

Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

[Reducing Parental Conflict Challenge Fund](#) – 4 January 2019

Department for Work and Pensions [launches](#) £2.7m Challenge Fund for innovative projects to gather learning on what works to reduce parental conflict. Bids are welcome from public, private sector, voluntary and community organisations, social enterprises and partnerships with relevant skills and experience. Initiatives should be ready to start in April 2019 and fully delivered by March 2020. The funding comprises two strands:

- £1.6m in grants for Digital Support for Families – testing what works digitally to support and maintain engagement with disadvantaged families and reduce parental conflict.
- £1.1m for providing Support for Disadvantaged Families - testing what works in supporting disadvantaged families at greater risk of parental conflict, where there is limited existing evidence.

[Taking Flight: The future of drones in the UK](#) - 7 January 2019

Government consultation [response](#) sets out the next steps for government in ensuring safety, security and accountability of the drone industry which include:-

- Ongoing work to build on the 'Drone safe' campaign particularly in the run up to registration and competency testing for drone use becoming legal requirements in November 2019
- New [police powers](#) to issue fixed penalty notices for minor drone offences, alongside new powers to request evidence from drone users where there is reasonable suspicion of an offence being committed and to land, seize and search drones. The Government Draft Drones Bill will be brought forward in 2019
- Detailed policy work to be undertaken by the Home Office to develop an appropriate means to allow the expanded use of counter-drone technology in sites such as airports and prisons and work to develop the optimum exclusion zone to better protect the landing and take-off paths of aircraft and low-flying aircraft

[In-cell phones for more prisons in drive to cut crime](#) – 28 December 2018

Justice Secretary announces a further £10m roll-out of in-cell landline telephones to help prisoners maintain the family ties, boost their prospects of rehabilitation, reduce demand for illicit mobile phones and provide easier access to support services such as the Samaritans and MIND. All calls on in-cell phones are recorded and can only be made to a small number of pre-approved numbers. The measures also aim to reduce tensions which can arise from queuing to use communal phones

[New financial penalties for fly-tipping come into force](#) – 7 January 2019

New civil fixed penalty notices of up to £400 come into force for households found fly-tipping. The government has also issued [guidance](#) to ensure councils use the new powers proportionately.

[NHS Long Term Plan – 7 January 2019](#)

NHS England launches 10 year plan for the NHS to become more joined-up and coordinated in its care, be more proactive in the services it provides and be more differentiated in its support offer to individuals. The plan includes commitments for the NHS to:-

- Boost out-of-hospital care and dissolve the divide between primary and community health services. Integrated Care Systems will be established everywhere by April 2021, bringing together local organisations to integrate primary and specialist care, physical and mental health services, and health with social care. GP practices will also be funded to create genuinely integrated teams
- Increasingly strengthen NHS contribution to preventing health inequalities, including funding for evidence-based NHS prevention programmes to reduce smoking, obesity and alcohol-related A&E admissions
- Redesign and reduce pressure on emergency hospital services by ensuring all hospitals with a major A&E department provide same day emergency care at least 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Plan commits for mental health services to grow faster than the overall NHS budget, creating a new ring-fenced local investment fund worth at least £2.3 billion a year by 2023/24. This will enable faster access to community and crisis mental health services for adults and children
- Give people more control over their own health, and more personalised care when they need it, with every patient having the right to online 'digital' GP consultations and more people benefiting from 'social prescribing', a personal health budget, and support managing their own health in partnership with patients' groups and the voluntary sector
- Digitally-enable primary and outpatient care across the NHS so that patients and their carers can better manage their condition, clinicians can access patient records and care plans wherever they are and predictive techniques can support local Integrated Care Systems to optimise care

In order to deliver this, the plan also sets out how the service will tackle workforce pressures, upgrade technology and put the NHS back onto a sustainable financial path over the next five years. This includes a comprehensive NHS workforce implementation plan which will be published in 2019, a funded programme to upgrade technology and provide digitally enabled care a new Financial Recovery Fund and 'turnaround' process to return to financial balance over the next five years

[Being shouted at or approached by another person in the street – 11 January 2019](#)

General CPS legal advice on some of the possible criminal offences that may be committed if someone is shouted at or approached by another person in the street. The article is not intended to provide an exhaustive account of this area of law, citing additional guidance available

[NSPCC Guidance: Appropriate levels of supervision for children & young people – 11 January 2018](#)

[Helplines and support information for victims of terrorism updated – 11 January 2019](#)

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Prisoners' voting rights](#) (11 Jan), [Missing persons, guardianship and presumption of death](#) (8 Jan), [Children's social care / Policy outcomes](#) (3 Jan), [Air Weapons](#) (28 Dec)

Recent Parliamentary debates: [Forced Marriages: Repatriation Charges](#) (9 Jan), [Committee on Standards](#) (7 Jan), [Offensive Weapons Bill](#) (7 Jan), [Drones: Consultation Response](#) (7 Jan)

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Public perceptions of policing in England and Wales 2018 – 10 January 2019](#)

BMG Research commissioned by HMICFRS into public confidence in, perceptions of and satisfaction with the police. The survey has been undertaken on an annual basis since 2015, however changes in methodology and some question formats in 2018 have affected the ability to draw direct comparisons. The survey found that:-

- Overall satisfaction with local police remains relatively high with 61% reporting satisfaction with police compared to 12% dissatisfied. Although 58% of respondents perceived that there had been no change in the service provided by their local police force over the past 12 months, however, 22% perceived it to have got worse while 8% perceived it to have got better
- Confidence in the police to deal with emergencies (74%) remains high, although the proportion feeling confident that they could easily access / speak to police in an emergency fell from 73% to 63%. Confidence in the local police to deal with online crime (34%) remains low, but has increased since 2017 (26%)
- The proportion of respondents feeling that their local police have a good reputation (52%) has risen since 2017 (42%), as has the proportion feeling informed about what police are doing in their area up from 32% to 37%. The majority of residents (58%), however, do not feel informed
- The proportion reporting that crime and ASB is a problem (40%) has increased compared to the previous year (30%), with a larger proportion of residents feeling that online crime is a problem (81%) and 63% feeling that it has got worse over the past 12 months.
- Around 78% of residents still feel that a visible police presence in their area is important. Despite this, around 36% of respondents have not seen an officer or PCSO on foot in their area in the past year while 35% say that the frequency of seeing police on foot has decreased compared to 12 months ago
- When asked which public service is the most responsible for looking after a range of vulnerable groups, the police were selected as the most responsible for victims of stalking and harassment (65%), missing people (58%) and victims of domestic abuse (43%)
- Respondents felt that police should prioritise dealing with terrorism / extremism (49%), child sexual exploitation (46%) and violent crime (41%). Commercial/business crimes (27%), online abuse (22%) and ASB/other non-criminal incidents (19%) were considered lesser priorities for the police.

[Renewing trust: Improving the relationship between probation and the courts – 28 December 2018](#)

Centre for Justice Innovation report builds on work to explore the 24% reduction in use of community sentences over the last ten-years. The research concludes that while no definite causal link between changes in the relationship between probation and courts and the fall in community sentences was identified, there is clear evidence to suggest that the trust of sentencers in the delivery of community sentences is fraying. Transforming rehabilitation reforms have buffeted the relationship between courts and probation, while court timeliness targets and closures have hampered the ability of probation to deliver high quality pre-sentence advice. Sentencers' concerns about the delivery of community sentences are being driven by a lack of information about the services provided by CRCs, a lack of transparency about the new Rehabilitation Activity Requirement (RAR), barriers to dialog between CRCs and sentencers about community sentence options and concerns about the quality of the work of CRCs and availability of substance misuse and mental health treatment requirements for offenders. Despite these concerns, magistrates value community sentences as an effective response to low and medium risk offenders and an alternative to custody.

[Child protection plan and register statistics – 28 December 2018](#)

NSPCC factsheets compiling the most up-to-date statistics on children who are the subject to child protection plan or on a child protection register. Includes a profile of children who are the subject of a child protection plan or on a child protection register and their reasons being so

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

Home Office's approach to the identification and safeguarding of vulnerable adults – 10 January 2019

Independent inspection of how frontline staff in Border Force and Immigration Enforcement identify and respond to vulnerable adults during encounters with non-detained migrants. The report makes 4 recommendations for the Home Office, all of which have been accepted:-

- Review progress made and produce a detailed Programme Plan on work has been completed and underway in relation to vulnerability and safeguarding and whether the cross-BICS lead and working group are adequately resourced. The Home Office should also develop common descriptions and definitions of the vulnerabilities that BICS staff may encounter and ensure consistent, quality-assured record keeping
- Reach out to Adult Social Services, the police, the NHS, and any other agencies with direct experience of identifying and responding to vulnerable individuals, including relevant NGOs, with a view to distilling "best practice" and ensuring BICS staff have ready access to expertise and support, including clear 'hand off' arrangements to other agencies
- Spell out for BICS staff, in practical terms as well as in law, what their 'duty of care' is to the people they encounter, where it starts and ends, and ensure that this is clearly stated in vulnerability and safeguarding guidance and training packages, and include sufficient classroom elements and expert input to give staff the confidence to deal as "first responders" with the range of vulnerabilities they may encounter
- Ensure that the Border Force, UKVI, Immigration Enforcement risk registers are fully aligned with regard to the goal of "Protecting Vulnerable People and Communities", and that the mitigating actions are designed to reduce the risk from "Red"

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) examining police effectiveness in their interactions with children, from initial contact and early identification of children who are at risk, through to investigation Ongoing
- HMICFRS: Counter Terrorism thematic inspection 2017/18
- HMICFRS: Independent study of police air support
- HMICFRS: Police response to county lines (Thematic)
- 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

[Process study of the Horizon Programme – 10 January 2018](#)

Evaluation of the new Horizon programme for medium risk sex offenders found high completion rates in custody (90%) and the community (75%), with both staff and participants providing positive feedback. Group members had increased confidence, greater assertiveness, increased problem solving skills and improved relationships following the programme. Staff raised concerns, however, regarding the perception of the programme from outside treatment teams, and uncertainty in selecting the right participants for the programme. The research has led to a number of recommendations for improvements to Horizon including change.

Inquiries

[The Macpherson Report: Twenty Years On – Home Affairs Committee – Launched 12 December 2018](#)

Inquiry launched to examine progress in the 20 years since the Macpherson report was published, and in particular how the Government and police service has performed against the following recommendations:-

- Home Secretary and Police Authorities should seek to ensure that the membership of police authorities [and now PCCs and their offices], reflects the cultural and ethnic mix of the communities so far as possible
- Steps should be taken by Police forces in consultation with local Government, other agencies and local communities to encourage the reporting of racist incidents and crimes
- Police and Victim Support Services should ensure that their systems provide for the pro-active use of local contacts within minority ethnic communities to assist with family liaison where appropriate
- Police training and practical experience in the field of racism awareness and valuing cultural diversity should regularly be conducted at local level – local BAME communities should have a role in this
- The Home Office and Police Services should facilitate the development of initiatives to increase the number of qualified minority ethnic recruits

[Islamophobia – Home Affairs Committee – Launched 12 December 2018](#)

[Serious Fraud Office – Justice Committee Inquiry – Oral Evidence Session - 18 December 2018](#)

[Racial harassment in higher education – Equality and HR Commission – Launched 4 December 2018](#)

[Forensic Science – Science and technology Committee – oral evidence session 18 December 2018](#)

[Driving value in public spending - Public Accounts Committee – Oral Evidence 12 Dec 2018](#)

[Youth Detention – Joint Committee on Human Rights - latest evidence 13 December 2018](#)

[The role of the magistracy \(follow up\) – Justice Committee – Oral evidence session 27 November 2018](#)

[Economic crime – Treasury Committee - latest evidence 19 December 2018](#)

[Local Government Spending – Public Accounts Committee – Latest evidence 26 November 2018](#)

[Work of the Home Office – Home Affairs Committee – Oral evidence session 13 November 2018](#)

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

[Counter-terrorism - Home Affairs Committee – latest evidence 24 October 2018](#)

[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 – Public Accounts Committee – latest evidence 10 Oct](#)

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

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

5. LEGISLATION

[Counter-Terrorism & Border Security Bill](#) – Lords 3rd reading – 15 January 2019

[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 Report Stage – 15 January 2019

[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.

[Crime \(Overseas Production Orders\) Bill](#) – Commons Report Stage – TBC

[Briefing](#)

Bill to create a framework to enable law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to apply to a UK court for an 'overseas production order' requiring a person in a foreign jurisdiction to produce or grant access to electronic data for the purposes of investigating and prosecuting serious crime.

[Stalking Protection Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 18 January 2019

[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)

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 25 January 2019

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

[Children Act 1989 \(Amendment\) \(FGM\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 25 January 2019

[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

[Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 25 January 2019

[Briefing](#)

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

[Offensive Weapons Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 7 January 2019

[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

[Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#) – Lords 3rd Reading – 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 under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

[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

[Freedom of Information \(Extension\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 25 January 2019

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

[Violent Crime \(Sentences\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 25 January 2019

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 to increase the minimum period of detention and training order for a person aged 16 or 17; set a minimum custodial sentence on conviction for an offender in possession of a knife and intending to commit an offence or having a weapon to use in committing murder

[Youth \(Services and Provisions\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 25 January 2019

Private Members' Bill to require the Secretary of State to promote and secure youth services and provision of a requisite standard; to impose a duty on local authorities to provide youth services and establish local youth service partnerships with youth participation

[Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 25 January 2019

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](#)

[Emergency Response Drivers \(Protections\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 15 March 2019

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

[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](#) to 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
 - [Draft Drones Bill](#) introducing new police powers to issue fixed penalty notices for minor drone offences, request evidence from drone users where there is reasonable suspicion of an offence being committed and to land, seize and search drones. Require registration and competency testing for drone use
 - [Draft Mental Health Bill](#) to transform mental health care, allow those detained under the MH Act to be allowed to nominate a person of their choice to be involved in decisions about their care. Enable people to express preference for care and treatment and have these listed in statutory 'advance choice' documents

6. CONSULTATIONS

[The Macpherson Report: Twenty Years On: Call for Evidence](#)

Open date: 12/11/2018

Close date: 16/01/2019

[Preventing and tackling forced marriage](#)

Home Office consultation seeking views about whether it is necessary to introduce a new legal mandatory reporting duty relating to cases of forced marriage and, if it is, what such a reporting requirement would look like. It also seeks views on how the current guidance on forced marriage could be improved and strengthened.

Open date: 15/11/2018

Close date: 28/01/2019

[Extremism in England and Wales: call for evidence](#)

Independent Commission for Countering Extremism Call for Evidence on the harms inflicted by extremists. The evidence will inform a wide-ranging study of extremism to be published in spring 2019, which will aim to build understanding of extremism and give people the confidence to challenge it. The Commission wants to hear from all those concerned about rising extremism, including charities, academics and frontline professionals.

Open date: 11/11/2018

Close date: 31/01/2019

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

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

[Guardianship \(Missing Persons\) Act 2017: Implementing the Act](#)

Ministry of Justice consultation seeking views on the content and presentation of the code of practice, procedure and the supervisory regime set up in appointing a trusted person to look after property and financial affairs of a missing person. Feedback will be used to inform the Act which will come into force in July 2019.

Open date: 19/12/2018

Close date: 12/02/2019

[Racial harassment in higher education: Call for Evidence](#)

Equality and HR Commission call for evidence seeking evidence from staff and students who have experienced or witnessed racial harassment. Forms part of an inquiry to understand the types of racial harassment experienced at publicly funded higher education institutions, such as universities or higher education colleges.

Open date: 04/12/2018

Close date: 15/02/2019

[Review of enforcement agent \(bailiff\) reforms: Call for Evidence](#)

Ministry of Justice call for evidence as part of the second post-implementation review of regulations which were introduced in 2014 to regulate the operation of enforcement agents and the fees that they charge. The review invites feedback from people who have been contacted by enforcement agents, enforcement agents, creditors, debt advisers, the judiciary and anybody else with experience of working with enforcement agents.

Open date: 25/11/2018

Close date: 17/02/2019