



## Commissioner's horizon scanning briefing

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## 1. Policy and Practice

### [Apply for funding: £4m made available to boost volunteering among over 50s – 22<sup>th</sup> September 2016](#)

Office for Civil Society and Nesta announce 3 new grant funds to support charities and public services in tapping into the skills and experience of volunteers over 50. Following the Centre for Social Action Innovation Fund, the grants include the Second Half Fund (grants up to £250,000 to support new ways of involving those over 50), Join In Stay In (grants up to £50,000 to support research into encouraging volunteering) and Give More Get More (grants up to £100,000 to trial intensive volunteering placements for people over 50)

### [Government to increase penalties for mobile phone use while driving - 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016](#)

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling has announced plans to introduce a £200 on-the-spot fine and 6 penalty points for those caught using mobile phones while driving and a £1,000 fine, 12 penalty points and a driving ban of at least six months for those caught twice. New drivers caught offending would also have their licences revoked and be required to reapply for a provisional licence. The new sanctions, due to come into force by next summer follow a consultation which found strong public support for tougher penalties

### [Government announces new cyber security partnership with tech start-ups - 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016](#)

Government partnership with Wayra UK will run a new cyber accelerator facility to support UK start-ups in producing the next generation of cyber security systems. This is the first step in the development of two world-leading innovation centres as part of the Government's £1.9bn National Cyber Security Programme. The facility will see start-ups gaining access to GCHQ's personnel and technological expertise to allow them to expand capability, improve ideas and devise cutting-edge products to outpace current and emerging threats

### [Speech: Policing and Fire Service Minister – Excellence in Policing Conference – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016](#)

Policing and Fire Service Minister Brandon Lewis sets out expectations for policing which include delivering workforce reform, professionalising policing, standardising and aggregating specialist capabilities, investing in transformation and driving further efficiency, particularly through collaboration. The Minister also urged forces to think more ambitiously and collaboratively about how they respond to victims and protect vulnerable people

### [Prime Minister urges international action to stamp out modern slavery – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016](#)

Recent Commons briefing papers include:

[Young people Not in Education, Employment or Training](#) (29<sup>th</sup> Sept) 2018 Boundary Review: initial proposals for [England](#) and [Wales](#) (23<sup>rd</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> Sept), [Mobile coverage in the UK](#) (22<sup>nd</sup> Sept)

## 2. Research, Development and Statistics

### [Pilot projects to reduce delays in prisoner waiting times for oral hearings](#) – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016

The Parole Board is piloting four trials until the end of March 2017 to address the increase in demand for oral hearings since the Osborn, Booth and Riley judgement handed down in 2013. Trials include:-

- Working more closely with the Public Protection Casework Section (PPCS) to make earlier and more effective use of 'executive release'
- Extending the cut off point for concluding cases directed to oral hearing from 12 weeks' to 24 weeks
- Develop a fairer listing prioritisation framework. A full review will take place in April 2017
- Explore using regional MOJ video link rooms to host hearings for determinate sentence prisoners

### [Pilot to help front line police officers recognise signs of coercive control](#) – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016

College of Policing pilot involving three UK forces will aim to help attending officers to look for the certain behaviours and dangerous patterns of domestic abuse involving coercive control, rather than concentrate on the facts of the specific incident they are attending. The results of the pilot will be released next year

### [Domestic violence perpetrator programmes: A review of reviews](#) – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Review published as part of the [What Works: Crime Reduction Systematic Review Series](#), reports that findings in relation to the effectiveness of DV perpetrator programmes in reducing recidivism were inconclusive, however this may in part reflect methodological weaknesses and study designs such as different types of programmes and populations being combined in the same review. Drop-out rates were found to be high for both perpetrators and their partners, however programme non-completers had consistently higher recidivism rates than programme completers. The use of motivational interviewing / motivational enhancing pre-programmes prior to attending a standard domestic violence perpetrator programmes appears to show promise

### [Motivational approaches as pre-treatment intervention for DV perpetrator programmes](#) – 24<sup>th</sup> September

Review of the impact of [motivational approaches](#) (counselling based on the theory that people move through different stages towards changing their behaviour) as a pre-treatment for DV perpetrator programmes. The review found that motivation enhancing interventions had a significant impact on DV programme participation and recidivism when measured by victim reports. This was particularly evident among first time offenders who have yet to recognise a need to change, and less so among men that self-refer and are already motivated. Consequently, the review 'demonstrates the weight of the principles of Risk-Needs-Responsivity as opposed to a 'one size fits all' approach to treatment'. The [Crime Reduction Toolkit](#) has been updated to reflect findings

### [Criminal justice interventions in domestic violence: A systematic map](#) – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Map shows that there is a growing body of evidence evaluating criminal justice agencies and their intervention in domestic violence. It reveals a marked increase in research relating to perpetrator programmes since the 1990s and identifies significant gaps in the evidence base, such as victim focussed interventions

#### Upcoming [Crime Reduction Systematic Reviews](#):

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| • Red light enforcement cameras to reduce traffic violations and injuries | October 2016  |
| • Speed cameras to reduce speeding traffic and road traffic injuries      | October 2016  |
| • Diversity and organisational outcomes                                   | October 2016  |
| • Police responses to people with mental health problems                  | October 2016  |
| • The impact of police pre-arrest diversion                               | October 2016  |
| • Effectiveness of asset-focussed interventions against organised crime   | October 2016  |
| • Tagging as a method to reduce theft in retail environments              | December 2016 |
| • The effectiveness of electronic monitoring of offenders                 | December 2016 |
| • Personal security alarms for the prevention of assaults                 | December 2016 |

## **Pre-charge bail – an exploratory study – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

College of Policing study into the impact of proposed measures to limit bail authorised by inspectors to 28 days. The study, based on evidence from over 17,000 cases across 9 forces over 6 months, showed that:

- The average length of time individuals spent on pre-charge bail, including extensions, was 53 days
- 41% of cases involving violence and sexual offences were bailed for more than 28 days
- 60% of cases bailed for more than 90 days involved forensic analysis – often involving phone downloads
- Other factors include files awaiting CPS charging decisions and obtaining professional witness statements

The report concludes that the measures to limit pre-charge bail to no more than 28 days are likely to create difficulties for officers and staff in investigating cases, particularly those concerning violence and sexual offending and where computer interrogation is required. This may have adverse effects elsewhere in the criminal justice system. Requirements for authorisation of bail by an inspector and review by an officer of superintendent rank or above are also likely to impact upon force resources. The report suggests that a limit of 49 days may be more practical based on the data analysed and taking extensions into account

## **The role and impact of organised crime in the local off-street sex market – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Briefing produced by the Police Foundation and Perpetuity Research as part of a series of papers exploring the impact of serious organised crime groups (OCGs) in local communities finds that:-

- In a single city (Bristol), 65 brothels linked to 74 offenders were identified in 2 years. 77% had links to OCGs
- There was a high level of turnover among those working in brothels, 29% of which had evidence of control
- Organised crime pervades off-street sex markets but was not prioritised for response by local police teams
- No single agency took ownership and there was little proactive engagement with vulnerable sex workers

The report makes recommendations for:

- The Home Office and National Crime Agency to develop guidance on tackling the off-street sex market
- Local authorities to develop a multiagency strategy to tackle trafficking for sexual exploitation with a focus on improving the way intelligence is managed and our understanding the problem
- Police forces, local authorities and voluntary sector representatives to jointly produce local strategies for assessing and targeting the off-street sex market
- Police and other local agencies to do more to identify hidden victims exploited in the off-street sex market and facilitate investigations for which no victim comes forward

## **Operation of police powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 to June 2016 – published 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016**

National statistics show that the number of people arrested for terrorism-related offences in Great Britain has fallen by 33% in the last year to 222 after reaching a peak in the year to June 2015. The number charges with terrorism-related offences fell by 51% to 63, with the most common offences being 'preparation for terrorist act (12), membership of a proscribed organisation under the Terrorism Act 2000 (9) and fundraising under the Terrorism Act 2000 (9). Of the 63 charged, 24 were prosecuted and convicted and 39 are awaiting prosecution

## **Reported road casualties in Great Britain, Annual Report 2015 – published 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Department for Transport statistics for 2015 highlight a 3% decrease in road deaths and the number of people seriously injured, and a 4% reduction in casualties of all severities compared to 2014. Fatality and casualty rates were at the second lowest recorded after 2013. Vehicle traffic levels increased by a further 1.6% between 2014 and 2015. The Department for Transport road safety tables index has also been updated

## 3. Inspections

### [The impact of distance from home on children in custody](#) – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016

HMI Prisons thematic review commissioned by the Youth Justice Board considers the impact of distance from home on aspects of daily life, resettlement planning and outcomes on release for children in custody. This comes as the number of secure settings available continues to fall in line with reductions in the total number of children in custody. The review confirmed that:-

- Children held further from home have fewer visits from a family members and friends and less involvement with community-based professionals
- Planning for release and resettlement followed the same process irrespective of distance from home
- There was no association between distance from home and recall to detention following release
- Distance from home had no bearing on experiences of custodial life or feelings of safety, however nearly half surveyed had felt unsafe at some point in the YOI or secure training centre that they were accommodated
- Boys in YOIs who were close to home reported more gang problems when they first arrived at their YOI

The review makes recommendations for more flexibility and imaginative solutions to ensuring effective contact is maintained with families and professionals, including greater use of new technologies. There should also be increased use of video-enabled court hearings when appropriate and more opportunities for children to discuss how they feel about their distance from home. The [YJB](#) will consider the recommendations alongside those arising from Charlie Taylor's final report on youth justice, when published

### [Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme Compliance](#) – 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

HMIC re-inspection finds all 13 forces found to be failing to meet 3 or more of the '[Best Stop and Search Scheme](#)' requirements in 2014 to now be fully compliant with all features of the scheme. The [Home Secretary](#) has commissioned HMIC to re-examine the use of stop and search by all forces next year

### HMIC Inspection Programme

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|---|--------------------|
| • PEEL: Efficiency, Legitimacy and Leadership   | Draft reports      |
| • <a href="#">JTAI Missing and absent children &amp; child sexual exploitation (thematic)</a> | In progress        |
| • <a href="#">JTAI Partnership response to children affected by domestic abuse</a>            | In progress        |
| • PEEL: Effectiveness - prevention, investigation, vulnerability, SPR, ROCU                   | In progress        |
| • HMIC: Counter-terrorism   | Unannounced visits |
| • <a href="#">HMIC: Modern Slavery</a>  | TBC                |
| • Joint Inspections of Stalking and Harassment (HMIC-led)                                     | TBC                |
| • HMIC Force Management Statement template issued   | April 2017         |
| • Force Management Statement completion deadline  | October 2017       |
| • <a href="#">HMIC: Crime data integrity (unannounced visits)</a>                             | Rolling programme  |
| • Joint targeted <a href="#">Child Protection Inspection</a> (Ofsted-led)                     | Rolling programme  |
| • Joint inspection of Police Custody Arrangements (HMI Prisons-led)                           | Rolling programme  |

## 4. Reviews and Inquiries

### Forensic Science Strategy inquiry - 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016

The Science and Technology Committee Inquiry report criticises the Home Office's 'Forensic Science Strategy' which was published in March 2016 on the basis that:-

- 'Scoping work' on key areas of the strategy is still underway
- The Strategy is vague about how plans for locally-negotiated procurement of forensic services from the private sector will deliver the "more consistent national approach"
- The strategy lacks detail on the possibility of a joint biometrics and forensics service which risks being taken forward without the benefit of a still-to-be-published Biometrics Strategy.
- There has been a failure to consult widely before publication

The report makes recommendations for the Government to:-

- Present a revised 'draft Forensic Strategy' for a full public consultation following publication of the Biometrics Strategy and the police's forensics service 'scoping work'
- Make it clear that forces must secure accreditation of their forensic laboratories to the industry's standards by the deadlines set by the Forensic Services Regulator
- Bring forward the legislation before the end of the 2016–17 Session to give the Forensics Regulator the statutory powers needed to ensure accreditation and quality standards compliance
- Press for a greater priority and share of funding to be given to forensics research, including into how well the science contributes to the criminal justice system

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- **Reports in preparation:** [Future role of the magistracy inquiry](#) (Justice Committee), [The rise of anti-Semitism inquiry](#) (Home Affairs Committee), [Treatment of young adult offenders inquiry](#) (Justice Committee)
  - **Evidence in progress:** [Lammy Review of BAME representation in the CJS](#) (ongoing), [Child Sexual Abuse Independent Inquiry](#) (ongoing), [Inquiry into the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse](#) (6<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Undercover Policing inquiry](#) (ongoing), [Homelessness Reduction Bill inquiry](#) (14<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Apprenticeships inquiry](#) (14<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Support for ex-offenders inquiry](#) (14<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Hate crime and its violent consequences inquiry](#) (13<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Sharia Law](#) (6<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Prison Reform inquiry](#) (TBC)
  - **Accepting written submissions:** [Troubled Families Inquiry](#) - deadline 19<sup>th</sup> October
  - **Reports awaiting government response:** [Reform of the Police Funding Formula](#) (Report published 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015), [Efficiency in the Criminal Justice System](#) (Report published 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016), [Prostitution inquiry](#) (Report published 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016), [Restorative justice inquiry](#) (Report published 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016), [Countering extremism inquiry](#) (Report published 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016), [Sexual Violence in Schools inquiry](#) (Report published 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Female Genital Mutilation inquiry](#) (Report published 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016), [Transforming Rehabilitation inquiry](#) (4<sup>th</sup> July 2016), [Forensic Science Strategy inquiry](#) (Report published 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016)

## 5. Legislation

### **Investigatory Powers Bill - Lords Report stage - 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

Make provision about the interception, acquisition and retention of communications data and other bulk data for analysis and the use of equipment interference. Establish the Investigatory Powers Commissioner and other Commissioners and make provision about oversight arrangements; make further provision about investigatory powers and national security; amend s3 and s5 of Intelligence Services Act 1994. Due to be enacted 2016.

See [Lords briefing paper](#) (21<sup>st</sup> June 2016) and [Joint Select Committee recommendations](#) for further information

### **Policing and Crime Bill – Lords Report stage - TBC**

- Places a statutory duty on police, fire and ambulance services to collaborate to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Enable PCCs to take on responsibility for fire and rescue services.
- Reforms the police complaints and disciplinary systems, including measures to extend disciplinary procedures to former officers (up to 12 months after leaving). Makes changes to governance of the IPCC.
- Enable chief officers to confer a wider range of policing powers on police civilian staff and volunteers.
- Introduces provisions in respect of breach of pre-charge bail conditions and makes changes to rules governing how police deal with people suffering mental crisis under s135 & s136 of Mental Health Act 1983
- Makes changes to terms of office for Deputy PCCs and would give the Home Secretary the power to change the name of a police area by order
- Provides statutory definition of the terms 'lethal', 'component part' and 'antique firearm' (Firearms Act 1968)
- Amends Licensing Act 2003 to make clear powdered and vaporised alcohol are both covered by the Act
- Makes provisions relating to the enforcement of EU, UN and other financial sanctions
- Mandates that offences relating to CSE (Sexual Offences Act 2003) cover streaming / transmission of indecent images of children. Enables Secretary of State to issue statutory guidance to local taxi and private hire licensing authorities with regard to the protection of children and vulnerable adults
- [Supporting documents](#) and [running list of amendments](#) (11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016)

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### **Children and Social Work Bill – Lords Report stage – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

Bill to make provision about looked after children; ensure lessons are learned from serious child safeguarding cases; create a new 'power to innovate' giving local authorities the freedom to test out innovative new ways of working and introduce measures to improve how agencies share information

### **Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill – Lords Committee stage – TBC**

Private Members' Bill to require commercial organisations and public bodies to include a statement on slavery and human trafficking in their annual report and accounts; and to require contracting authorities to exclude from procurement procedures economic operators who have not provided such a statement. [Briefing](#)

### **Asset Freezing (Compensation) Bill – Lords Committee Stage - TBC**

A Bill to make provision for the imposing of restrictions on assets owned by persons involved in supplying terrorist organisations in the United Kingdom with arms, for the purpose of securing compensation for citizens of the United Kingdom affected by the supply of such arms.

### **Digital Economy Bill – Commons Committee stage – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

Bill to make provision about; restricting access to online pornography; protecting intellectual property related to electronic communications; [improving government data to transform public services](#) - allow public authorities to share personal data with other public authorities to improve the welfare of individuals (e.g. Troubled Families programme), measures to help detect and prevent government losses due to fraudulent activity, The Bill also proposes tougher penalties for nuisance callers and increasing the sentencing options for people who infringe copyright laws online. Royal Assent is expected spring 2017. [Commons analysis paper](#) (9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016)



## **Sexual Offences (Pardons Etc.) Bill – Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2016**

Private Members' Bill to make provision for the pardoning, or otherwise setting aside, cautions and convictions for specified sexual offences that have now been abolished

## **Preventing & Combating Violence Against Women & DV Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 2016**

Private Members' Bill to require UK to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention)

## **Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Amendment) Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Private Members' Bill to repeal CT and Security Act 2015 provisions requiring teachers, carers and responsible adults to report signs of extremism or radicalisation amongst children in pre-school educational settings

## **Rehabilitation of Offenders (Amendment) Bill - Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - TBC**

Private Members' Bill to make provision about rehabilitation periods for particular sentences - amending Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

## **On-line Safety Bill – Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - TBC**

Private Members' Bill to require internet service providers (ISPs) to provide an internet service that excludes adult-only content; require information to be provided about online safety; make provision for parents to be educated about online safety; make provision for the regulation of harmful material through on-demand programme services; to introduce licensing of pornographic services

## **Missing Persons Guardianship Bill – Lords 2nd reading – TBC**

Private Members' Bill to make provision for the administration of the affairs of missing persons

## **Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill – Introduced 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016 - Lords 2nd reading - TBC**

Private Members' Bill to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 12

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## **Legislation announced as part of the Queens Speech – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016:**

### **Counter-Extremism and Safeguarding Bill**

Prevent radicalisation, tackle extremism in all its forms, and promote community integration. Provide stronger powers to disrupt extremists and protect the public, ensure better mental health provision for individuals in the criminal justice system. Introduce a new civil order regime to restrict extremist activity, safeguard children from extremist adults through powers to intervene in intensive unregulated education settings which teach hate and drive communities apart, stronger powers for the Disclosure and Barring Service; close loopholes so that Ofcom can continue to protect consumers who watch internet-streamed television content from outside the EU

### **Criminal Finances Bill**

Tackle corruption, money laundering and tax evasion. Allow the Government to recoup more criminal assets by reforming the law on proceeds of crime, including provisions to strengthen our enforcement powers and protect the public

### **Prison and Courts Reform Bill**

Make provision for new 'reform prisons'; transformation of the prison education system; new performance metrics / League Tables; new prison-based counter extremism programme; 'secure alternative academies' for young offenders; [problem-solving courts](#); expanded use of tags / satellite tracking and new arrangements for [women offenders with children](#)

## 6. Consultations

### [Troubled Families Inquiry – Call for Evidence](#)

Public Accounts Committee inquiry exploring the impact and outcomes of the Troubled Families Programme following an independent evaluation which reportedly found that programme to have had "no discernible" effect on unemployment, truancy or criminality.

**Open date:** 12/09/2016

**Close date:** 11/10/2016

### [Misconduct Hearing Outcomes draft guidelines](#)

College of Policing is undertaking a public consultation on draft guidelines which will help to deliver consistency for misconduct hearings across England and Wales. Respondents are being asked for views on seriousness of cases such as accessing force computer systems without a legitimate policing purpose, the impact of off-duty dishonesty on the reputation of the police service and misconduct involving a vulnerable person.

**Open date:** 31/08/2016

**Close date:** 12/10/2016

### [Reporting and acting on child abuse and neglect](#)

Home Office and Department for Education consultation on plans to improve outcomes for vulnerable children in line with the aims of the [Serious Crime Act 2015](#) and 2015 [tackling child sexual exploitation report](#). Seeks views on the introduction of either a mandatory reporting duty for organisations and practitioners to report suspected child abuse or a duty to take appropriate action in response to suspected child abuse or neglect.

**Open date:** 21/07/2016

**Close date:** 13/10/2016

### [Indicative Sanctions Guidance](#)

College of Policing public consultation on the framework for assessing the seriousness of cases and promote consistency in decision-making within the police misconduct process

**Open date:** 14/09/2016

**Close date:** 14/10/2016

### [Transforming our courts and tribunals](#)

Ministry of Justice consultation on court reform proposals which include the roll out of pre-trial evidence for vulnerable victims and witnesses and improving efficiencies through digitalisation and some online processes.

**Open date:** 15/09/2016

**Close date:** 27/10/2016

### [Parliamentary constituency boundary reform](#)

Boundary Commission consultation on proposals to revise constituency boundaries, ensure that the difference between constituency sizes is no more than 5% points and deliver financial savings by reducing the number of MPs from 650 to 600. Local public hearings will also be held as part of the process. Two further rounds of consultation will take place in 2017 and final recommendations will be submitted in autumn 2018.

**Open date:** 13/09/2016

**Close date:** 06/12/2016

### [Reforming Misconduct in Public Office](#)

Second phase of the Law Commission's consultation explores definitions, scope and prosecution requirements in relation to the offence

**Open date:** 05/09/2016

**Close date:** 28/11/2016