

Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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To be included on our mailing list, please contact [Dan Howitt](#), Nottinghamshire OPCC

1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

[£3.3m awarded to organisations helping to divert female offenders from the CJS](#) – 9 November 2018

Ministry of Justice awards a share of £3.3m to twelve organisations working to divert vulnerable women from prison and into community support. The funding will be used to bolster a range of services from employment to counselling and specialist services for survivors of domestic abuse. A further £1.7m funding is due to be awarded over the coming months.

[£6m Prison rough sleeping pilot announced](#) – 6 November 2018

Justice Secretary announces a two year pilot to help at-risk offenders leaving prisons in Leeds, Pentonville and Bristol to access stable accommodation and integrate into communities in the long-term. The pilots are aimed specifically at prisoners serving short sentences and will involve new partnership approaches between prisons, local authorities, probation staff and charities who will work together to provide support.

[£800,000 additional funding announced for rape support centres](#) – 7 November 2018

Ministry of Justice announces an additional £800,000 (10%) boost to provide greater financial security and stability to rape support centres across England and Wales. Five PCCs (Greater London, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hampshire and Nottinghamshire) will also be given full control of devolved funding, while the available periods for grant funding will be extended from 1 to up to 3 years to provide long-term security.

[Budget 2018](#) – 29 October 2018

Chancellor sets out provisional Government budget for the spending period which includes:-

- An average of 1.2% real terms increase in spending on public services between 2019/20 and 2023/24
- £160m additional spending on counter-terrorism policing in 2019/20
- £2bn increase in funding to provide comprehensive mental health A&E services over the next five years
- £935m additional spending on social care over the 2018/19 and 2019/20 period
- £60m funding for [prisons, courts and justice system](#) to develop the estate and improve safety and security
- £500m on preparations for Brexit, in addition to the £1.5 billion announced in 2017
- Confirmation of the £200m Youth Endowment Fund to help reduce youth involvement in violent crime
- Allocations to individual departments, including the Home Office will be made at Spending Review 2019
- Key announcements relevant to policing, criminal justice and other partner agencies included:
- Announcements on police spending will be made as part of the provisional police settlement in December
- Treasury also committed to supporting Government departments in ensuring rises in public service pension costs do not 'jeopardise the delivery of frontline services or put undue pressure on public employers'.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 12 November 2018

[Serious and Organised Crime Strategy 2018 – 1 November 2018](#)

Home Office [launches](#) update to the 2013 serious and organised crime (SOC) strategy, setting out the government's new strategic approach. The strategy is aligned to the four 'P's which aim to:-

- **Pursue** offenders, particularly those causing greatest harm, through prosecution and disruption - Provide at £48m additional funding in 2019/20 to increase law enforcement capabilities to tackle illicit finance. This will include additional investment in the multi-agency National Economic Crime Centre; increased frontline capacity and capability to tackle fraud and; extra investment National Crime Agency capabilities
- **Prepare** for and mitigate the impact of SOC by building the highest levels resilience among communities, businesses and vulnerable people. SOC Community Coordinators will be introduced in five priority areas
- **Protect** victims, organisations and systems from the harms of SOC
- **Prevent** people from engaging in SOC by identifying and supporting those at risk of involvement in SOC, better managing offenders that are unwilling to cease engaging in SOC and piloting new approaches
- The strategy also aims to establish a **single whole system approach** to SOC by establishing a new national tasking framework for law enforcement that will align collective efforts into a cohesive system involving the private sector, information and communications technology firms.
- The strategy also includes details of the package of measures to tackle child sexual exploitation and abuse announced by the Home Secretary in September, including an extra £21 million over the next two years.

[Competition: Tackling Knife crime: Detection of steel-bladed knives – 30 October 2018](#)

Home Office and Defence and Security Accelerator (DASA) launch new competition which seeks innovative technologies and approaches that can help police and security personnel identify concealed knives. Up to £500k of funding will be available to fund proof-of-concept solutions, with additional funding made available to develop deployable solutions. Closing date for competition entries is midday on 21 November 2018.

[New government action announced to tackle online child sexual abuse – 6 November 2018](#)

Home Secretary commissions the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) to examine how advertising is funding CSE activity. The work will help outline the scale of the problem and how government and industry should respond.

[New measures come into force to ban possession of sulphuric acid without valid reason – 1 Nov 2018](#)

[Police super-complaints system becomes operational – 1 November 2018](#)

[Government launches hate crime awareness campaign – 31 October 2018](#)

Campaign, developed in consultation with the CPS, aims to help the public understand what hate crime is, particularly offences which are often not recognised as criminal, such as some forms of online abuse.

[NSPCC publishes Child Trafficking leaflets for children and young people – 29 October 2018](#)

[College of Policing's Legal Digest October 2018 – Published 6 November 2018](#)

[IOPC monthly roundup October 2018 – Published 9 November 2018](#)

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Budget 2018](#) (7 Nov), [Reclassification of synthetic cannabinoids](#) (5 Nov), [Road Safety](#) (1 Nov), [City Deals](#) (31 Oct), [Local government finances](#) (31 Oct), [The future of legal aid](#) (31 Oct)

Recent Parliamentary debates: [Police Pension Liabilities](#) (6 Nov), [Knife Crime](#) (5 Nov), [Domestic Abuse Victims](#) (1 Nov), [Proceeds of Crime Act 2002](#) (1 Nov), [Police Funding](#) (29 Oct), [Organised Crime: NCA](#) (29 Oct), [Violent Crime](#) (29 Oct)

[APCC and NPCC Partnership Summit 2018 – 31 October to 1 November 2018](#)

- [Home Secretary Speech on police resources and the changing nature of crime](#) - 31 October 2018
- [NPCC Chair Sara Thornton Speech on the current challenges for the police service](#) - 31 October 2018
- [Justice Secretary speech on safer prisons, safer streets](#) – 1 November 2018

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Police Tech Pioneers – 30 October 2018](#)

Report from the think tank PUBLIC showcases the 75 most promising police technology startups from around the world which are set to transform policing the next wave of innovation. These include robots, drones, advanced surveillance capabilities, artificial intelligence and new predictive policing tools. The report notes that forces have trapped themselves into long-term 'lock-in' contracts with large IT suppliers, allowing other countries to overtake British policing by embracing cutting-edge tools from innovative tech startups. The report makes recommendations for the Home Office to mandate to set common standards for inter-operable technology systems and pressures incumbent suppliers to open up their systems to smaller firms.

[Serious and Organised Crime: Home Office research priorities 2018 to 2021 – 1 November 2018](#)

Home Office document summarising research priorities to support the current and future needs of the Government's 2018 Serious and Organised Crime Strategy. The document is designed to enable anyone considering research in this area to focus on the priorities most important to Government.

[Exploring the role of the Financial Investigator – 1 November 2018](#)

Home Office report exploring the role and contribution of financial investigators and the tools that they use. The report makes recommendations for the outcomes of financial investigation to be better publicised, undertaking research to quantify the impact financial investigation has; creating and disseminating guidance for FIs and those who manage them, explaining how FIs maintain their accreditation; consider where to locate FIs to ensure that they can build understanding of financial investigation among non-FI colleagues.

[Understanding organised crime April 2015 to March 2016 – 1 November 2018](#)

Home Office Research Report 103 updates estimates of the scale and the social and economic cost of organised crime using a wide range of data. The social and economic cost of organised crime to the UK was estimated to be at least £37bn in 2015/16, having risen from around £24bn in 2010/11. The largest components of the social and economic cost estimate are drugs supply (£20bn), economic crime (£8bn) and modern slavery (£2bn).

[Police financial reserves: March 2018 – Published 5 November 2018](#)

Home Office publishes details of the level and different types of police reserves at March 2018, broken down by police force area. This includes a [chart of police financial reserves](#) as a share of funding for [2017](#) and 2018.

[Youth custody data: September 2018 - Published 9 November 2018](#)

MOJ statistics showing ongoing reductions in the number of children and young people within the secure estate

[Reported road casualties in Great Britain: year ending June 2018 - Published 7 November 2018](#)

[Quarterly detailed statistics](#) on reported road accidents also published

[College of Policing launches Policing Evaluation Toolkit – 6 November 2018](#)

The Toolkit contains practical guidance for practitioners on evaluation design and implementation strategies

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

[HMICFRS Value for Money profiles 2018](#) – Published 26 October 2018

Latest Value for Money profiles published providing comparative data on a wide range of policing activities for each police force in England and Wales. Value for Money profiles help forces make better decisions by identifying areas where improvements can be made in cost and performance.

[Victim Liaison Units: letters sent to the public by the CPS](#) – 8 November 2018

HMCPSP's thematic inspection on communications between the CPS's Victim Liaison Units and the public highlights the need for CPS to improve the quality of the letters it sends, ensure that there is a clear and effective system for prosecutors to notify the Victim Liaison Unit of decisions in a case, improve the system to measure and track timeliness of letters sent to victims, ensure letters being sent to victims are properly quality assured and re-circulate and reinforce the guidance on accounting for the timeliness of complaints.

Upcoming reports and inspection activity

- [HMIC: Crime data integrity \(individual force reports\)](#) Ongoing
- HMI Prisons: Joint inspection of Police Custody Arrangements Ongoing
- HMICFRS: National Child Protection Inspection (HMIC-led) Ongoing
- HMICFRS: Counter Terrorism thematic inspection 2017/18
- HMICFRS: Independent study of police air support
- HMICFRS: Police response to county lines (Thematic)
- Hate crime – how police forces understand and respond to hate crimes: Commenced February 2018
- Domestic abuse: Evidence-led prosecutions: Focus on effectiveness of non-victim-led prosecutions
- Crimes against older people: Police and CPS responses to offences affecting older people
- Released under investigation: Investigate impact of changes to police bail procedures following PCA 2017
- Integrated Offender Management: Follow-up to explore how IOM operates in the new TR environment

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

[Abusive and Offensive Online Communications](#) – 1 November 2018

Law Commission scoping report assessing whether the current criminal law achieves parity of treatment between online and offline offending. The report concludes that, for the most part, online communications are criminalised to the same or even a greater degree than equivalent offline offending, however, there is scope to:-

- Better reflect the nature of some online offending behaviour and the degree of harm it can cause
- Improve the recognition of co-ordinated "pile on" harassment and certain forms of group abuse
- Address barriers which prevent some forms of harmful online conduct being pursued to the same extent
- Improve criminal offences so that they more effectively target serious harm and criminality
- Consolidate existing overlapping criminal laws and provide greater clarity regarding terminology
- Review of how effectively the criminal law protects personal privacy online.

[Ratification of the Istanbul Convention on combatting VAWG: Progress Report](#) – 30 October 2018

Progress report on UK compliance with the 81 articles of the Convention on Combating Violence Against Women and Girls and Domestic Violence which was signed in 2012. The report notes plans to refresh the cross-Government VAWG Strategy, publishing a Government response to the 'transforming the response to domestic abuse' consultation undertaken in 2018 and introduce draft Domestic Abuse Bill later this session.

[Independent report on Universal Credit managed migration](#) – 5 November 2018

The Social Security Advisory Committee's [publishes](#) independent report on Universal Credit managed migration and makes recommendations for government to undertake a rigorous and transparent assessment of its operational readiness – including the potential impact on different groups of claimants – and to engage delivery partners and claimants in developing its detailed delivery plans and communications. The government's [response](#) accepted most of the committee's 12 recommendations.

[Youth Work Inquiry](#) – 31 October 2018

APPG on Youth Affairs report on youth work makes recommendations for:-

- Greater investment and commitment to support for youth services and a Government review of spending on youth services. The Government should reinstate the local authority audit
 - Statutory and voluntary sector to form a compact with young people for a clear policy statement and guidance which recognises the benefits of youth work
 - Government issues clear guidance on what is sufficient provision under the statutory duty for Local authorities to make sure that there is sufficient provision
 - Clear guidance and investment in a base-line for local youth services which also allows an 'eco-system' of youth work provision to flourish in a community.
 - Development of a coherent workforce strategy for the totality of the children's workforce, renewed national standards for youth work by 2020 and the reinstatement of the role of Ofsted for youth work services
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Inquiries

[Work of the Home Office](#) – Home Affairs Committee – Oral evidence session 13 November

[Forensic Science](#) – Science and technology Committee – oral evidence session 23 October

[Modern Slavery](#) – Home Affairs Committee - latest evidence 16 October 2018

[Serious Violence Strategy](#) - Home Affairs Committee – latest evidence 16 October 2018

[Financial sustainability of police forces inquiry](#) – Public Accounts Committee – latest evidence 10 Oct

[Hand car washes](#) - Environmental Audit Committee - latest evidence 5 September 2018

[Youth Detention](#) – Joint Committee on Human Rights - latest evidence 17 October 2018

[Prison Population 2022: Planning for the Future](#) – Justice Committee - latest evidence 11 Sep 2018

[Economic crime inquiry](#) – Treasury Committee - latest evidence 4 July 2018

[Emergency Services Network](#) – Public Accounts Committee – latest evidence 21 February 2018

[Counter-terrorism](#) - Home Affairs Committee – Open

[Young victims of financial crime inquiry](#) – APPG on financial crime - Open

[Spread of so-called 'pop-up' brothels](#) – APPG on prostitution – Open

5. LEGISLATION

[Mental Health Units \(Use of Force\) Bill](#) – Lords 3rd reading – TBA

[Briefing](#)

Private Members' Bill to make provision about the oversight and management of use of force in mental health units and the use of body cameras by police in the course of duties in relation to people in mental health units

[Counter-Terrorism & Border Security Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – 12 November 2018

[Briefing](#)

Government Bill to close gaps in existing counter-terrorism legislation, including provisions to:- extend the [offence](#) of inviting support for a proscribed organisation to cover reckless expressions of support, update the [offence](#) of obtaining information likely to be useful to a terrorist to cover material that is just viewed or streamed over the internet, [increase the maximum penalty](#) for certain preparatory terrorism offences to 15 years'

[Voyeurism \(Offences\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – 26 November 2018

[Briefing](#)

Government Bill to insert a new offence under Section 67 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 to include instances of 'upskirting' where the purpose is to obtain sexual gratification or cause humiliation, distress or alarm. A summary conviction would carry a sentence of up to one year in prison and/or a fine. And a more serious offence, tried in the Crown Court, would carry a sentence of up to 2 years in prison, with those convicted being placed on the sex offenders register

[Prisons \(Interf. with Wireless Telegraphy\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage - TBA

[Briefing](#)

Private Members' Bill includes provisions to create a new power for the Secretary of State to authorise public communications providers, such as mobile network operators, to interfere with systems in order to disrupt the unlawful use of mobile phones in prisons. Amend existing Prisons (Interf. with Wireless Telegraphy) Act 2012.

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

Private Members' 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

[Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

[Briefing](#)

Private Members' Bill to make provision about identifying and supporting victims of modern slavery

[Courts and Tribunals \(Judiciary & Functions of Staff\) Bill](#) – Lords 3rd reading – 13 Nov 2018

[Briefing](#)

Government Bill to increase efficiency by allowing greater flexibility to deploy the right judge to the right case. Appropriately qualified and experienced court and tribunal staff will also be able to deal with routine matters - such as issuing a summons, taking a plea - freeing up judges' time to focus on matters that need it most.

[Offensive Weapons Bill](#) – Commons Report Stage – TBA

[Overarching documents](#) [Briefing](#)

Government Bill to ban the sale of the most dangerous corrosive products to under-18s, make it a criminal offence to possess corrosive substances in a public place without good reason, introduce restrictions on online sales of knives and make it illegal to possess certain offensive weapons like zombie knives and knuckle-dusters in private. Scheduled 13 September 2018

[Stalking Protection Bill](#) - Commons Report Stage – 23 November 2018

[APCC response](#)

Private Members' Bill (with Government support) to make provision for protecting persons from risks associated with stalking, including the introduction of new civil Stalking Protection Orders (SPOs)

[Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – TBA

[Briefing](#)

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

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 12 November 2018

[Criminal Records Bill](#) - Lords Committee Stage – TBA

[Lords Briefing](#)

Private Members' Bill to amend the length of time for which an individual may have a criminal record under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

[Children Act 1989 \(Amendment\) \(FGM\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – TBA

[Commons briefing](#)

Private Members' Bill to state that proceedings under Section 5A of, and Schedule 2 to, the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 are family proceedings

[Freedom of Information \(Extension\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

Private Members' Bill to extend Freedom of Information Act 2000 in respect of public authorities and extend powers of the Information Commissioner

[Emergency Response Drivers \(Protections\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

Private Members' Bill to protect drivers of emergency vehicles responding to emergencies from civil liability and criminal prosecution in specified circumstances and related provision about criminal proceedings

[Violent Crime \(Sentences\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

[Youth \(Services and Provisions\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

[Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

[Criminal Fraud \(Private Prosecutions\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

[Discarded Needles \(Offences\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018

[Human Trafficking \(Child Protection\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 18th January 2019

[Foreign Nationals \(Criminal Offender & Prisoner Removal\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 22nd Feb 2019

[Service Animals \(Offences\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Policing Resources Bill](#) - Lords 2nd reading - TBA

[Victims of Crime \(Rights, Entitlements, Notification of CSA\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – TBA

[Anonymity \(Arrested Persons\) Bill](#) - Lords 2nd reading – TBA

[Road Traffic Offenders \(Surrender Driving Licences\) Bill](#) - Lords 2nd reading - TBA

[Modern Slavery \(Transparency in Supply Chains\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – TBC

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- [Draft Domestic Abuse Bill](#) will create a legal definition of domestic abuse to ensure it is properly understood as more than just isolated incidents of violence; create a new domestic abuse prevention notice and order to provide clearer pathways of protection for victims; make sure that if abusive behaviour involves a child, that the court can hand down a sentence that reflects the devastating life-long impact that abuse has on the child; and establish a Domestic Abuse Commissioner, to stand up for victims and survivors, raise public awareness, monitor the response of statutory agencies and local authorities and hold the justice system to account in tackling domestic abuse.

6. CONSULTATIONS

[British citizenship reform](#)

Home Secretary announces plans for citizenship reforms which would include tougher English language requirements for people applying for British citizenship changes to the Life in the UK test to give greater prominence to the British values and principles expected and powers to deprive individuals convicted of the most serious criminal offences of their British citizenship. A public consultation will be brought forward.

Open date: Pending

Close date: TBC

[Revised national standards for children in the youth justice system 2019](#) **NEW**

Youth Justice Board consultation seeking views on revised national standards for youth justice services. This updates standards published in April 2013. The draft revised standards are outcomes focussed and were created with support from experts working in the sector based on the principle of 'child first, offender second'.

Open date: 29/10/2018

Close date: 26/11/2018

[Local government pension scheme: technical amendments to benefits](#)

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government consultation on proposals to make amendments to the statutory local government pension scheme to accommodate judgements already made, give some flexibility to respond to potential future developments and make a technical amendment required to an earlier Scheme.

Open date: 04/10/2018

Close date: 29/11/2018

[Establishing an Independent Public Advocate](#)

Ministry of Justice consultation setting out proposals for the role of the Independent Public Advocate to support bereaved families and enable them to fully understand and engage in the investigation following a disaster. Consultation seeks views on when the support should be available and who will be eligible for support.

Open date: 10/09/2018

Close date: 03/12/2018

[Forensic medical exam standard for adult and child sexual assault complainants](#)

Home Office and Forensic Science Regulator (FSR) consultation on draft "Forensic medical examination standard for adult and child sexual assault complainants" following a call for a review of the standard.

Open date: 02/11/2018

Close date: 28/12/2018

[Airside alcohol licensing at international airports: Call for Evidence](#) **NEW**

Home Office consultation seeking to help government to assess the scale of drunk and disruptive passengers at international airports, the extent to which airports and airlines use their statutory powers effectively and the impact of current and proposed interventions in relation to [airside alcohol licensing](#).

Open date: 01/11/2018

Close date: 01/02/2019