

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

[Apply for funding: Integrated Communities Innovation Fund – 9 July 2018](#)

Secretary of State for Communities launches a new £7m innovation fund to support trailblazing approaches to tackling the causes of poor integration in England. This includes projects that use sport and physical activity to encourage integration. The deadline for initial expressions of interest is 20 August 2018.

[More funding for youth groups to help youngsters unlock their full potential – 16 July 2018](#)

Communities Minister announces £250,000 funding to the Youth United Foundation to help more young people from diverse backgrounds across the country to join national youth groups like the Scouts, Police Cadets and Guiding. The funding will be used to build a national network of youth integration champions and roll out long-term approaches to developing lasting relationships between young people from different backgrounds.

[Stronger powers for councils to tackle empty homes announced – 18 July 2018](#)

Amendment to the Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Bill is set to enable councils to triple the council tax on homes left empty for five to 10 years from 2020 and quadruple premiums on properties left empty for more than a decade by 2021. The bill already contained provision for councils to double the rate of tax on properties that have been empty for 2 years or more from 2019.

[Tougher penalties under the Laser Misuse \(Vehicles\) Act come into force – 10 July 2018](#)

People who target vehicles with lasers could face penalties of up to 5 years in prison and an unlimited fine

[Home Office launches anti-knife crime lessons ahead of summer holidays – 17 July 2018](#)

Bespoke hour-long lesson plans, created in partnership with the PSHE Association, have been made available to round 50,000 PSHE and KS3 to KS4 teachers working with 11 to 16 year olds. The plans aim to challenge myths, educate about the dangers of social media and communicate the consequences of carrying a knife.

[Home Office roundtable on mental health demand on policing – held 12 July 2018](#)

[Domestic Abuse: A Toolkit for Employers – 12 July 2018](#)

Public Health England (PHE) and Business in the Community publish toolkit to help employers spot the signs and symptoms of domestic abuse and provide guidance on how they can help support workers affected by it.

[How to start reducing the prison population – Criminal Justice Alliance Briefing – 10 July 2018](#)

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 23 July 2018

[Justice Secretary speech on the government's agenda for prison reform – 10 July 2018](#)

'From sentencing to incentives – how prisons can better protect the public from the effects of crime'

[Ofsted Director's article on effective multi-agency child safeguarding arrangements – 10 July 2018](#)

National Director of Social Care considers the important components of successful partnerships

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Neighbourhood Watch](#) (18 Jul), [Troubled Families programme](#) (18 Jul), [Housing First: tackling homelessness for those with complex needs](#) (17 Jul), [Homelessness among refugees](#) (16 Jul), [Protecting victims of domestic abuse in the family courts](#) (13 Jul), [Stalking: Developments in the law](#) (9 Jul), [Early history of British race relations legislation](#) (9 Jul),

Recent Parliamentary debates: [International Criminal Justice](#) (17 Jul), [Offensive Weapons Bill](#) (17 Jul), [Knife Crime](#) (16 Jul), [Police Officer Numbers](#) (16 Jul), [Voyeurism Offences Bill](#) (12 Jul), [Waste Criminals](#) (12 Jul)

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Crime in England and Wales 2017/18 – published 19 July 2018](#)

Latest estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales show a non-significant (+3.8%) increase in overall crime against adults between 2016/17 and 2017/18 – following a period of long term decline since 1995. Notable increases were recorded, however, among a number of serious crime types including:-

- Offences involving knives or sharp instruments recorded by police (+16%) and NHS (+14%)
- Offences involving firearms recorded by police (+2%) – although improvements in recording may be a factor
- Homicides recorded by the police (+12%) having continued the upward trend seen since 2013/14. It should be noted, however, that homicides remain rare and heavily concentrated in metropolitan areas
- Vehicle-related thefts recorded by the Crime Survey (+17%) and police
- Burglary (+6%) and robbery (+30%) offences recorded by the police, particularly in metropolitan areas

The Crime Survey did, however, also show significant reductions in computer misuse crimes (-31%), largely driven by a decrease in computer viruses. [Data available at police force and CSP level](#)

[Crime Outcomes 2017/18 – published 19 July 2018](#)

Police forces closed 48% of offences with no suspect being identified in 2017/18, however this varied by crime type with 75% of theft offences and 7% of rape offences being closed with no suspect identified. 9% of offences resulted in a charge or summons, marking a 2% point reduction compared to the previous year. The proportion of offences that did not progress due to evidential difficulties increased by 3% points to 29% due, in part, to improvements in the level of crime recorded. The proportion of domestic abuse-related crimes assigned a charge or summons decreased from 18% to 15%, while the proportion of these crimes not progressed on account of evidential difficulties rose from 41% to 48%. [Force data available](#)

[Police Workforce, England and Wales as at 31 March 2018 – Published 19 July 2018](#)

Home Office statistics show no significant change (+0.5%) in the overall full-time equivalent police workforce in the last year, with a total of 122,404 Police officers (-0.6%), 62,820 Police staff (+2.9%), 10,139 PCSOs (-0.7%) and 4,380 Designated officers (+3.0%). The total number of FTE Special Constables fell by 13.4% to 11,690. Police Officer numbers have continued to fall to the lowest level since comparable records began in 1996 and, though not strictly comparable, the lowest level since 1981. New joiners accounted for 5.7% of all officers in 2017/18, while the proportion of officers leaving the police (6.1%) has seen a continued increase since 2012/13. The proportion of officers in frontline roles (92-93%) has remained relatively stable since 2013, despite a 1.6% reduction in absolute numbers over the previous year. The number of officers employed within local policing functions, fell by 4.6%. The proportion of female officers (30%) and officers from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds (7%) has reached the highest level since records began, however representation remains low when compared to their demographic composition in England and Wales. Long term absence rates for police officers remained stable at 2%. Comparative [data available at police force level](#).

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 23 July 2018

[Police funding for England and Wales 2015 to 2019 – Published 17 July 2018](#)

Home Office publishes detailed breakdown of police funding year ending March 2016 to year ending March 2019 and details of the difficulties in comparing between spending review periods. The report highlights that overall police funding increased by £468m between 2017-18 and 2018-19, primarily driven by a £281m increase in police precept income. Comparative data available at police force level.

[Policing and young adults: developing a tailored approach – 17 July 2018](#)

Police Foundation report highlighting the overrepresentation of young adults in the criminal justice system and growing body of research showing that many have not yet reached the full maturity - which can lead them to engage in risky behaviours. The report describes the current approach in policing to dealing with people aged 18 to 25 and argues the case for taking a more tailored approach.

[The experience of electronic monitoring and implications for practice – 12 July 2018](#)

Ministry of Justice study considers how electronic monitoring (EM) can be used most effectively to achieve best outcomes, including compliance, rehabilitation and desistance. The study notes that EM on its own is unlikely to bring about compliance beyond the period of monitoring and not everyone experiences benefits.

[The demand for and use of illicit phones in prison – 19 July 2018](#)

Ministry of Justice study concludes that mobile phones are viewed by prisoners and staff as a feature of prison life across the custodial estate, although rarer in both women's prisons and among the youngest prisoners. Significant criminal drivers for the trafficking and use of mobile phones within prisons were identified, but so too were social communication factors and the desire to stay in touch with family and friends.

[Understanding the process and experience of recall to prison – 19 July 2018](#)

Ministry of Justice summary of four studies highlights that recalled prisoners have high levels of risk and need, and complex responsivity issues, with many suitable for cognitive skills and violence interventions. In interviews and surveys, recalled prisoners described their recall as unjust and found it hard to trust the process. Some felt stranded and confused about what was expected of them. For women, the period immediately before and after their initial release emerged as the time of particular vulnerability. The findings emphasise the need to refine recall and re-release processes to include better communication and relationships between those involved.

[Youth custody data – Monthly statistics: May 2018 – Published 13 July 2018](#)

[Police responses to people with mental health needs: Systematic Review](#)

[The impact of police pre-arrest diversion for people with mental health issues: Systematic Review](#)

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

[HMICFRS policing inspection programme and framework 2018/19 published – 12 July 2018](#)

Inspection plan includes ongoing focus on counter-terrorism, child protection and crime data integrity alongside thematic inspections of the police response to hate crime, fraud, older people in the CJS, cybercrime and county lines, and follow up work on victims of so-called honour-based abuse, forced marriage and female genital mutilation; and modern slavery and human trafficking.

[Understanding the Difference: The police's initial response to hate crime – 19 July 2018](#)

HMICFRS inspection report highlights failures within some forces to correctly flag hate incidents and crimes, gather comprehensive data about hate crime victims and consistently refer hate crime victims for support. The inspection also found that police forces have worked hard to raise awareness of hate crime among staff and communities, and made concerted efforts to promote reporting opportunities. It also highlights some positive examples of innovative practice in Gwent, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire. The report also highlights, however, that a consistent level of training is still required to support officers and staff and enable them to respond appropriately to victims.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 23 July 2018

[HMICFRS Inspection of the National Crime Agency – 12 July 2018](#)

Fourth inspection of the National Crime Agency's national tasking, coordination and governance of the response to serious and organised crime concludes that the NCA has effective and efficient processes in place, but makes a number of recommendations to enhance the existing arrangements. These include improvements in the quality and level of information shared across some agencies.

[HMCPSI Area Assurance programme 2016-2018 – 13 July 2018](#)

HMCPSI's composite report of the findings from the Area Assurance Programme inspections in 2016-18 highlights that the majority of Areas are led and managed effectively. Staff engagement has been positive and CPS values were being actively promoted by senior managers. Relationships with stakeholders have also been positive, with good examples of joint working with other criminal justice agencies. Inspectors identified some issues with the distribution of resources, as well as the recruitment and retention of staff in some of the regions.

[HM Chief Inspector of Prisons' Annual Report for 2017-18 – Published 11 July 2018](#)

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

[The scale and drivers of attrition in reported fraud and cyber-crime – 16 July 2018](#)

Home Office publish a report and [summary slide pack](#) on research examining attrition in fraud and cyber-crime cases reported to Action Fraud, analysed by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau and disseminated to police. Key stages of attrition highlighted by the report include:-

- Reporting to Action Fraud – largely due to difficulties the general public have in completing the Action Fraud crime reporting form and providing good quality, reliable and timely information about the crime
- Identifying cases most likely to have viable lines for enquiry – the automated scoring matrix and 'manual review' process (based on severity / impact of the crime) is not working as well as intended. This should be improved to ensure Crime Reviewers to focus their limited resources on cases likely to be disseminated
- Dissemination to local forces and other agencies – there remains confusion in forces about who is responsible for investigating these crimes and concerns about the quality and amount of information disseminated. The process can also involve forces double-keying information
- Crimes receiving an outcome from local police forces – often forces do not return outcome information on a regular and consistent basis and for evidence suggest that, for many, fraud is not a high priority

[Commission for Countering Extremism sets out plans for coming months – 11 July 2018](#)

CCE sets out plans to publish a comprehensive study into all forms of extremism, build a network of counter extremists and establish a robust commission to make recommendations about its future structure.

[Victims' Commissioner's Annual Report 2017/18 – 19 July 2018](#)

Victims' Commissioner Annual Report highlights the need to better support children by improving the registered intermediary service, and implement the interim recommendations of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Support. The report also makes further calls for for the Victim's Law to be brought forward to provide victims with a seamless journey through the criminal justice system and for the National Probation Service and PCCs to forge closer integration of their victim services. The Commissioner also commits to undertaking a review into criminal injuries compensation and to examine the support given to victims of anti-social behaviour.

[Illicit Trade in the UK – Report published 17 July 2018](#)

All Party Parliamentary Group on Illicit Trade report highlights the lack of a unified, national approach to the issue and the need to also change consumers' perspectives of illicit trade. The inquiry found a lack of robust enforcement, at the border and local level and a paucity of prosecutions. The report proposes the establishment of a UK Anti-Illicit Trade Group and calls for the appointment of a UK national lead to co-ordinate work and involvement of law enforcement and government departments.

INQUIRIES

[Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper](#) – Held 16 July 2018

Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee holds one-off [evidence session](#)

[Modern Slavery](#) – Launched 18 July 2018

Home Affairs Committee inquiry to examine progress made in the three years since the Modern Slavery Act came into force. Accepting written submissions until 7 September 2018

[Serious Violence Strategy](#) - Launched 8 June 2018

Home Affairs Committee inquiry to assess the effectiveness of the approach in combatting serious violence
Accepting written submissions until 16 August 2018

[Disclosure of evidence in criminal cases inquiry](#) – Justice Committee – Report in preparation

[Domestic Abuse](#) – Home Affairs Committee – latest evidence 17 July 2018

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

[Digital currencies inquiry](#) – Treasury Committee – latest evidence 4 July 2018

[Policing for the future](#) – Home Affairs Committee – latest evidence 19 June 2018

[Transforming Courts and Tribunals inquiry](#) – Public Accounts Committee - latest evidence 18 June 2018

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

[Emergency Services Network](#) – Public Accounts Committee – [Evidence session](#) held 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

[Cycle safety Review](#) – Department for Transport - Open

[Pitchford Undercover Policing inquiry](#) - Open

[Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(IICSA\)](#) comprising 13 independent investigations:
[Protection of children outside the UK](#), [Cambridge House, Knowl View and Rochdale](#), [Child Sexual Exploitation by Organised Networks](#), [Accountability and Reparations](#), [Children in Custodial Institutions](#), [the internet](#), [allegations involving the late Lord Janner](#), [Children in the Care of Nottinghamshire Councils](#), [Child Sexual Abuse in the Anglican Church](#), [Child Sexual Abuse in Residential Schools](#), [Allegations Linked to Westminster](#), [Children in the Care of Lambeth Council](#) and [Child Sexual Abuse in the Roman Catholic Church](#)

[Independent Review into child abuse allegations in football](#) - Open

5. PARLIAMENTARY BILLS

[Assaults on Emergency Workers \(Offences\) Bill](#) – Lords 3rd reading – 24 July 2018 [Briefing](#)
Private Members' Bill to make certain offences aggravated when perpetrated against emergency workers

[Mental Health Units \(Use of Force\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 7 September 2018 [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

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 26 October 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

[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

[Prisons \(Interf. with Wireless Telegraphy\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – TBA [Briefing](#)
Private Members' Bill to make provisions for a new power for Secretary of State to authorise communications providers, such as mobile network operators, to interfere with systems to disrupt unlawful use of mobile phones

[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)

[Courts and Tribunals \(Judiciary and Functions of Staff\) Bill](#) – Lords Report Stage – TBA [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

[Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Bill](#) – Commons Report Stage – TBA [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

[Voyeurism \(Offences\) Bill](#) – Commons Report Stage - TBA [Commons 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.

[Offensive Weapons Bill](#) – Commons Committee stage – 19 July 2018 [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 in private.

[Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – TBA [Briefing](#)
Private Members' Bill to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 12

[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

[Freedom of Information \(Extension\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 26 October 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 emergency drivers from prosecution in specified circumstances

[Children Act 1989 \(Amendment\) \(FGM\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 20 July 2018 [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

[Violent Crime \(Sentences\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 26 October 2018

Private Members' Bill to increase the minimum custodial sentence on conviction for possession of a knife or other offensive weapon for an offender aged 18 or over and increase the minimum period of detention and training order for a person aged 16 or 17; set a minimum custodial sentence on conviction for offenders

[Youth \(Services and Provisions\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 26 October 2018

Private Members' Bill to require the Secretary of State to promote and secure youth services and provision

[Criminal Fraud \(Private Prosecutions\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 26 October 2018

Private Members' Bill to make provision about private prosecutions in cases of suspected criminal fraud

[Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 26 October 2018

Private Members' Bill to make provision about the exercise of taxi and private hire vehicle licensing functions in relation to persons about whom there are safeguarding or road safety concerns [LGA article](#)

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

Private Members' Bill to make it an offence to discard needles in public places in specified circumstances

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision for the removal of foreign national criminal offenders from UK

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision for creation of secure safe houses for children subject to trafficking

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

Private Members' Bill to make it an offence to attack service animals, including police dogs and horses; to make certain offences aggravated when perpetrated against such animals

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision for ensuring that police forces in England and Wales have sufficient resources to deliver police services

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision for specifying new statutory rights and entitlements for victims of crime under the Victims Code of Practice; require PCCs to assess victims services;

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

Private Members' Bill to prohibit the publication of certain personal information until an arrested person has been charged with an offence / set out circumstances where such information can be published

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision about the provision and surrender of driving licences or certificates in relation to certain offences; make provision in relation to identifying persons in connection with FPNs etc.

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

Private Members' Bill to make further provision for transparency in supply chains in respect of slavery and human trafficking

[Draft Domestic Abuse Bill](#) to better prevent domestic abuse by promoting awareness, protecting and supporting victims, pursuing and deterring and rehabilitating perpetrators and improving performance across all local areas, agencies and sectors.

6. CONSULTATIONS

[Reconsideration of Parole Board decisions: Creating a new and open system](#)

Open date: 28/04/2018

Close date: 28/07/2018

[Guideline on sentencing public order](#)

Sentencing Council consultation on new guidelines covering public order offences in England and Wales to help ensure consistent and proportionate sentencing for these offences

Open date: 09/05/2018

Close date: 08/08/2018

[Public consultation on new neighbourhood policing guidelines – 2 July 2018](#)

College of Policing launches public consultation on new evidence-based guidelines for chief officers on how they should deliver, support and develop neighbourhood policing.

Open date: 29/06/2018

Close date: 09/08/2018

[Police pursuits](#)

Home Office consultation seeking views on [proposed changes](#) to legislation, guidance and training in relation to police pursuits.

Open date: 22/05/2018

Close date: 13/08/2018

[Serious Violence Strategy](#)

Home Affairs Committee call for evidence seeking feedback on what progress has been made on combatting serious violent crime in recent years

Open date: 08/06/2018

Close date: 16/08/2018

[Search Warrants](#)

Law Commission review inviting comments on proposals to simplify the law in relation to search warrants,

Open date: 05/06/2018

Close date: 05/09/2018

[Guideline on sentencing where there is no offence-specific guideline](#)

Sentencing Council consultation on draft General sentencing guideline for use where there is no offence specific guideline

Open date: 09/06/2018

Close date: 11/09/2018

[Supporting Ex-Offenders on their Path to Employment](#)

Ministry of Justice call for evidence seeking case studies from public, private and voluntary sector employers and organisations which support ex-offenders to find employment.

Open date: 04/07/2018

Close date: 31/08/2018

[Review of legal aid for inquests](#)

Ministry of Justice call for evidence seeking views on people's experience of the current inquests system in view of recent criticisms levelled against the availability of legal aid, including for death in custody cases

Open date: 19/07/2018

Close date: 31/08/2018