



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. **Strategic policing and crime news** (relevant crime and criminal justice information and partners' policy/reports/campaigns)
3. **Developments and reports** (covering research across political, economic, social, technological, environmental and organisations)
4. **Consultations** (police and crime bulletins, research, consultations and press releases)
5. **Reviews and Inspections** (covering various reviews, inspections and audits across policing)

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1. Legislation

[Review could expand Social Value Act](#)

A Government review of the Social Value Act could see its extension to cover more public sector contracts.

[Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act 2014](#)

[Social Action, Responsibility and Heroism Bill](#)

[Serious Crime Bill](#)

[Criminal Justice and Courts Bill](#)

[Second reading of the International Development \(Official Development Assistance Target\) Bill \(private bill\)](#)

[Immigration Act 2014 has received Royal Assent.](#)

[Care Act 2014 has received Royal Assent.](#)

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 overarching documents](#)

[Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014](#)

[The Criminal Justice Act 1988 \(Reviews of Sentencing\) \(Amendment\) Order 2014](#)

[SI 2014/1798 Immigration Act 2014 \(Specified Anti-fraud Organisation\) Order 2014](#)

SI 2014/2125 Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Commencement No. 5) Order 2014

These Regulations came into force on **1 September 2014**.

SI 2014/2122 Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2014

These Regulations came into force on **1 September 2014**.

2014/2120 Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Surcharge) (Amendment) Order 2014

This Order amends the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Surcharge) Order 2012 and came into force on **1 September 2014**.

SI 2014/2097 Video Recordings Act 1984 (Exempted Video Works) Regulations 2014

These Regulations come into force on **1 October 2014**.

SI 2014/2081 Misuse of Drugs (Amendment No. 2) (England, Wales and Scotland) Regulations 2014

These Regulations come into force on **5 September 2014**.

SI 2014/1963 Police and Crime Commissioner Elections (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2014

SI 2014/2042 The Data Retention Regulations 2014

2. Strategic policing and crime news

[Crime and policing news update: September 2014](#)

[New agreement on closer working to improve public trust in policing](#)

Three national policing oversight bodies have signed a concordat in relation to their promotion of good practice and continuous improvement in policing, in order to ensure public confidence. The working concordat has been agreed between Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC), and the College of Policing.

Police Superintendents' Association conference. The Home Secretary gave a [speech](#), explaining how reforms have given the police more powers so they can decide how best to tackle crime locally, whilst overall crime has fallen by 10%.

Police reform was also the theme of the Home Secretary's speech to the Reform think tank, where she set out the changes that have been introduced and areas still needing work. In her [speech](#), she also talked about the Home Office's work to identify the drivers of crime and develop policies to prevent crime occurring in the first place.

[Police step up fight to stamp out child sexual exploitation](#)

Police forces across England and Wales are raising their game in the battle to eradicate child sexual exploitation, the National Policing Lead for Child Protection has said. Chief Constable Simon Bailey told Crime Prevention Minister Norman Baker improvements were already being made following revelations of widespread child sexual abuse over many years in Rotherham.

[New Head of the National Police Co-ordination Centre \(NPoCC\) appointed](#)

Commander Chris Greany has been appointed to lead the National Police Co-ordination Centre.

[A&Es and police will share information to help tackle violence](#)

The Health and Social Care Information Centre has published a new Standard on Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV). Under this standard, major A&E departments in England will collect and share non-confidential data about attendances involving violent crime with Community Safety Partnerships.

[Worst austerity still to come, public sector warned](#)

Public sector austerity is set to continue for another five years, outgoing civil service chief Sir Bob Kerslake has warned. Speaking at the Institute for Government last night, he said that while the last five years of cuts had been challenging 'the second five years are likely to prove even harder'. The former Sheffield City Council chief executive, who became head of the civil service in 2012, warned the 'easier' savings had already been made.

3. Developments and reports

[Charity calls for safer streets for families, as survey reveals walking and cycling worries](#)

The charity Brake and Churchill Insurance are appealing for safer streets for families, as their survey out today finds two thirds (64%) of the driving public think local roads are at least partially unsafe for families to walk and cycle.

[Labour Conference 2014](#)

The Labour Party Annual Conference.

[Speech by Yvette Cooper MP to Labour's Annual Conference](#)

[Conservative Party Conference 2014](#)

Starts on the 28 September 2014.

[UKIP Conference 2014](#)

Conference 25-27 September.

[Commitment to victims](#)

The Government has published a document in which it sets out its commitment to victims and providing them the help they need to navigate the criminal justice system

[Brake urges government action as figures confirm stalled progress in road casualty reduction](#)

The government's official annual road casualty report, have confirmed figures showing disappointingly slow progress in reducing road casualties in the UK. 1,713 people were killed in 2013, at a rate of five a day, 2% fewer than in 2012. 21,657 people suffered serious injuries, at a rate of 59 a day, 6% fewer than in 2012. *Provisional figures were released in June - [see Brake's full reaction](#).*

[Home Secretary supports #MakingAStand campaign](#)

The Home Secretary today joined women from across the Muslim community as they made a united stand against the barbarism of ISIL – and urged them to take the lead in combating extremism.

[Her Majesty's Passport Office made directly accountable to Ministers](#)

This change follows the exceptional demand for passport applications and renewals earlier this year. In response the Home Secretary introduced a series of measures to ensure people were able to travel.

[Taxi reforms pose 'serious' risk to vulnerable children warn council leaders](#)

Children could be at greater risk of sexual exploitation under government plans to reform taxi licensing, town hall chiefs are warning. The Local Government Association (LGA) said proposals set out within the Deregulation Bill will make it easier for criminal gangs to use licensed vehicles to groom, abuse and traffic children.

[Local and central government least trusted by staff, report finds](#)

Local and central government are the industries least trusted by their own staff, with 'budget cuts and upheaval' causing employee concern – a report claims. A survey of 1,600 UK managers by the [Institute of Leadership and Management \(ILM\)](#) found just 10% of central and local government employees – including the police and fire service – had 'high trust' in their organisations – the number of positive opinions charted minus the negative. This compares to 32% in education and 34% in financial services, banking and insurance.

[FOI releases for June 2014](#)

Ministry of Justice Freedom of Information releases for June 2014.

[Planning and travellers: Proposed changes to planning policy and guidance](#)

Department of Communities and Local Government has launched a consultation on proposed changes to planning policy and guidance, ensuring fairness in the planning system, and strengthening protection of the greenbelt and countryside. The consultation closes on 23rd November 2014

[DfE publishes policy paper on equality objectives](#)

The Department for Education has published a document setting out how the department demonstrates compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010.

[Home Office](#)

Anti-social behaviour order statistics: England and Wales 2013

[Clinks](#)

Who cares? Where now for women offender services?

[Institute of Alcohol Studies](#)

Alcohol, domestic abuse and sexual assault

[Institute of Public Policy Research](#)

Charity Street: The value of charity to British households

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

A definition of poverty

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

A UK without poverty

[Combined authority plans](#)

The creation of a combined authority for Nottinghamshire has been condemned as a 'wacky and nonsense' idea by a key opposition leader. Nottinghamshire CC's Conservative group leader, Cllr Kay Cutts, argued that switching to unitaries would save between £50m and £90m a year.

[Council care teams called in after slavery arrests](#)

A local authority is providing care to seven people following a police investigation into allegations of modern slavery. Lincolnshire Police together with neighbouring forces and the National Crime Agency arrested seven people at five locations around Lincoln and two other areas on Monday.

[Key Cities publish 'bold' devolution charter](#)

England's cities should have pooled budgets and freedom to allocate funds as they see fit, according to proposals [outlined in a 'bold devolution charter'](#). The charter has been drawn up by Key Cities, a group representing 24 mid-sized cities including Southampton, Hull, Wolverhampton and Milton Keynes.

[Labour supports 'any city' that requests London-style transport powers](#)

Labour has pledged to 'support any city' that wants London-style powers over local transport and ticketing if it takes power in 2015.

[Council considers using 350-million-year-old volcano to heat district](#)

Stoke-on-Trent looks set to move ahead on plans that could see the centre of the city warmed using a geothermal district heat network.

[Communities won't accept 'half-measures' on devolution, cities warn](#)

The Core Cities Group has warned communities will not accept 'half measures' over devolution in a strongly worded letter to Government. The group of 10 city leaders have written to William Hague, urging the Government to grant them devolved powers 'at the same speed' as Scotland.

[Greater Manchester expands data sharing project](#)

Stockport and Tameside have become the latest councils to join a data-sharing scheme designed to help authorities engage local people and improve services.

[Maintain support for 'armchair auditors', councils urged](#)

Councils have been urged to continue supporting 'armchair auditors' keep check on local authority spending once the national watchdog is disbanded. The Audit Commission launched its final update to provide members of the public with information on billions of pounds of town hall spending.

[Welsh councils urged to push ahead with voluntary mergers](#)

Local authorities in Wales have been urged to agree voluntary mergers to end uncertainty for staff and service users, by minister for public services Leighton Andrews. The minister

outlined the changes ahead for local government, telling assembly members there would be change 'voluntary or not'.

[LGA backs calls for a Constitutional Convention on devolution](#)

Councils in England have joined Ed Miliband in calling for a Constitutional Convention to thrash out devolution across the UK, including to local authority level.

[Rotherham head of children's services resigns in wake of abuse scandal](#)

The head of children's services at Rotherham Council, Joyce Thacker, has stepped down from her role in the wake of the Jay Report.

4. Consultations

[Transforming legal aid: crime duty contracts](#)

Earlier this year the Ministry of Justice, following detailed engagement with the Law Society, published proposals to help create a more sustainable legal aid market in criminal litigation. Further consultation until 15 Oct 2014.

[Home Office Consultation: Strengthening the law on domestic abuse](#)

The Home Office is consulting on whether the current law on domestic abuse needs to be strengthened to offer better protection to victims. The closing date for responding to the consultation is **15 October 2014**.

[Revised PACE code A](#)

The consultation runs until Monday 20 October 2014. The changes in this draft have been made in order to implement the government's commitment as set out in the consultation on stop and search.

[Strengthening the law on domestic violence](#)

This consultation seeks views on whether the current law on domestic abuse needs to be strengthened to offer better protection to victims. It is specifically focused on whether we should create a specific offence that captures patterns of coercive and controlling behaviour in intimate relationships, inline with the government's non-statutory definition of domestic abuse. Closing date 15 October 2014.

[Ketamine rescheduling consultation](#)

The Home Office is seeking views on the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) recommendation to reschedule ketamine to Schedule 2 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulation (as amended) (the 2001 Regulations). The consultation runs until 3rd November 2014.

[Consultation on NICE quality standards](#)

The Health and Social Care Quality Programme and teams across NICE have worked together to update the quality standards process guide. The main elements of the process guide that have been updated are the review and update of quality standards and the inclusion of developmental statements. Closes on the 3rd September.

[Framework regulation integrating business statistics \(FRIBS\)](#)

Close date: 07/10/2014

[Consultation on the renewal of the EU Internal Security Strategy](#)

Close date: 03/10/2014

[Restricting non-residents' entitlement to the UK personal allowance](#)

Close date: 09/10/2014

[College of Policing Consultation on new guidance to help police officers and investigators tackle female genital mutilation](#)

The consultation runs for 10 weeks and closes on **30 September 2014**.

[Have your say on the National Minimum Wage](#)

Consultation closes on the 29 September 2014.

[Data policy for a Public Data Corporation](#)

Views wanted on how to provide accessible public sector information. The consultation will close on 27 October 2014.

[HMRC Consultation: Tackling offshore tax evasion a new criminal offence](#)

The Government has announced its intention to introduce a new strict liability criminal offence. This consultation seeks views on the design of this offence. The consultation period runs to **31 October 2014**.

[Equality and Human Rights Commission call for evidence on religion or belief issues](#)

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has launched a major call for evidence from individuals and organisations about how their religion or belief, or that of other people, may have affected their experiences in the workplace and in using the services and facilities they need in everyday life. Feedback can be given by completing the online survey by **14 October 2014**.

5. Reviews and Inspections

[Her Majesty's Inspector of Probation](#)

An inspection of the work of Probation Trusts and Youth Offending Teams to protect children and young people

[CJJI: Resettlement provision for adult offenders: Accommodation and education, training and employment](#)

A joint thematic review by HM Inspectorate of Prisons, HM Inspectorate of Probation and Ofsted

[HMIC: Core business](#)

An inspection into crime prevention, police attendance and the use of police time