

## Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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If you would like to be included on our mailing list, please contact [Dan Howitt](#), Nottinghamshire OPCC

## 1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

### [Party Manifestos published ahead of the 2019 General Election](#) – November 2019

Crime and criminal justice-related manifesto pledges are summarised below.

#### On the Policing and Police Numbers

##### CONSERVATIVE

- Recruit 20,000 additional police officers
- Equip officers with powers & tools needed to keep themselves and society safe, including Tasers and BWV
- Pass the Police Protection Bill and consult on doubling the maximum sentence for assaulting workers in emergency services
- Empower police to use new technologies within a strict legal framework
- Put the Police Covenant into law
- Use additional police resources to tackle rural crime

##### LABOUR

- Recruit 2,000 more frontline officers than the Conservatives
- Arm more police officers with Tasers
- Enforce laws protecting emergency workers from assault
- Re-establish neighbourhood policing & restore community policing by consent
- Rebuild the police workforce, recruiting more PCSOs and staff
- Invest in a modern workforce to tackle violence and cyber crime
- £4.5m for officers to tackle wildlife crime

##### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- £1bn Investment to restore community policing
- Immediate 2% pay-rise for police officers to support recruitment, retention, and future recommended pay rises
- Immediately halt use of facial recognition surveillance by police
- Resources and training to better identify and prevent hate crime
- One hour police to mental health service handover target for people suffering mental health crisis

#### On Police and Crime Commissioners

- Strengthen accountability of elected PCCs and expand their role

- Retain local democratic accountability
- Work with PCCs to reform police funding and share resources fairly

- Replace PCCs with accountable Police Boards of local councillors

#### On Criminal Justice

##### CONSERVATIVE

- Establish a Royal Commission on the criminal justice process
- Conduct a root-and-branch review of the parole system to improve accountability and public safety
- Imprisonment for those that use a knife as a weapon and tougher sentences for the worst offenders

##### LABOUR

- Halt court closures and undertake review of courts reform programme
- Facilitate a more representative judiciary and review CPS funding
- Set new standards for community sentences and presumption against prison sentences of < 6 months for non-violent and non-sexual crime

##### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Establish a Women's Justice Board and specialist training for all staff in contact with women in the CJS
- Introduce a presumption against short prison sentences
- End prison sentences for personal use drug possession and increasing use of tough community sentences and RJ

## On Prisons

### CONSERVATIVE

- 10,000 more prison places - £2.75 bn committed creating modern prisons
- Create a prisoner education service focus on work-based training/skills
- Improve prison security to protect staff, and reduce smuggling/violence
- Maintain the ban on prisoners voting
- End automatic halfway prison release for serious crimes. Ensure life sentences without parole for child murderers

### LABOUR

- Restore prison officer numbers to 2010 levels and phase out lone working
- Bring PFI prisons back in-house and tackle prison maintenance backlog
- Develop a long-term estate strategy
- Review the youth custody estate and strengthen youth courts
- Ensure legal aid for inquests into deaths in state custody

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Transform prisons into places of rehabilitation and recovery
- Recruit 2,000 more prison officers and improve the provision of training, education & work ops
- Ensure all prison-leavers have a suitably timed release and are supported to secure suitable with accommodation, bank account, ETE and local GP

## Offender Management and Rehabilitation

### CONSERVATIVE

- Expand electronic tagging for offenders, including sobriety tags
- Tighter community sentences, e.g. curfews and community payback
- Improve employment opportunities for ex-offenders. Job coaching in all prisons

### LABOUR

- Reunify probation and guarantee a publicly run, locally accountable service
- Invest in proven alternatives to custody, including women's centres and problem-solving courts

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Improve and properly fund supervision of offenders in the community
- Greater coordination between prison, probation and VCS and private sectors
- Remove need to declare minor convictions in initial applications for public-sector jobs

## On Serious Violence and Public Health Approaches

### CONSERVATIVE

- Violence Reduction Units and new duties on schools, police, councils & health to work together to prevent serious crime
- New court order to target known knife carriers & make stop and search easier
- Those charged with knife possession to appear before Magistrates within weeks

### LABOUR

- Further invest in violence-reduction units
- Reduce impact of adverse childhood experiences via joined-up approach
- Boost public health, mental health and early years services
- Prioritise domestic abuse as a health issue

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Adopt a public health approach to the epidemic of youth violence
- Embed Trauma-informed Youth Intervention Specialists in all Major Trauma Centres

## On Young People and Youth Offending

### CONSERVATIVE

- Invest £500m in youth services
- Back teachers to enforce discipline
- New alternative provision schools for young people who endanger others and trials of Secure Schools

### LABOUR

- Collaborative working with youth workers, mental health services, schools, rehabilitation programmes and other public agencies

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Invest in youth services with £500m ring-fenced youth services fund

## On Substance Misuse and Mental Health

### CONSERVATIVE

- Tackle drug-related crime and take a new approach to treatment to reduce drug deaths and break the cycle of crime linked to addiction

### LABOUR

- Establish Royal Commission to develop a public health approach to substance misuse, focusing on harm reduction

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Continuity of care and addiction treatment in prison and community
- Better support and treatment within the CJS (substance abuse & mental health)

## On Victims of Crime and Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse

### CONSERVATIVE

- Pass and implement a Victims' Law that guarantees victims' rights and the level of support they can expect
- Pass the Domestic Abuse Bill
- Support reforms to Universal Credit to give more independence to those trapped with coercive partners
- Increase support for refuges and community support for victims of rape and sexual abuse
- Continue to fight crime against women and girls, including rape, FGM and forced marriage
- Pilot integrated domestic abuse courts that address criminal and family matters in parallel

### LABOUR

- Introduce minimum legal standards of service for all victims of crime
- Re-introduce a Domestic Abuse Bill
- Better training for police on domestic abuse, coercive control & historic abuses
- Establish National Refuge Fund and financial stability for rape crisis centres
- Appoint VAWG Commissioner and new standards for tackling domestic and sexual abuse and violence
- Establish an independent review into rape prosecution rates
- Improve the safety of family court system
- Prohibit cross-examination by abusers
- 10 days of paid leave for survivors of domestic abuse

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Make all hate crimes aggravated
- Bring Istanbul Convention into law and legislate for a statutory definition of domestic abuse that includes its effects on children
- Expand the number of refuges and rape crisis centres to meet demand
- Ensure sustainable grant-funding for specialist independent support
- Give local authorities the duty and funding to provide accommodation and support for survivors of abuse
- Establish rape crisis helpline
- Ensure access to special measures for survivors in courts and prevent direct cross-examination by abusers

## On Equalities Issues

### CONSERVATIVE

- Protect people from physical attack or harassment whether for their sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion or disability
- Expand/protect places of worship funding
- Combat harassment and violence against all religious groups and LGBT people

### LABOUR

- Work to eliminate institutional biases against BAME communities
- Make misogyny and VAWG hate crimes
- Tackle the disproportionate levels of BAME children in custody, and build on the Lammy Review

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Make all hate crimes aggravated
- Reduce BAME overrepresentation across CJS (esp. Stop and Search)
- Introduce principle of "explain or reform"
- Promote diversity in the CJS workforce via ambitious targets & regular reporting

## On Cyber Crime and Cyber Security

### CONSERVATIVE

- Create a new national cybercrime force
- Legislate to make the UK the safest place in the world to be online - protecting children from online harm and the most vulnerable from accessing harmful content

### LABOUR

- Create a minister and review role / remit of the National Cyber Security Centre
- Introduce a new national strategy on cybercrime and fraud
- Regularly review cyber-readiness

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Create new Online Crime Agency to tackle illegal online content/activity such as personal fraud, revenge porn and threats and incitement to violence on social media

## National Crime and Security

### CONSERVATIVE

- Strengthen National Crime Agency to tackle threats such as fraud, county lines, CSEA, illicit finance & trafficking
- Create a world-class National Crime Laboratory
- Invest in the police and security services and give them the powers they need to combat terror threats
- Improve safety / security of public venues
- Ensuring there is no safe space for terrorists to hide online
- Ensure that those who work in countering extremism are protected from threats and intimidation

### LABOUR

- Review the structures and roles of the National Crime Agency
- Closer CT co-ordination between police and security services to combine local expertise with international intelligence
- Ensure powers exercised by security services are proportionate and used in accordance with human rights
- Strengthen powers of the Joint Intelligence and Security Committee
- Review and consider alternatives to Prevent and review Protect programme
- Evaluate the mobile phone trials with aim of introducing an emergency alert system

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT

- Properly resource the National Crime Agency to tackle serious/organised crime
- Tackle slavery and trafficking through proactive, intelligence-led enforcement of labour market standards
- Introduce a Lovelace Code of Ethics to govern the use of personal data and AI to ensure it is unbiased, transparent and respects privacy
- End the bulk collection of coms data and internet records
- Provide funding for protective security measures at places of worship, schools and centres vulnerable to hate crime

# Commissioner's e-Briefing: 2 December 2019

## [Make it Right For Victims: General Election 2019 – 22 November 2019](#)

Victim Support report calling on each political party to bring forward a Victims' Law, introduce domestic abuse legislation, reform criminal injuries compensation and make the courts fit for purpose.

## [Change from Within: Insights from people with lived experience – 29 November 2019](#)

Criminal Justice Alliance report highlighting the need to provide greater opportunities for people with lived experience to move into paid employment, leadership and influencing positions in the criminal justice sector.

## [Joint Guidance for Candidates in Elections – 15 November 2019](#)

NPCC, Electoral Commission, CPS and College of Policing security guidance for election candidates

## **Updated Home Office and Immigration Enforcement guidance – 19 November 2019**

- [Detention and escorting: safeguarding children policy](#)
- [Searching detainees at removal centres](#)
- [Managing property of detainees in the UK](#)

## [IOPC Monthly roundup: October 2019 – Published 26 November 2019](#)

## [Home Office Circular 009/2019: third generation synthetic cannabinoids update – 15 November 2019](#)

## 2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

### [Domestic abuse in England and Wales: November 2019 – Published 25 November 2019](#)

ONS reports on how domestic abuse is dealt with at the local level using data from a variety of sources. The prevalence of domestic abuse (5.7% of adults) is estimated to have remained relatively stable over the 2018/19 year (CSEW), while police recorded domestic abuse-related crimes increased by 24%, most likely reflecting improved recording by the police and increased reporting by victims. Police made 32 arrests per 100 domestic abuse-related crimes in 2018/19, with the charging rate falling slightly from 76% to 74%. Referrals of suspects of domestic abuse-flagged cases from the police to the CPS for a charging decision fell by 11% in 2018/19. 77% of domestic abuse-related CPS prosecutions were successful in securing a conviction in 2018/19. An estimated 4.5% of adults (16 to 59) are estimated to have experienced partner abuse in 2018/19, with female experiencing higher levels of non-physical abuse (emotional, financial) than male victims of partner abuse. A quarter of partner abuse victims sustained a physical injury as a result of the victimisation. The collection includes numerous links to crime and justice data at police force level, including the [Domestic Abuse Data Tool](#)

### [Race and the criminal justice system statistics 2018 – Published 28 November 2019](#)

Ministry of Justice publication compiling statistics from data sources across the CJS to provide a combined perspective on the typical experiences of different ethnic groups. The report notes that minority ethnic groups are over-represented at many stages throughout the CJS compared with the White ethnic group, with the greatest disparities being at the point of stop and search, arrest, custodial sentencing and the prison population. Among minority ethnic groups, Black individuals are the most over-represented. Outcomes for minority ethnic children are often more pronounced at various points of the CJS. Differences in outcomes between ethnic groups over time present a mixed picture, with disparity decreasing in some areas and widening in others.

### [Reported road casualties, provisional estimates: year ending June 2019 – 28 November 2019](#)

Department for Transport Statistics highlighting a statistically significant increase (+4%) in the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) reported to the police in the year ending June 2019, despite a 5% decrease in the overall number of road casualties of all severities.

# Commissioner's e-Briefing: 2 December 2019

## [Hatred Behind the Screens](#) – 26 November 2019

Cardiff University report exploring the nature, scale and impact of online hate speech and abuse. The report explains how online hate speech has risen over the past two years and how certain 'trigger' events such as terror attacks, general elections and the Brexit referendum can lead to spikes in the volume of online hate speech. The report calls for tougher internet regulation and a statutory duty of care – enforced by an independent regulator – to make major tech companies take more responsibility for the safety of their users and for dealing with harm caused by content or activity on their services.

## [Reducing police turnover: Recommendations for the law enforcement agency](#) – 26 November 2019

International Journal of Police Science Management publishes study which captures the experiences of officers who left the police service prematurely, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, to help identify what agencies can do to keep officers long term. Data for this exploratory study was gathered via semi-structured interviews with 36 former police officers. The findings highlighted several common themes that law enforcement agencies could address, including: leadership training, clear and transparent processes, permanent light-duty assignments, shift flexibility, improved morale, and more focus on personal wellness.

## [HM Prison and Probation Service offender equalities annual report 2018/19](#) – 28 November 2019

Ministry of Justice equalities report highlights the extent of demographic disparity in the criminal justice system whereby people from BAME backgrounds comprise 27% of all prisoners, 24% of all accredited programme starts and 25% of all programme completions. Males comprise 95% of all prisoners, 93% of all accredited programme starts and 94% of all accredited programme completions. The number of transgender prisoners increased from 139 to 163 in 2019, with 51% of institutions having one or more transgender prisoner

### Upcoming publications

- Operation of Police Powers under the Terrorism Act 2000 to September 2019 – 5 December 2019
- Seizures of drugs in England and Wales, 2019 – 5 December 2019
- Police use of force statistics, England and Wales, 2018/19 – 19 December 2019
- Individuals referred to and supported through the Prevent Programme 2018/19 – 19 December 2019

## 3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

### Upcoming reports and inspection activity

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • <a href="#">National Joint Targeted area inspections of Child Protection Thematic</a> | Pending |
| • Evidence-led Domestic Abuse prosecutions (HMCPSI)                                     | Pending |
| • Fire and Rescue Service inspection (third tranche)                                    | Pending |
| • HMICFRS State of Fire and Rescue Services in England                                  | Pending |

## 4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

## 5. LEGISLATION

### [Dissolution of Parliament](#) – 6 November 2019

Parliament dissolved on Wednesday 6 November 2019 ahead of the general election on 12 December 2019. Bills and Committee inquiries which did not conclude before this date have 'fallen' and in most cases will be unlikely to be reintroduced by the next parliament in the same form.

## 6. CONSULTATIONS

### [Independent review of Prevent: Call for evidence](#)

Home Office call for evidence seeking views on the Government's strategy for supporting people vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism (CONTEST). The review would like to hear from those working to deliver Prevent, responsible for implementing the statutory duty, communities, civic groups and charitable organisations, academic institutions and individuals who have accessed Prevent services, and their friends and families.

**Open date: 07/10/2019**

**Close date: 09/12/2019**

### [Strategic Review of Policing in England and Wales: Call for evidence](#)

Police Foundation Call for Evidence to inform its review of policing and help set the long-term strategic vision and recommendations for reform of the service. The consultation seeks views on understanding crime, threat and demand, understanding public and societal expectations, reconsidering the police mission and purpose and 'looking ahead' to ensure a modern service capable of meeting the challenges of the 21st century.

**Open date: 09/10/2019**

**Close date: 20/12/2019**

### [Sentencing guidelines for terrorism offences](#)

Sentencing Council consultation on revisions to sentencing guidelines for terrorism offences following changes to terrorism legislation brought in by the new Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act 2019. These include increases to the statutory maximum sentences for some offences and amendment of culpability factors. T

**Open date: 22/10/2019**

**Close date: 03/12/2019**

### [Sentencing guidelines for firearms offences](#)

Sentencing Council consultation guidelines for sentencing firearms offences under the Firearms Act 1968, including possession, use, manufacture, sale and acquisition. Consultation is aimed at judges, magistrates, legal practitioners and others interested parties. There are currently no sentencing guidelines in the Crown Court and only one for use in magistrates' courts.

**Open date: 09/10/2019**

**Close date: 14/01/2020**

### [Strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments](#)

Home Office consultation on measures to criminalise trespassing when setting up an unauthorised encampment or alternative approaches such as permitting the police to direct trespassers to suitable authorised sites located in neighbouring local authority areas, increasing the period of time in which trespassers directed from land would be unable to return from 3 months to 12 months or lowering the number of vehicles needing to be involved in an unauthorised encampment before police powers can be exercised.

**Open date: 05/11/2019**

**Close date: 04/04/2020**