



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

[Amendments to the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001](#)

Summary of the 2015 amendments of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 that will affect vets.

[Summary of the Finance Bill 2015-16](#)

A Bill to grant certain duties, to alter other duties, and to amend the law relating to the National Debt and the Public Revenue, and to make further provision in connection with finance.

[Finance Bill: Explanatory notes](#)

The explanatory notes to the Finance Bill have now been published.

[Psychoactive Substances Bill](#)

[Welfare Reform and Work Bill](#)

[The Female Genital Mutilation Protection Order \(Relevant Third Party\) Regulations 2015](#)

[The Serious Crime Act 2015 \(Commencement No. 2\) Regulations 2015](#)

[The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 \(Temporary Class Drug\) \(No. 2\) Order 2015](#)

[The Civil and Criminal Legal Aid \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

[The Criminal Legal Aid \(Remuneration etc.\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

[The Deregulation Act 2015 \(Commencement No. 2 and Transitional Provisions\) Order 2015](#)

[The Civil Legal Aid \(Merits Criteria\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

[The Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015](#)

[The Control of Major Accident Hazards \(Amendment\) Regulations 2015](#)

[Modern Slavery Act 2015](#)

[Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill](#)

[European Union Referendum Bill](#)

[Extremism Bill](#)

[Investigatory Powers Bill](#)

[Policing and Criminal Justice Bill](#)

[Psychoactive Substances Bill](#)

[Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#)

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

[Rehabilitation of Offenders Bill](#)

[Regulation of Political Opinion Polling Bill](#)

2. Strategic policing and crime news

[Strategic Defence and Security Review Public Engagement](#)

Work on the 2015 National Security Strategy (NSS) and Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) is now under way.

[Immigration Rules part 8: family members](#)

Rules for family members including spouses, partners and children (paragraphs A277 to 319Y).

[National centre of expertise established to improve police response to CSE](#)

A national centre of expertise to improve the police response to child sexual exploitation (CSE) and related vulnerabilities is to be established at the University of Bedfordshire in partnership with the police.

[How is the police service doing in response to ASB?](#)

HMIC is conducting a survey with partner agencies to hear your views.

[Investigation into Edward Heath child abuse claims to go national](#)

Nationally coordinated police inquiry to be set up by end of week, as former brothel keeper denies knowledge of any misconduct by former PM.

[The National Police Chiefs' Council Lead on Stop and Search, Deputy Chief Constable Adrian Hanstock has responded to the publication of new stop and search summary pages on the police.uk website.](#)

40 forces will publish detailed data showing the number of stops and searches, the outcomes thereof, the age and ethnicity of the subject and the time of day the stop and search took place. The figures will accompany maps showing where these interactions took place.

[Police procurement and a debate on police force mergers in England and Wales](#)

National Police Chiefs' Council Chair Chief Constable Sara Thornton has outlined our position on these issues.

3. Developments and reports

[UK officers to support Spanish colleagues in tourist hotspots](#)

UK police officers will be supporting the Guardia Civil in the tourist hubs of Magaluf and San Antonio in the Balearic Islands during a two week trial this month.

[University helps secure more than £1.9m to improve research into policing](#)

The University of Derby, in collaboration with a number of police forces, other universities and agencies, has helped to secure more than £1.9m from the Police Knowledge Fund to help improve research into policing

[Police working longer hours due to technology, research](#)

The impact of workplace technology means the police are working longer hours, a new survey has suggested.

[Off-duty police sergeant's actions commended by Staffs' Fire Chief](#)

The courage of an off-duty police sergeant who provided vital assistance following a road traffic collision has been commended by Staffordshire's Chief Fire Officer.

[National recognition for UWTSD's Police Volunteer Project](#)

student volunteer scheme run by the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD) and South Wales Police has been recognised nationally through its nomination for a prestigious Lord Ferrers Award.

[Leicestershire Police crime scene investigations do not impact on public satisfaction](#)

Leicestershire Police trialled the scheme to assess the effectiveness of sending forensic officers to a crime scene and found it had no impact on the number of incidents of public satisfaction.

[Police Chiefs' Blog, NPCC Chair Sara Thornton: Investigating burglary will always be important but how and when we do it may have to change](#)

Sir Robert Peel's first principle of law enforcement stated that the 'basic mission for which the police exist is to prevent crime and disorder.' While much has changed since 1829, I think that there would still be broad agreement with that principle. The challenge is to ensure that what the police do in pursuit of that mission is both effective and efficient.

[Met police chief says all burglary victims should get police visit](#)

After Leicestershire police pilot scheme not to fully investigate burglaries at odd-numbered houses, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe insists his force will continue to attend all break-ins

[Quarterly statistics on reported road accidents \(RAS45\)](#)

Quarterly statistics tables on road accidents and safety, produced by the Department for Transport.

[Funding secured for mental health collaboration](#)

The University of York has secured funding to collaborate with North Yorkshire Police on new approaches to dealing with mental health problems.

[New research suggests switching off street lights does not lead to a rise in crime or car accidents](#)

Research undertaken by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine analysed data from 62 local authorities over 14 years to suggest that local authorities can safely reduce street lighting at night.

[Transforming lives: Reducing women's imprisonment](#)

The Prison Reform Trust has secured funding for a three year programme to reduce the imprisonment of women.

[Britain still struggling to break the drink drive habit, says Brake](#)

Brake, the road safety charity, has reiterated its call for a zero-tolerance drink drive limit, in response to [government figures](#) showing Britain is still failing to adequately tackle its drink drive problem. A final estimate shows 240 people were killed by drivers over the legal drink drive limit in 2013, while provisional estimates suggest at least that number were killed again in 2014.

[Pedestrian road casualties statistics: 2014](#)

An annual report which includes information on age and sex of casualty, type of road, speed limit, location of pedestrian when hit, type of vehicle involved and time of accident.

[Drug misuse: findings from the 2014 to 2015 CSEW](#)

Examines the extent and trends in illicit drug use among a sample of 16 to 59 year old residents in households in England and Wales.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Witnessing crime: findings from the crime survey 2013 to 2014.

[Faith Action](#)

Faith and Domestic Abuse - Recommendations to Faith Leaders

[Ipsos MORI](#)

Drinkaware Monitor 2014: Young people's and their parents' drinking behaviour and attitudes in the UK.

[National Audit Office](#)

A Short Guide to the Home Office.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

How cognitive skills training affects reconviction rates - Who benefits from cognitive skills training?

[National Audit Office](#)

A short guide to the Ministry of Justice.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Needs and characteristics of young adults in custody.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

An outcome evaluation of Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP) and Community Domestic Violence Programme (CDVP).

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Public confidence in the Criminal Justice System.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Witnessing crime: findings from the crime survey 2013 to 2014.

[Public Health England](#)

Trends in drug misuse deaths in England, 1999 – 2013.

[Children's social care data](#)

Providers and places as at 31 March 2015. Provisional data for all inspection outcomes for the period April 2014 - March 2015.

[Crime news: client service for Crown Court cases](#)

Telephone service helps legal aid clients with Crown Court cases.

[New guidance - the DPA crime and taxation exemption](#)

The data protection exemptions change how the DPA applies in some specific circumstances.

[ICO fines nationwide money lender The Money Shop £180,000](#)

The ICO has issued a £180,000 civil monetary penalty to The Money Shop after the company lost computer servers containing details of several thousand customers.

['A real need to focus on the challenge of drones' EU data protection group sparks the debate](#)

Last month, the European Union's Article 29 Working Party published its opinion on the use of drones.

[FOI commission to consider Act's effectiveness](#)

The Cabinet Office has published details of a cross party commission to look into the Freedom of Information Act.

[Complaints about nuisance calls rise in June](#)

The number of concerns about nuisance calls reported to the ICO in June 2015 rose to 19,404, which was significantly higher than the previous month and an increase of 9.5% from

the same time last year. During June we had 59 investigations running and executed two search warrants on organisations suspected of making millions of automated calls. Accident claims, PPI and lifestyle surveys are the top three most complained about subjects.

Parliament will be in recess until 7th September 2015

- The [Communities and Local Government Select Committee](#) has announced an inquiry into the viability and sustainability of housing associations. Written evidence should be submitted by 28th August 2015.
- The [Home Affairs Select Committee](#) is holding a short inquiry into psychoactive substances following plans announced in the Queen's Speech to ban a new generation of the drugs. Written submissions should be made by 2nd September 2015.
- The [Justice Select Committee](#) has announced an inquiry into the treatment of young adults in the criminal justice system. The deadline for submissions is 30th September 2015.
- The [Women and Equalities Committee](#) has launched an inquiry considering how far, and in what ways, trans people still have yet to achieve full equality, and how outstanding issues can most effectively be addressed.

[Public Sector Efficiency Challenge launched](#)

Chancellor and Chief Secretary invite the ideas from the public sector on doing more while saving public money ahead of the Spending Review. In a [letter to millions of public sector workers](#), including teachers, nurses and civil servants, as well as British diplomats and service men and women stationed around the globe, the Chancellor and Chief Secretary will invite them to take part in an online survey to share their ideas for doing more while saving public money, ahead of this year's Spending Review.

[Innovative thinkers on devolution urged to apply for £15,000 prize fund](#)

Ideas that explore how devolution can deliver increased local government revenues, jobs, homes and infrastructure have been invited to apply for a £15,000 prize fund.

[LEPs to shape European funding decision](#)

Local projects are being [urged to apply](#) for a share of £5bn in European funding, which will be targeted at Local Enterprise Partnership areas for the first time.

[Healthcare regulation is not fit for future warns report](#)

Health and social care regulation is expensive and 'cumbersome' a professional body is warning today.

[Explaining the difference between capital and revenue](#)

The words capital and revenue are words to which we in local government do not give a second thought when discussing current and future budget issues.

[CSPL response to Solace consultation on a code of ethics](#)

The Committee on Standards in Public Life has published its response to a consultation on a code of ethics for those in senior management roles in local public services led by locally elected figures.

[Gloucestershire pushes for devolution](#)

Public authorities in Gloucestershire have submitted their bid to the government asking for greater control over the county's economy, public sector and healthcare services. The **document**, entitled 'We are Gloucestershire', is backed by the county council, the six district councils, GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership, the police and crime commissioner and the clinical commissioning group.

[New county alliance seeks £3bn transport investment](#)

Three county councils have united to fight for greater infrastructure investment as part of a groundbreaking strategic alliance to boost economic growth. The councils – Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire – decided to cooperate on this single issue, rather than create a formal combined authority or similar construct, as other authorities have when seeking devolution of Whitehall spending.

[Councils could be given power over Sunday trading rules](#)

Local authorities could be given the power to extend Sunday opening hours in a bid to boost the local economy by £1.4bn a year.

[Hampshire and Isle of Wight make devolution bid](#)

A 'landmark' devolution deal has been proposed for Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton, setting out new powers around housing, productivity, infrastructure and transformation.

[1,200 staff to transfer to private company at Yorkshire council](#)

Over a thousand staff at a Yorkshire council could transfer to work under a private company next year as part of an ongoing outsourcing plan.

[County to cut 2,500 jobs amid £685m savings drive](#)

Lancashire County Council is to cut 2,500 jobs over the next three years as it looks to save £685m over a nine-year campaign of savings.

[Councils step up as Kids Company closure hits 'tens of thousands'](#)

Councils are 'picking up the pieces' following the closure of charity Kids Company with fears tens of thousands of vulnerable young people could be affected.

[Councils improving quality of assessments for vulnerable children says watchdog](#)

Councils have made good progress in improving the quality of assessments for vulnerable children, but some concerns over child protection remain, a new report has warned.

[City set to sign £186m ICT contract](#)

A city is poised to sign a historic £186m ICT contract that could improve web access in local schools and boost service upgrades.

[Councils paying three times too much for IT products, research reveals](#)

Councils are paying up to three times too much for IT products, prompting calls for an immediate review on local spending.

Councils warned to be 'rigorous' in complaints about contractors

Councils have been reminded to ensure all complaints about contractors are carried out 'properly' following an investigation by the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO).

IT security inadequate against threat of cybercrime warns councils

Less than half of local authorities (41%) think their IT security is able to protect their organisation from the growing threat of cybercrime, new research has revealed.

Council halts outsourcing of children's services

A council has scrapped plans to outsource children's community health services in light of new opportunities opened up by a [historic devolution deal](#).

Councils win affordable housing court battle

Two councils have successfully challenged the government's reforms to the planning system.

Council manager stole £23k from family budgets

A former council boss took more than £23,000 of public money to cover his own credit card debts, a court has heard.

Council tax arrears becomes biggest debt issue in Wales, says charity

Council tax debt has become the largest arrears related problem in Wales, with Citizens Advice reporting a 51% rise in reported cases last year.

Half of councils setting up companies to tackle housing shortage

Nearly half of councils in England have either set up a housing company or are considering doing so, according to a new survey.

4. Consultations

Fourth Assembly Health and Social Care Committee Legacy

Open date: 30/07/2015

Close date: 26/09/2015

Joint targeted area inspections

A joint consultation document from Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission, HMI Constabulary and HMI Probation. Closes 11 August 2015.

Victims Code

Closes 16 August 2015.

Justice Committee - Young Adult Offenders

Closes 30 September.

Redundancy payments to council staff to be capped at £95,000

Redundancy pay-offs for senior local authority staff will be capped at £95,000, under new plans published for [consultation](#).

Minister of Policing launches consultation on police funding reform

Plans to reform the current arrangements for allocating central government funding to 43

police forces has been announced. The consultation is open until 15th September.

[Tackling the hidden economy: Extension of data-gathering powers](#)

A consultation on the best way to implement extended data-gathering powers. Closes 14 October 2015.

[Consultation on the draft statutory multi-agency practice guidance on Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#)

This consultation seeks views on the draft statutory multi-agency practice guidance on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) for frontline professionals in England and Wales.

[Consultation on future social care health topics](#)

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 set out a responsibility for NICE to develop quality standards and guidelines for social care in England. In 2013, the Department of Health (DH) ran a consultation to identify social care topics suitable for developing into NICE guidelines and quality standards. An initial set of topics has been referred by the DH and Department for Education (DfE). Consultation open until 9 October 2015.

[Written statement on Consulting on revisions to the Victims' Code](#)

The previous government updated the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (the Victims' Code) in 2013 to give victims clear entitlements - including the right to ask to read their personal statement to the court - and to give greater flexibility to core criminal justice agencies to tailor services according to individual need. The Government is consulting on some additional changes we plan to make to the Victims' Code as part of our commitment to implement the EU Victims' Directive by 16 November 2015.

[Consultation on Proceeds of Crime Act](#)

The Home Office has opened a consultation as the operation of certain powers within POCA are subject to guidance issued by the Secretary of State. The existing codes need to be updated due to provisions in the Serious Crime Act 2015. The consultation runs until 2nd October 2015.

[Law Commission lays out DoLS replacement in consultation](#)

The Law Commission has unveiled its proposals for a framework to replace what it calls the "deeply flawed" Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). Consultation is open until the 2 November 2015.

[Office of Rail and Road: Highways England: enforcement policy](#)

This document sets out how we intend to enforce compliance by Highways England with the Road Investment Strategy and statutory directions and guidance issued to it by the Secretary of State, as well as the options available to us in taking enforcement action (both statutory and non-statutory) against Highways England. Closing date 25 September.

[The Law Commission: Transition to the New Sentencing Code](#)

The law on sentencing affects all criminal cases, and is applied in hundreds of thousands of trials and thousands of appeals each year. Currently, the law lacks coherence and clarity: it is spread across many statutes, and frequent updates are brought into force at different times by different statutory instruments and have a variety of transitional arrangements. Closing date 26 August.

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

[IPCC Investigation following allegations of historic corruption linked to child sexual abuse allegations](#)

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) is to investigate allegations concerning Wiltshire Police's handling of an alleged claim of child sexual abuse made in the 1990s.

HMIC Autumn Effectiveness and Legitimacy Inspection

Inspection preparation for Nottinghamshire.

[Consultation outcome: Inspection of secure training centres](#)

Ofsted has published a report on the outcomes of the consultation about the proposals to revise the framework for the inspection of secure training centres.

[South Yorkshire - National Child Protection Inspection post inspection review](#)