



## 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

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

The Home Office has produced a code of practice which provides guidance and sets out considerations that apply to the exercise of powers of entry. It aims to ensure greater consistency in the exercise of powers of entry and greater clarity for those affected by them, while upholding effective enforcement.

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

The Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA) has been amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009 and the Crime and Courts Act 2013. As a result, the associated codes of practice that govern the use of powers under the Act have also been amended.

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

That the draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Proscribed Organisations) (Amendment) Order 2015, which was laid before this House on 19 January, be approved.

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

Home Secretary Theresa May has announced a new domestic abuse offence of coercive and controlling behaviour.

### [Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill: Amendments to be moved in Committee](#)

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

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

### [Serious Crime Bill](#)

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

## [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](#)

### [Criminal Justice and Courts Bill](#)

[SI 2015/55 The Terrorism Act 2000 \(Proscribed Organisations\) \(Amendment\) Order 2015](#)

[SI 2015/40 The Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 \(Commencement No. 2\) Order 2015](#)

[SI 2015/25 The Ministry of Defence Police \(Conduct etc.\) Regulations 2015](#)

[SI 2015/13 Criminal Procedure \(Amendment\) Rules 2015](#)

[SI 2015/11 Money Laundering \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

[SI 2015/9 Criminal Justice \(Specified Class B Drugs\) Order 2015](#)

[SI 2014/3347 Police \(Conduct\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2014](#)

[SI 2014/3315 Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(Commencement No 10\) Order 2014](#)

[SI 2014/3284 Licensing Act 2003 \(Personal licences\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2014](#)

[SI 2014/3279 Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 \(Remote Reviews of Detention\) Regulations 2014](#)

[SI 2014/3271 Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 \(Amendment\) \(No 2\) Order 2014](#)

## 2. Strategic policing and crime news

### [Police Complaints: Statement from Independent Police Complaints Commission](#)

This report presents figures on complaints recorded about the police in England and Wales in 2013/14. These complaints are made by members of the public about the conduct of those serving with the police or about the direction and control of the police and are dealt with under the Police Reform Act 2002.

### [Home Secretary announces judge to lead statutory inquiry into historical child sexual abuse](#)

Home Secretary Theresa May has announced that she plans to appoint Justice Lowell Goddard to lead the Independent Panel Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

### [Hundreds of university professors criticise controversial new terror laws says UCU](#)

Over 500 of the UK's most senior academics have signed a letter sent to the Guardian warning that controversial new laws aimed at tackling extremism would place an unlawful and unenforceable duty on universities.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 - update**

The expected commencement by the end of January of both the Civil Injunction and the ability to delegate powers to issue Community Protection Notices has been delayed and both will not commence by 30th March 2015.

## **[Five Country Ministerial Communiqué](#)**

Communiqué following the Five Country Ministerial held in London.

## **[Police pension administrator contacts: England and Wales](#)**

## **[Home Office circular 018/2009: forfeiture of police pensions](#)**

The purpose of this circular is to draw attention to an update to our previous guidance issued in Home Office Circular 26/2006.

## **[HMIC 2015/16 inspection programme](#)**

HMIC is currently consulting on the content of the forthcoming inspection programme. The consultation closes on 25th February 2015.

## **[Home Secretary announces £10m Police Knowledge Fund](#)**

Speaking at the inaugural International Crime and Policing Conference, the Home Secretary has announced a new scheme to enhance working between police and academia.

## **[HMIC \(2014\) Crime-recording: making the victim count](#)**

HMIC have published their final report of an inspection of crime data integrity in police forces in England and Wales. The report examined the accuracy and integrity of crime-recording in all 43 Home Office-funded police forces in England and Wales.

## **[Policy Exchange publishes 'Swift and Certain. A new paradigm for criminal justice'](#)**

Policy Exchange has published the first report in a new series looking at the impact of time considerations on the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

## **3. Developments and reports**

### **[The UK Cyber Security Strategy – Report on progress and forward plans](#)**

The Government has released its progress report on the UK Cyber Security Strategy. This report summarises progress over the last 12 months and sets out our plans for the year ahead.

### **[Surveillance Camera Commissioner publishes first annual report](#)**

The Surveillance Camera Commissioner has published his first annual report which outlines the work completed and his future plans.

### **[The Lord Chief Justice's Annual Report 2014](#)**

The Lord Chief Justice's annual report was published on 15 December 2014. The report looks back at the past 12 months and explains how the judiciary have administered justice across all jurisdictions by focusing on key priorities.

### **[College of Policing published response to a consultation on the use of pre-charge bail](#)** **[The](#)** 16-week consultation, which closed in July 2014, looked at the operational use of police

bail rather than the statutory basis of the power and resulted in 89 responses from the public, the police and criminal justice community about their views on new principles to govern the police use of pre-charge bail.

## [Independent review of police disciplinary system published](#)

A report has been published, following an independent review into the police disciplinary system. It is the final report of the Chapman Review, which was chaired by Major-General Chip Chapman CB, an independent former Army officer who was tasked by the Home Secretary to put forward proposals for a reformed police disciplinary system that is clear, public-focused, transparent and more independent.

## [Guidance on recognising fraudulent identity documents](#)

The Home Office has released a guide on how to detect basic forgeries in identity documents. The guide highlights the main security features present in a number of documents and the main methods used to forge such documents. It intends to assist staff in the detection of basic forgeries, although it does not provide staff with the skills to detect all forgeries, particularly those which have been produced using highly professional and sophisticated techniques.

## [Become a restorative justice champion](#)

The Restorative Justice Council needs leaders from a wide range of sectors to act as champions and spokespeople for restorative justice.

## [CPS and police focus on consent at first joint National Rape Conference](#)

Consent is top of the agenda at this conference and CPS has created a series of toolkits for prosecuting solicitors and in-house barristers on dealing with issue.

## [Online tracking service launched for victims of crime](#)

Victims of crime can now find the latest information about their case at any time of the day or night thanks to an innovative online service, TrackMyCrime, to be launched to police forces across the country

## **Planned attacks on educational establishments**

Salford City Council is looking for help to research whether any UK police forces or Educational Establishments have detailed programmes in place to prevent and protect such an attack, or respond to one that has been carried out. If you can help get in touch with Deborah Borg.

## [Thousands of children kicked out of school for drink and drugs](#)

The Centre for Social Justice has said that Government statistics reveal that alcohol and drugs are daily realities in England's state schools.

## [Alcohol Research UK](#)

Constructing alcohol identities: the role of Social Network Sites (SNS) in young people's drinking cultures.

## [Alcohol Research UK](#)

'What are you meant to do when you see it everywhere?' Young people, alcohol packaging and digital media.

## [Home Office](#)

Counting rules for recorded crime.

## [Home Office](#)

Police workforce, England and Wales, 30 September 2014.

## [Equality and Human Rights Commission launch new project to help tackle LGBT hate crime](#)

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has launched a 16-month-long project, which began in December 2014, to tackle significant under-reporting of hate crime against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people in Great Britain.

## [Equality and Human Rights Commission publish Terms of Reference for investigation of Metropolitan Police Service](#)

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has published the Terms of Reference for its investigation into unlawful discrimination and victimisation of police service staff by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS).

## [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

Does money in adulthood affect adult outcomes?

## [Mental Health Network/NHS Confederation](#)

Mental health and policing - Improving crisis care.

## [Ministry of Justice](#)

Reoffending by offenders on Community Orders: OMCCS results.

## [Ministry of Justice](#)

The impact of short custodial sentences, Community Orders and Suspended Sentence Orders on reoffending.

## [Public Health England](#)

Improving young people's health and wellbeing: A framework for public health.

## [Victims' Commissioner](#)

A review of complaints and resolutions for victims of crime.

## [Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Fire Statistics Great Britain: 2013 to 2014.

## [Health and Social Care Information Centre](#)

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - December 2014 - Experimental statistics.

## [Ministry of Justice](#)

Youth justice annual statistics: 2013 to 2014.

## [Ministry of Justice](#)

Proven reoffending statistics quarterly bulletin: April 2012 to March 2013.

## [Report of inspection of Rotherham](#)

Louise Casey report on the Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council finds it is failing in its legal obligations to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which it exercises its functions.

### **Government to take over Rotherham Council after damning child exploitation report**

Rotherham council is to come under central government control after an independent inspection of its handling of child sexual exploitation concluded it was not fit for purpose and was more concerned about protecting its own reputation than its most vulnerable citizens

### **Think tank calls for 'double devolution' revolution**

A think-tank has urged councils to use new devolved powers from Westminster to help tackle poverty and inequality.

### **Ministers fail to honour community care pledge**

The National Audit Office has accused ministers of failing to honour a pledge to move patients with learning difficulties out of hospitals and into community care. According to the latest figures, there were still 2,600 patients with learning difficulties in mental health hospitals in England in September 2014.

### **Is social care the latest casualty of austerity?**

As the problems in social care continue to grow, the head of the Local Government Association has called for an extra £1.1bn funding to allow councils to maintain a "civilised level of care".

### **County growth plans accelerating faster than cities – CCN**

Counties' growth plans are accelerating faster than their city counterparts, despite the authorities receiving a third less funding per capita in the government's latest £1bn funding round for local growth deals, according to the County Councils Network (CCN).

### **Greater devolution could reduce poverty and inequality**

More devolution of powers and budgets from Whitehall offers councils the chance to tackle poverty and inequality by 'doing things differently'. A new report – The Local Double Dividend – published by the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES), argues that if councils are to deliver change for the better then a local economic policy that has social investment and a focus on addressing inequalities at its heart is needed.

### **City council to create UK's first municipal energy company**

Bristol City Council's Cabinet is voting tomorrow on plans to be the first council in the country to launch a municipal energy company.

### **Government releases extra funding for social care to ease NHS pressures**

The government has released £12m of extra funding to councils to help get people out of hospital and ease the pressure on the NHS.

### **11 new Integrated Care and Support Pioneers announced**

The Integrated Care and Support Pioneers programme, set up to test new ways to join up care, has been expanded into 11 new areas, the Department for Health has announced. Fourteen localities were originally chosen to pioneer new approaches, supported by national partners. This has now been expanded to 25 localities. The new integrated care pioneer areas are:

- Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven
- Fylde Coast
- Camden
- Greater Manchester
- Nottingham (City)
- Nottinghamshire
- Sheffield
- South Somerset
- Vale of York
- Wakefield
- West Norfolk

### **DfE lacks effective insight into schools – PAC**

There are 'significant gaps' in the Department for Education's (DfE's) knowledge of performance in individual schools, and its 'light touch' approach means that problems in some schools can go undetected until serious damage has been done, MPs have warned

### **Scrapping local welfare funding 'puts 50,000 at risk of homelessness'**

If the government continues with its plans to scrap local welfare funding, it could put around 50,000 people at risk of becoming homeless costing an additional £380m a year, warns the Local Government Association.

### **Rural councils raise fears with Cameron over spending cuts**

Councils have warned David Cameron that plans for local government funding could 'isolate' many rural communities and pressure countryside town halls to cut deeper.

## **4. Consultations**

### **Consultation on proposed amendments to UK law to ensure compliance with the third European Commission Driving Licence Directive 2006/126/EC**

The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) and Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland) have launched an open consultation on proposals to introduce an offence for anyone discovered to be holding more than one EU/EEA driving licence at any one time. Closes 13 February 2015.

### **Offences against the person**

The Law Commission is consulting on 'Offences against the person'. The consultation runs until 11th February 2015.

### **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

## **[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.

## 5. Reviews and Inspections

### **[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.