secretary Theresa May is set to announce an independent review of the welfare of immigrants held in detention centres today.

3. Developments and reports

[MPs suggest weekend elections and online voting to increase engagement](#)

Elections on weekends, online voting and being able to register to vote on election day itself are some of the "radical changes" proposed by MPs to get more people to vote

[Crime Prevention Minister announces mandatory reporting of FGM](#)

The government has tabled amendments to the Serious Crime Bill to ensure the new duty is legislated for ahead of the dissolution of Parliament. The government will also include a measure to provide multi-agency statutory guidance for front line professionals.

[Police workers back improved pay deal, says Unite](#)

Members of the country's largest union, Unite, working for police forces in England and Wales have backed an improved pay offer in a ballot it has been announced. Civilian staff, including 999 call handlers, scene of crime officers, police community support officers and

custody officers, accepted the revised pay offer of 2.2 per cent, or £400, whichever is greater, by 92 per cent.

Brake helpline for road crash victims awarded prestigious Helplines Standard

Brake's support helpline for bereaved and injured victims left devastated by road crashes has been awarded the [Helplines Standard](#), a nationally recognised mark of quality by [Helplines Partnership](#).

Government action to tackle slavery in supply chains

Large companies urged to ensure modern slavery does not have a place in business.

Home Office

An evaluation of government and law enforcement interventions aimed at reducing metal theft.

Prison Reform Trust

Inside Out: Release on temporary licence and its role in promoting effective resettlement and rehabilitation.

Revolving Doors Agency

Adding Value? Reflections on payment by results for people with multiple and complex needs.

Home Affairs Select Committee

Policing and Mental Health.

Care Quality Commission

Monitoring the Mental Health Act in 2013/14.

CCGs 'failing in their duty' to provide safe places for the mentally unwell

CCGs are not providing enough places of safety for the mentally unwell, leading to the scandal of police cells having to be used as a substitute, MPs have said.

Crisis

The homelessness monitor: England 2015

Department for Communities and Local Government

Minutes of ministerial working group on preventing and tackling homelessness.

Homes and Communities Agency

Current registered providers of social housing.

Councils warned structural change will not prevent service failures

Councils have been urged to 'resist the temptation' to make structural changes in the wake [of the Rotherham scandal](#) by the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS).

Devolution to cities could raise £222bn, says think tank

Cities with stronger powers over tax and spending could raise an extra £222bn for the country by 2030, a report claims.

[Core Cities lay out devolution timetable for England](#)

The UK's largest cities outside London have called for the creation of a new Devolution Agency within 100 days of the next government coming to power, alongside Scottish-style tax powers to encourage growth.

[Welsh Affairs Committee](#)

Prisons in Wales and the treatment of Welsh offenders.

[Home Secretary holds interfaith talks in east London](#)

Home Secretary Theresa May attended discussions with representatives from Barking's Muslim, Jewish and Sikh communities yesterday.

[Department for Transport](#)

Reported road casualties in Great Britain, provisional estimates: July to September 2014.

[Tees Valley combined authority moves one step closer](#)

Plans to create a combined authority for the Tees Valley have been endorsed by local communities and businesses.

[Councils could 'save £5bn' by switching to digital](#)

Local government could save £5bn over the course of the next decade by embracing digital technologies and moving more services online, a new report has claimed.

[Councils call for fresh funding and powers to tackle schools crisis](#)

Council leaders have warned England faces a 'tipping point' in school capacity despite the government announcing a further £1.3bn to pay for new places.

[New garden villages could deliver one million homes, claims think tank](#)

If each council in England built one garden village, over one million new homes could be built over the next decade, according to a new report.

[New figures reveal 'deeply worrying' fall in social services posts](#)

Councils have been shedding social services staff at a rate of 10,000 a year since 2011, latest statistics have revealed.

[Extra funding announced to help councils get ready for the early years pupil premium](#)

New government funding will be given to councils to help them prepare for the introduction of the Early Years Pupil Premium, Childcare Minister Sam Gyimah has announced.

[Almost £300m awarded in latest Regional Growth Fund wave](#)

A further £297m has been awarded to local businesses across the UK under the latest wave of the Government's Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

[Plans for 'free council homes' blasted by housing chiefs](#)

Housing association chiefs have condemned as 'preposterous' Conservative plans to extend the Right to Buy scheme and give housing association tenants the opportunity to own properties they currently rent.

[Three UK cities named among world's most sustainable locations](#)

Three of England's cities have been ranked ahead of New York, Tokyo and Rome in a list of the world's most sustainable cities. Research by Arcadis into the 50 most sustainable urban areas named London in second place, Manchester in 14th and Birmingham in 18th.

[Social problems costing £17bn a year, research warns](#)

Tackling damaging social problems affecting children and young people costs the country nearly £17bn a year, new research shows.

[Councils urged to engage residents in estate regeneration decisions](#)

Councils should hold an independent ballot when deciding to demolish a housing estate, according to a new report.

[Cost of council outsourcing contracts climbs to £30m average](#)

Council outsourcing contracts rose in cost to an average of £30.3m in 2014, as local government increasingly focussed on 'more sophisticated' deals – research suggests.

[One in four councils to freeze or lower council tax](#)

Only a quarter of local authorities are to take up the government's grant to freeze or lower council tax this year, according to new figures.

[Councils call for slice of tobacco duty to tackle smoking](#)

Town hall chiefs are calling for a cash boost to help drive down smoking rates. A new report warns that councils do not have enough money in their health budgets to deliver schemes the reduce smoking after mandatory services have been paid for.

[West Yorkshire devolution deal to be agreed before budget](#)

A devolution deal for West Yorkshire should be agreed by the time the budget is delivered in March the Chancellor has announced.

[Stronger support against rogue landlords](#)

The Government has announced stronger protection for tenants against rogue landlords who evict people in a 'retaliatory eviction' .

4. Consultations

[Domestic abuse consultation](#)

The College of Policing is currently developing guidance on the subject of domestic abuse and is looking for feedback on the content of the guidance. The consultation is open until 18th February 2015.

[Use of Expert Witnesses in Courts in NI](#)

Open date: 13/11/2014
Close date: 20/02/2015

[HMIC Consultation on Inspection Programme for 2015/16](#)

The HMIC are currently consulting on the proposed inspection programme for 2015/16, closes 25 February 2015.

[Proposal to extend the power of the Criminal Cases Review Commission](#)

Open date: 01/12/2014

Close date: 27/02/2015

[Improving the Display Energy Certificates regime for public buildings](#)

Open date: 11/02/2015

Close date: 11/03/2015

[Updating the NHS Constitution](#)

Open date: 11/02/2015

Close date: 11/03/2015

[Speaking to witnesses at court: consultation](#)

The aim of this consultation is to ask for responses to the draft guidance which sets out the role played by prosecutors at or before court in ensuring that witnesses give their best evidence. This is a core part of the prosecutor's job and will, if done properly, impact positively on both the quality of the witness's evidence in court and the perception of the service they receive from us. Closes 16/03/15.

[Pre-charge bail: consultation on statutory time limits and related changes](#)

The government has launched an open consultation on pre-charge bail. The consultation is focused on a series of measures whose overall impact should reduce both the number of individuals subject to, and the average duration of, pre-charge bail.

[Law Commission consultation on electoral law The Law Commission has launched a consultation on electoral law reform.](#) This is a joint project by the Law Commission of England and Wales, the Scottish Law Commission and the Northern Ireland Law Commission. Closes 31 March 2015.

[Modern slavery and supply chains](#)

Open date: 12/02/2015

Close date: 07/05/2015

5. Reviews and Inspections

[HMIC: Inquiry into Nottingham police finds serious child protection failings](#)

Report uncovers 'lack of awareness of child sexual exploitation' and significant delays in some investigations

[HMIC: Dyfed-Powys Police National Child Protection Report – 17 February](#)

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) is inspecting the child protection work of every police force in England and Wales. Previous reports from this programme of work can be found on our website.

[HMIC publish report on girls in the criminal justice system](#)

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) have published their report on girls in the criminal justice system.

[Police forces making progress on tackling corruption](#)

Police forces have made significant progress in putting in place the processes to prevent and tackle corruption, according to a report launched today by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), and this is in part due to strong leadership being demonstrated by senior police officers.

[The National Audit Office \(NAO\)](#) issued an "adverse opinion" on the Department for Education's financial statement; the first time since 2005 the NAO has issued such criticism. The NAO identified errors and uncertainties stemming from inadequacies in combining accounts of more than 2,500 bodies, including academies, which operate on different reporting periods.

[Joint Inspectorates' report on YOTs and troubled families published](#)

Joint report by HMIC, HM Inspectorate of Probation, the Care Quality Commission and Ofsted was published on the role of Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) in the Troubled Families Programme by helping to reduce reoffending and tackling anti-social behaviour by children and young people.

[IPCC investigates Northumbria collision death](#)

The Independent Police Complaints Commission is investigating contact had by Northumbria Police with a man prior to his being knocked down by a bus. Matthew Drummond, 38, was involved in the collision while walking on the northbound section of the A1068 near Hadston at around 6am in November of last year. He subsequently died in the Royal Victoria Infirmary as a result of his injuries.