

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: £1.6m Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme - 5 July 2019](#)

Latest round of Home Office Places of Worship Protective Security Funding opens for bids from applicants that may be vulnerable to hate crime. In a departure from previous years, associated faith community centres are able to apply for funding and applicants are no longer be required to demonstrate they have already experienced hate crime. A more streamlined process will also mean security measures can be arranged through one central provider. Deadline for applications is 31 August 2019.

[Recipients of Building a Stronger Britain Together funding announced – 28 June 2019](#)

Home Office publishes details of the 30+ groups receiving a share of the £770,000 Building a Stronger Britain Together funding to support communities in building resilience to extremist activity. Projects funded include anti-racism workshops with children, workshops to tackle FGM, support for Muslim women who have experienced anti-Muslim hatred and support for newly settled European communities adapt to life in modern Britain.

[Economic crime plan 2019 to 2022 – 12 July 2019](#)

Home Office and HM Treasury publish [Asset Recovery Plan](#) and strategic [Economic Crime](#) plan setting out 7 priority areas for public and private sector action in combatting economic crime. These include steps to:-

- Develop a better understanding of the threat and our performance in combatting economic crime
- Better share and use information to combat economic crime across public and private sectors
- Ensure powers, tools and procedures of law enforcement, the justice system and the private sector are effective as possible and strengthen their capabilities to detect, deter and disrupt economic crime
- Build greater resilience to economic crime by better managing risk and supervision in the private sector
- Improve our systems for transparency of ownership of legal entities and legal arrangements
- Deliver an ambitious international strategy to enhance security, prosperity and the UK's global influence

[Government sets out proposals to better protect employees from sexual harassment – 11 July 2019](#)

Government Equalities Office (GEO) sets out new [proposals](#) to strengthen and clarify the law in relation to third party harassment and give explicit protections within the Equality Act 2010. This includes ensuring protections to volunteers and interns and extending the three-month time limit for employment tribunal claims under the Equality Act 2010. GEO has launched a [consultation](#) on the proposals to further explore the evidence and is seeking feedback from stakeholders, including those with experience of sexual harassment in the workplace.

[Ministry of Justice launches new prisoner incentives system to encourage rehabilitation – 11 July 2019](#)

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 15 July 2019

[Ministry of Justice confirms plans for 'Helen's Law'](#) – 6 July 2019

Justice Secretary sets out plans to place a legal duty on the Parole Board to consider whether a prisoner has disclosed the whereabouts of their victim's remains in cases of homicide when considering their suitability for release. Known as 'Helen's law', the proposal aims to acknowledge the anguish faced by families of the bereaved and follows the campaign efforts of Marie McCourt whose daughter, Helen, was murdered in 1988.

[New technology for forces to improve capability of the Child Abuse Image Database](#) – 12 July 2019

Home Office announce plans to roll out analytical new tools to forces across the UK following successful trials, which will speed up investigations of online child abuse and limit the number of indecent images of children (IIOC) police officers have to view. The tools include a fast-forensic tool to rapidly analyse seized devices and find images already known to law enforcement, an image categorisation algorithm to assist officers to identify and categorise the severity of illegal imagery and a capability to detect images with matching scenes.

[Sentencing Council publish new sentencing guidelines for arson and criminal damage](#) – 2 July 2019

New guidelines, which will come into effect on 1 October 2019, aim to ensure that courts take account of the full impact on national heritage assets, the economic or social impact of damage to public amenities and the effect on communities when emergency service resources are diverted to deal with an incident of criminal activity.

[Anonymous reporting line for forensic science professionals launched](#) – 2 July 2019

Forensic Science Regulator launches new line managed in association with Crimestoppers to allow forensic science professionals to anonymously raise concerns about service quality to the Forensic Science Regulator.

[Commissioning framework for child sexual abuse support](#) – Published 11 July 2019

Home Office publishes a framework to help commissioners with responsibility for child sexual abuse support services to promote partnership working and improve the availability and delivery of care and support for survivors of recent and non-recent abuse.

[Prison release protocol guidance: research report](#) – Published 5 July 2019

Government guidance on how local authorities and other criminal justice partners can start to develop prison release protocols. The report complements the [duty to refer guidance](#) for the Homelessness Reduction Act

[Policing and fire governance: guidance for police and crime panels](#) – Published 11 July 2019

LGA publishes guidance for police (fire) and crime panel chairs, members and support officers, providing information about the statutory roles of panels and highlighting examples of good practice.

[IOPC Monthly Round Up: June 2019](#) – Published 11 July 2019

[IOPC Learning the Lessons – Issue 35](#) – Published 11 July 2019

Latest issue focusses on the custody environment and the range of issues detention staff commonly encounter

[Victims' Commissioner – July 2019 Newsletter](#) – Published 3 July 2019

[PCCs Making a Difference: Putting Victims First](#) – Published 1 July 2019

APCC publication highlighting the work that PCCs, PFCCs and Mayors are doing in their local communities and nationally, how they are transforming the way that victims are treated within the Criminal Justice system

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Prisoners' Release on Temporary Licence](#) (11 Jul), [Relationships and Sex Education in Schools](#) (11 Jul), [Reform of the Mental Health Act 1983](#) (10 Jul), [Children and mental health services](#) (10 Jul), [CPS: Rape Cases and Guidance](#) (9 Jul), [Policing in the UK](#) (8 Jul), [Dangerous driving](#) (4 Jul),

Recent Parliamentary debates: [Short Sentences](#) (9 Jul), [Modern Slavery](#) (9 Jul), [Dangerous Driving](#) (8 Jul), [Victims and Witnesses in Court](#) (4 Jul), [Sexual Offences: Anonymity](#) (3 Jul), [Online Homophobia](#) (1 Jul)

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Government to launch new modern slavery research centre](#) – 9 July 2019

Home Office announces a new £10m research centre, funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and Strategic Priorities Fund which will bring together academics, businesses and charities to share knowledge and research to strengthen national and international responses to modern slavery.

[Shattering Lives and Myths: A Report on Image-Based Sexual Abuse](#) – 1 July 2019

Research report as part of an international project across the UK, Australia and New Zealand explores the impact of image-based sexual abuse and calls for comprehensive legal reform, better support for survivors and more effective and better resourced training, education and guidance for the police and young people.

['Know your numbers': Using data to monitor and address criminalisation](#) – 4 July 2019

Howard League for Penal Reform briefing provides up-to-date statistics on the level of criminalisation of children in residential care and police contact with children's homes, primarily based on data obtained via FOI. The report notes 'encouraging signs of improvements' with the proportion of children formally criminalised while in residential care having reduced from 15% to 10% between 2014 and 2018. The greatest fall (-3%) occurred during the most recent year. Children in residential care, however, continue to face disproportionate levels of criminalisation compared to other children. Some children's homes are also calling the police excessively, the majority of forces reporting homes that have made more than 100 calls to the police in the last year, some calling more than 200 times. Nearly half the calls reported by police forces related to missing incidents which can indicate risk of other problems, such as potential exploitation by criminals running 'county lines'. The report makes recommendations for police to review and improve current recording and reporting systems to enable them to understand and address unnecessary criminalisation and improve safeguarding in their areas.

[Counting Lives Report: responding to children who are criminally exploited](#) – 5 July 2019

Children's Society report exploring the experiences of children targeted by criminal networks to distribute illegal drugs through the 'county lines' model. The report highlights how children are being criminally exploited to work in cannabis factories, coerced into trafficking drugs, forced to shoplift, pickpocket or threaten violence against others. The report argues that 'the criminals are winning' and that more needs to be done by professionals to recognise child criminal exploitation and provide a coordinated and timely safeguarding response. The report also highlights a concerning lack of data and reporting about children at risk of criminal exploitation.

[Childhood vulnerability in England 2019](#) – 4 July 2019

Children's Commissioner's 2019 childhood vulnerability report examines the scale of, and trends in childhood vulnerability based on the latest available data. The report concludes that while around 723,000 children in England are currently receiving statutory support or intervention, around 2.3 million are estimated to be living with risk because of a vulnerable family background. Around 829,000 children are believed to not be known to services while a further 761,000 are known to services, but their level of support is unclear. Around 128,000 children from a vulnerable family background are receiving the most intensive forms of statutory support, such as being in care or on a child protection plan. [Data available at Local Authority level](#)

[Missing Persons Data Report 2016/17](#) – 1 July 2019

NCA publishes report on police demand relating to missing person reports for the period 2016/17. Includes detailed [data](#) on incidents and outcomes of missing person reports at police force level

Upcoming publications

- Captive & Controlled: Domestic Abuse in Rural Areas, National Rural Crime Network – 17 July 2019
- Crime and Crime Outcomes in England and Wales 2018/19, Home Office – 18 July 2019
- Police workforce, England and Wales 31 March 2019, Home Office – 18 July 2019
- Police use of firearms statistics, England and Wales: 2018/19, Home Office – 25 July 2019

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

HMICFRS State of Policing: Annual Assessment of Policing 2018 – Published 4 July 2019

HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, Sir Thomas Winsor's fourth annual assessment of policing in England and Wales based on inspections undertaken between April 2018 and May 2019. The report concludes that most forces are performing well and showing integrity in the face of the increasing scale and complexity of policing demand. This includes the rise in street violence, the prevalence of online risks including child sexual abuse, fraud, radicalisation, harassment and stalking, and uncertainty related to Britain's exit from the European Union.

Focusing primarily on policing, the report calls for:-

- Fairness and greater certainty of police funding - The current funding formula creates disproportionate funding settlements in certain forces which need to be addressed. The report also calls for multi-year funding settlements to provide greater stability and certainty, and help the police invest in the longer term
- Policing to function as part of a single law enforcement system – A rebalancing of effort, attention and resources across local, regional and national functions is overdue. Bold, long-term decisions are required to explore options for 'voluntary or compulsory reform' and a new national system of police co-ordination
- Longer-term investment in technology, such as body-worn video, fully-functional hand-held mobile devices, facial recognition and artificial intelligence – particularly in improving investigatory outcomes and improving the capture and disclosure of information. Use of AI is far from widespread and ethical concerns remain.
- Improvements in the consistency of police IT and the capacity and capability of local and regional 'back office' functions such as payroll and fleet management. The Home Office should consider making College of Policing standards mandatory and encourage (and in some cases mandate) collaboration

The Assessment also makes broader recommendations for the police and wider partner agencies to:

- Improve understanding of vulnerability – particularly young people with ACEs or subject to exclusion from school, people with mental health illness and those presenting as both victims and perpetrators of crime.
- Ensure smooth functioning of the wider criminal justice system – the current system is 'dysfunctional and defective' and letting victims down. More needs to be done by police and partners to improve early intervention and rehabilitation – particularly in supporting people released from prisons

The report includes comparative force-level information drawn from PEEL, domestic abuse and crime data integrity inspections undertaken over the previous 12 months, in addition to a summary of findings from thematic inspections of child protection, hate crime, mental health, fraud and stalking and harassment.

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons annual report: 2018/19 – 9 July 2019

Annual report drawing on 78 individual inspections of prisons, YOIs, secure training centres, immigration detention and police and court custody during 2018/19. The report highlights dedicated and commendable care within the high-security estate, women's prisons and the children's estate, but significant and ongoing challenges in Category B and C men's local and training prisons. This is compounded their high through-put of prisoners, an often 'worn-out fabric', staff shortages and vulnerable populations exhibiting violence and illicit drug use. The report reiterates identified areas for improvement, which include:-

- Men's prisons: safety, reductions in self-harm, provision of respectful detention and living conditions and improvements in purposeful activity and rehabilitation and release planning
- Women's prisons: improvements in purposeful activity, further development of trauma-informed responses and greater consistency in supporting women to maintain contact with families and friends
- Children's custody: Reducing levels of violence and bullying, sustaining ongoing improvements in behaviour management, and minimising the use of restraint
- Immigration detention: Ensuring detainees are kept informed and feel safe, ensuring delays to casework and length of detention is minimised, particularly among vulnerable detainees and minimising use of restraint
- Police custody: Strengthening governance and oversight of the use of force – identified as a cause for concern (5) or area for improvement (4) in all 9 forces inspected during the year. The report also highlights increases in suspect processing times (arrest to release) as a result of more centralised custody facilities.

Upcoming reports and inspection activity

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| • Joint Inspection of Domestic Abuse: Evidence-led prosecutions (Police/CSP) | Pending |
| • Joint Inspection of Crimes against older people (Police/CPS) | July 2019 |
| • Fire and Rescue Service inspection fieldwork (third tranche) | July 2019 |
| • National Joint Targeted area inspections of Child Protection – Thematic report | July 2019 |
| • TACT Custody Suites | July 2019 |
| • Integrated Offender Management: Follow-up to explore IOM in TR environment | Forces selected July |

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

[Home Office Police Front Line Review](#) – 10 July 2019

Findings from the Home Office Front Line Review of Policing based on primary and secondary research and engagement with officers, staff and PCSOs across England and Wales highlights the perception that:-

- Demand on the police service is increasing while capacity is decreasing – this is compounded by what are seen by some to be unnecessary demands which get in the way of core policing, such as disproportionate administration, overly bureaucratic processes, ineffective IT, difficulties in sharing best practice and other public agencies relying on the police to provide out of hours cover
- Frontline officers and staff feel undervalued by the wider policing system, noting disconnect between the front line and senior / national decision makers and scepticism about their ability to inform change.
- The front line is not afforded sufficient time for activities that positively impact on their wellbeing, such as decompression, adequate debriefing, counselling, physical activity and training and development
- There is a lack of awareness and transparency in the national learning and development offer for the front line and the front line is not afforded sufficient time with line managers for support, personal development and performance reviews. The performance review system and online learning drew particular criticism.

The [Home Office response](#) to the review commits to immediate action to:-

- Create a space for the front line to directly influence innovation and improvement via the Front Line Innovation Project. This mirrors successful approaches conducted in other sectors (e.g. NHS Horizons)
- Challenge Chiefs to ensure the right balance between meeting demands and supporting individuals by establishing essential time for core activities that positively impact on frontline wellbeing and support
- Challenge to Chiefs to identify and address unnecessary internally generated demand within their forces and with national support to tackle systemic issues from the Home Office and other partners
- Ministers to provide good practice guidance to enable policing to manage cases that should not involve the police more effectively – including better guidance on 'safe and well checks'
- HMICFRS to review the way that it inspects the extent to which wellbeing is embedded within day to day policing so that inspections reflect the findings from the Front Line Review
- Ensure Ministers and staff associations provide a direct means to evaluate national and local progress and ensure change and development is monitored via a 'one year on' Front Line Review stocktake review.

[Government response to Independent Review into the Modern Slavery Act](#) – 9 July 2019

The Government accepts the majority of recommendations set out in the [Independent Review](#) which was laid in Parliament on 22 May 2019. In addition to the work that has already been taken forward to implement these recommendations, the government has committed to further consultation to understand the impact on affected groups and to inform practical implementation, and to publish a further update to Parliament on the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians recommendations, ahead of national rollout of the service.

[Review of statutory guidance for Local Authorities in providing youth services](#) – 10 July 2019

Civil Society Minister launches a review of the guidance for local authorities setting out how they should secure activities and services for young people. The review will aim to focus attention on the positive role local authorities can play in the provision of youth services, and ensure the guidance is useful and accessible. An 8 week public call for evidence will be open from late July to September.

[Review of police custody facilities underway to remove ligature risk](#) – 11 July 2019

Police custody facilities across England and Wales are being reviewed to remove the risk of alarm cords within toilets being used as a ligature following the recommendations of an IOPC investigation report which were accepted by the National Police Chiefs' Council. Work is in train to ensure the lifeline cords are replaced with an alternative means of raising alarm that cannot be used as a ligature. The National Police Estates Group is also being advised to incorporate this learning into guidance for any new custody facilities or refurbishment.

Police Super-complaints

HMICFRS, IOPC and College of Policing publish details of two super-complaints that were first published in April 2019 and have been assessed as eligible for investigation. These comprise:-

[Super-compliant: police response to victims of modern slavery](#) – 1 July 2019

Super-complaint from Hestia regarding the policies, practices and standards of all police forces in supporting victims of modern slavery.

[Super-complaint: Police use of protective measures - violence against women and girls](#) – 1 July 2019

Super-complaint from the Centre for Women's Justice regarding the policies and practices of police forces in their use of bail, arrest for breach of non-molestation orders, DVPNs, DVPOs and restraining orders.

Inquiries

[Detention of children with learning disabilities](#) - JC on Human Rights – Oral evidence – 17 June 2019

[Apprenticeships programme: progress review](#) - Public Accounts – Latest evidence 17 June 2019

[Court and Tribunal Reforms](#) – Justice Committee – Latest evidence 25 June 2019

[Serious Violence Strategy](#) - Home Affairs Committee – Latest evidence 18 June 2019

[Islamophobia](#) – Home Affairs Committee – Latest evidence 11 June 2019

[The Macpherson Report: Twenty Years On](#) – Home Affairs Committee – Latest evidence 11 July 2019

[Modern Slavery](#) – Home Affairs Committee - latest evidence 5 July 2019

[Progress implementation Lammy Review recommendations](#) – Justice Committee – 23 April 2019

[Pitchford Undercover Policing inquiry](#) – Open

[Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(IICSA\)](#) – Open

- [Preliminary hearing – Children in care of Lambeth Council](#) – 23 July 2019
- [Preliminary hearing – Child protection in religious organisations](#) – 23 July 2019
- [Preliminary hearing – Child sexual abuse in residential schools](#) – 25 July 2019
- [Report publication - Nottinghamshire Councils](#) – 31 July 2019

5. LEGISLATION

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

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

[Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#) – Commons 1st reading – TBA

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

[Anonymity \(Arrested Persons\) Bill](#) - Lords Committee stage – TBA

[Sentencing \(Pre-consolidation Amendments\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – TBA

[Victims of Crime \(Rights, Entitlements, Notification of CSA\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 19 July 2019

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

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

[Human Trafficking \(Child Protection\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Violent Crime \(Sentences\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

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

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

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

[Policing Resources 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 – TBA

[Parental Rights \(Rapists\) and Family Courts Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Police Officer Training \(Autism Awareness\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Unauthorised Encampments Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Destitution Domestic Violence Concession \(Eligibility\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Crime \(Impact Statements\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Drone Regulation Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

- [Draft Domestic Abuse Bill](#) to provide for a statutory definition of domestic abuse, establish the office of Domestic Abuse Commissioner; provide for a new Domestic Abuse Protection Notice and Domestic Abuse Protection Order; prohibit perpetrators of domestic and other forms of abuse from cross-examining their victims in person in the family courts; create a statutory presumption that complainants of an offence involving behaviour that amounts to domestic abuse are eligible for special measures in the criminal courts; enable domestic abuse offenders to be subject to polygraph testing as a condition of their licence; place Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme guidance on a statutory footing; ensure local authorities grant secure lifetime tenancies for social tenant, where reason is in connection with domestic abuse.

6. CONSULTATIONS

[The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005: call for evidence](#)

Home Office call for evidence to inform a review of the Fire Safety Order which regulates fire safety in non-domestic premises which is due to be updated. Seeking views from enforcing authorities, fire safety professionals and those whose safety must be considered under the order, including employers and employees, landlords, managing agents and residents.

Open date: 06/06/2019

Close date: 31/07/2019

[Support for victims of domestic abuse in safe accommodation](#)

Ministry of Housing, CLG consultation seeks views of victims, survivors, service providers, local authorities, and PCCs on proposals to place a legal duty on local authorities to deliver support to meet the diverse needs of survivors of domestic abuse and their children in accommodation-based services.

Open date: 13/05/2019

Close date: 02/08/2019

[Transparency in supply chains](#) **NEW**

Home Office consultation on proposed changes to section 54 (transparency in supply chains) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, designed to improve reporting and compliance with the Act and extend its scope. This includes extending the requirement to publish modern slavery statements to large public sector organisations.

Open date: 09/07/2019

Close date: 17/09/2019

[Sexual Harassment in the Workplace](#) **NEW**

Government Equalities Office consultation on proposed reforms to the Equality Act 2010 to better protect employees, including interns and volunteers, from sexual harassment in the workplace. GEO is particularly keen to hear from people with direct or third party experience of harassment in the workplace.

Open date: 11/07/2019

Close date: 02/10/2019

[Strengthening probation, building confidence engagement events](#)

[Practitioner workshop](#) and series of [market engagement events](#) scheduled throughout July and August

7. APPLY FOR FUNDING

[Youth Endowment Fund](#)

Supporting programmes and community partnerships working with children at risk of being drawn into violent crime. Applicants can apply for up to 2 years of funding and must spend the first £100,000 by March 2020.

Deadline for applications: 23/07/2019

[Anti-Knife Crime Community Fund](#)

Home Office funding for community projects delivered by voluntary sector organisations to support activities to prevent young people from engaging in knife related offending. Bids for single projects of up to £30,000

Deadline for applications: 24/07/2019

[Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme](#) **NEW**

Home Office Places of Worship Protective Security Funding for places of worship and associated faith community centres that are vulnerable to hate crime to enhance security measures

Deadline for applications: 31/08/2019