



## Welcome to the Commissioner's weekly horizon scanning brief:

1. **Legislation** (Legislation, Home Office, APCC, press comments, reports and campaigns relating to strategy, policy and programmes)
2. **Policing and crime key developments** (relevant crime and criminal justice information and partners' policy/reports/campaigns)
3. **Reports** (covering research, reviews, inspections and audits across policing and crime)
4. **Consultations** (police and crime bulletins, research, consultations and press releases)

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## 1. Legislation

**The Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Prescribed Police Stations) Regulations 2013:** These Regulations apply to England and Wales only. These Regulations revoke and replace the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Prescribed Police Stations) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 2011/1788).  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/300/regulation/1/made>

**The Crime (International Co-operation) Act 2003 (Designation of Participating Countries) (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) Order 2013:** Part 1 of the Crime (International Co-operation) Act 2003 ('the 2003 Act') provides statutory powers pursuant to which the United Kingdom can both seek and provide various forms of mutual legal assistance concerning criminal matters.  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2013/9780111532966/introduction>

**"Community Trigger" needs a bullet: Committee calls for national standard for action on anti-social behaviour:** The Home Affairs Committee has published its Report on the draft Anti-Social Behaviour Bill: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news/131215-asb-rpt/>

## 2. Policing and crime key developments

**Police and crime commissioners: The first hundred days: Reports at the end of February:** PCCs entered the policing landscape at a critical time. Falling budgets, increasingly complex demand and rising public expectation all mean that they will have to deliver much more for much less if they are to meet their election pledges. Last year Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary reported that forces need to collectively save a further £2.4 billion from their budgets by 2015, of which £768 million was unfunded in current force plans.

[http://www.policingtoday.co.uk/police\\_and\\_crime\\_commissioners\\_the\\_first\\_hundred\\_days\\_31713.aspx?utm\\_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.pavpub.com%2folmgroup\\_prolz%2f&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=PTnews19213&utm\\_term=Policing+news+for+12-19+February&utm\\_content=118057](http://www.policingtoday.co.uk/police_and_crime_commissioners_the_first_hundred_days_31713.aspx?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.pavpub.com%2folmgroup_prolz%2f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=PTnews19213&utm_term=Policing+news+for+12-19+February&utm_content=118057)

**Damian Green decries "unacceptable delays" in criminal justice system:** There are unacceptable delays in Magistrates' Courts which slows down justice for victims, said Justice Minister Damian Green as he announced plans to modernise the system.

<https://www.justice.gov.uk/news/features/damian-green-unacceptable-delays-in-criminal-justice-system>

**Will Tanner, Senior Researcher at Reform, has written an article in the Yorkshire Post on how technology is reducing the demand for police stations and offering opportunities to transform policing:** Recent research by *Reform* has shown that in London, fewer than two members of the public now walk into police stations each hour, while there has been a 32 per cent rise in the number of crimes reported by internet and e-mail ([Yorkshire Post](#)).

**The National Association of Probation Officers** has announced that probation services for groups of "medium-risk" offenders, including 3,200 gang members and 15,900 robbery cases, will be outsourced to private contractors such as G4S and Serco. (Telegraph print only).

**Strengthening Disabled People's User-Led Organisation (DPULO) Programme – 'Making a Difference on disability hate crime':** Further information about the DPULO Programme, as well as copies of the report can be downloaded from the ODI Website at: <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/odi-projects/user-led-organisations/difference-programme-is-making.php>

**Young offender education to be provided by academies:** Academies and free schools could provide education in young offender institutes (YOI), justice secretary Chris Grayling has proposed. The move could create 'secure training colleges' and cut the reoffending rate. [opinion@publicsectorexecutive.com](mailto:opinion@publicsectorexecutive.com)

### 3. Reports

**£4 million to help rape victims rebuild their lives:** Victims of sexual assault and rape will be ensured access to vital support to help them recover from these devastating crimes thanks to £4million in Government funding over the next year, Victims Minister Helen Grant announced 21 February. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

**Serious concerns surround mutual aid and leave for G8 summit:** The full scale of the police operation needed for next year's G8 summit in Northern Ireland is causing concern among senior officers across the UK. [http://www.policingtoday.co.uk/serious\\_concerns\\_surround\\_mutual\\_aid\\_and\\_leave\\_for\\_g8\\_summit\\_31721.aspx?utm\\_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.pavpub.com%2folmgroup\\_prolz%2f&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=PTnews19213&utm\\_term=Policing+news+for+12-19+February&utm\\_content=118057](http://www.policingtoday.co.uk/serious_concerns_surround_mutual_aid_and_leave_for_g8_summit_31721.aspx?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.pavpub.com%2folmgroup_prolz%2f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=PTnews19213&utm_term=Policing+news+for+12-19+February&utm_content=118057)

**Bristol police volunteers win Big Society award:** The Prime Minister's Big Society Awards recognise Police volunteers in Bristol after a 50% drop in 'distraction burglaries'. <http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/bristol-police-volunteers-win-big-society-award/>

**IOM and Social Enterprise:** The Home Office, in partnership with Clinks and Social Firms UK is undertaking a short piece of work to explore the role of social enterprises and

community interest companies in enabling offenders (both adult and young offenders) in accessing training and employment opportunities. The aim is to capture and share some of the current key learning and effective practice through the development of a set of effective practice resources. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/reducing-reoffending/iom/>

**National Alcohol Campaign:** The Department of Health have launched a national campaign Change4Life which urges people to think about the health risks associated with drinking too much. <http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2013/02/c4l-alc/>

**Radical package of police reforms announced:** The Home Office has announced a series of measures designed to ensure the highest standards of integrity in the policing. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/police-reform-ipcc>

**This is Abuse:** A series of hard hitting TV adverts have been launched as part of the 'This is Abuse' campaign to raise awareness and challenge abusive behaviour in teen relationships. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/this-is-abuse-advert>

**Home Office:** Table 1: Home Office crime, drugs and community safety grants 2012-13. Given the introduction of the CSF, the vast majority of existing Home Office drugs, crime and community safety funding streams will end in March 2013 (i.e. will not receive direct funding from the Home Office). <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/police/police-finance/table-one?view=Binary>

**Advisory Council on Misuse of Drugs:** The advice recommends changes to the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 to extend prescribing for Allied Health Professionals. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/agencies-public-bodies/acmd1/independ-prescribing-advice?view=Binary>

**Advisory Council on the use of tramadol:** The ACMD's review of harms associated with the non-medicinal use of tramadol was prompted by an increasing number of reports within the NHS of tramadol's misuse and harms. The ACMD's subsequent review of the evidence has caused it concern, particularly the increase in tramadol related deaths. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/agencies-public-bodies/acmd1/advice-tramadol?view=Binary>

**Advisory Council** on the cannabis based medicine Sativex. <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/agencies-public-bodies/acmd1/advice-sativex?view=Binary>

**Together in Service:** A major new programme to celebrate, promote and link the huge variety of social action undertaken by faith communities has been launched by the Government. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/baroness-warsi-launches-together-in-service-the-next-phase-of-support-for-multi-faith-volunteering>

**Ministers have begun to appoint "expert advisers"** from outside Whitehall on temporary civil service contracts to work alongside Cabinet ministers to drive through reform. ([Telegraph](#); [Times](#)).

**The number of people unemployed in the UK fell by 14,000 between October and December 2012 to 2.5 million, figures by the Office for National Statistics show.**

The data shows that those claiming Jobseekers' Allowance also fell in January by 12,500 to 1.54 million ([BBC Online](#)).

**Work Programme performance is poor.** The Work Programme is absolutely crucial for helping people, especially the most vulnerable, get into and stay in work. The first set of data on job outcomes shows that between June 2011 and July 2012, only 3.6% of people referred to the Work Programme moved off benefit and into work, less than a third of the target of 11.9%. <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/the-work-programme/>

**The Local Government Secretary, Eric Pickles, has criticised a number of local authorities** for planning to raise council taxes while simultaneously failing to cut or increasing the number of staff they employ on a salary of over £50,000. ([Telegraph](#); [BBC Online](#)).

**British workers are the worst prepared in the world for retirement**, as figures from HSBC show that whilst the average retirement in the UK is expected to last 19 years, the average person's retirement savings will last for just seven. ([Telegraph](#)).

**Cabinet Office:** Community Life Survey: <http://communitylife.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/>

**Department for Communities and Local Government:** The fiscal case for working with troubled families: Analysis and evidence on the costs of troubled families to government. It concludes that the government will spend an estimated £9 billion per year on these families over the Spending Review period (2010 to 2015). <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-fiscal-case-for-working-with-troubled-families-analysis-and-evidence-on-the-costs-of-troubled-families-to-government>

**Home Office:** Migrant Journey: Third Report: Home Office Research Report 69 provides evidence on the behaviour of migrants entering the UK immigration system for the five main routes of entry to the UK and the common pathways through the Immigration System that result in settlement: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/horr69/>

**Outcomes Map: Crime and Public Safety:** break down of the outcomes and indicators which can be used by social investors, charities, funders and social enterprises to measure the success of an intervention in crime. <http://www.thinknpc.org/publications/outcomes-map-crime-and-public-safety/>

**The Chief Executive of the energy watchdog Ofgem, Alistair Buchanan, has warned of future rises in energy bills resulting from the falling power production of the UK and the nation's growing reliance on energy imports.** Ofgem has predicted that power station closures could lead to a 10 per cent fall in capacity by the month of April alone ([Telegraph](#); [Guardian](#); [Mail](#); [BBC Online](#)).

**Reform's latest research paper on competition in prisons.** The report argues that the Government is wrong to u-turn on the use of competition in prison management. [www.reform.co.uk](http://www.reform.co.uk).

## 4. Consultations

**Education reform to youth custody:** Radical plans for reforming youth custody that focus on young offenders receiving better education and training so they can turn their backs on crime for good have been published. The Green Paper 'Transforming Youth Custody: Putting education at the heart of detention' is currently out to consultation. The consultation closes on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013. <https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/transforming-youth-custody>