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**

**SI 2013 No. 2319 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (Transitional Provision) Order 2013**

This is the transitional order regarding the financial arrangements of chief constables. It enables chief constables and the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis to be treated as though they were subject to local government enactments on accounting practices, particularly the charging of expenditure to a revenue account. The purpose is to ensure that staff pension liabilities are treated in accordance with accepted practices in the accounts of chief constables and the Commissioner. It was laid before Parliament on 17 September. It comes into effect on 31 March 2014 as an interim measure until clause 121 (now clause 122 following amendments) of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill receives Royal Assent, anticipated for April/May 2014.

**Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill - Amendments tabled to be moved in Committee**

- Overarching documents
- Policing Anti-Social Behaviour
- Tackling irresponsible dog ownership

**Amendments to the RIPA**

On 31 October, the Government announced it is amending the Regulatory Investigative Powers Act (RIPA), so that the Office of Surveillance Commissioners must give prior approval for all undercover operations lasting more than 12 months.

**SI 2013/2462 The Prison and Young Offender Institution**

These Rules amend the Prison Rules 1999 (the 1999 Rules) and the Young Offender Institution Rules 2000 (the 2000 Rules).

**SI 2013/2460 The Prisons (Interference with Wireless Telegraphy) Act 2012 (Commencement) (England and Wales) Order 2013**

This Order brings sections 1 to 4 of the Prisons (Interference with Wireless Telegraphy) Act 2012 into force in respect of England and Wales on **21 October 2013**.
SI 2013/2532 The Retention of Knives (Supreme Court) Regulations 2013
These Regulations came into force on 1 November 2013.

SI 2013/2525 The Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Rules 2013
These Rules came into force on 27 October 2013.

This Order came into force on 31 October 2013.

This Order comes into force on 11 November 2013. Part 1 extends to England and Wales and Northern Ireland only. Part 2 extends to Scotland only.

This Order comes into force on 11 November 2013.

**Environmental Information Regulations (EIR): Guidance on proactive release of environmental information**
Recently updated guidance on Proactive dissemination: routinely publishing environmental information (regulation 4). The guidance explains public authorities’ duty under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) to make environmental information available proactively.

**Guide on Firearms Licensing Law 2013**
The Home Office has published updated consolidated guidance on firearms licensing legislation to replace the previous guidance published in 2002.

**Data Protection (DP): European reforms update**
October saw the European Parliament’s LIBE (civil liberties) committee agree how they’d like the proposed EU data reforms to look. This will be what they’ll take to the table in negotiations with the European Council and the European Commission, which are not expected to begin much before the end of the year.

2. Policing and crime key developments

**Police and Crime Commissioners, one year on: warts and all - Speech by Home Secretary Theresa May**
The Home Secretary gave a speech at the Policy Exchange think tank today on Police and Crime Commissioners, one year on: warts and all. In it, she talks about the progress made on police reform and the differences being made by PCCs. She praises some PCCs while criticising others. As part of her speech, Mrs May also acknowledges that it is the prerogative of PCCs to introduce local targets if they so wish. She announces the re-launch of the police.uk website and also announces that the Home Office are drawing up plans for police forces to publish spending data (similar presumably to the way local government and PCCs are required to publish) and performance data. Finally, Mrs May states that HMIC will be developing proposals for members of the public to see whether their force is performing well.
or badly in terms of cutting crime and providing value for money, in the same way as happens with the ‘Valuing the Police’ work.

The Home Affairs Select Committee announce new inquiry into Police and Crime Commissioners
The Home Affairs Select Committee announced an inquiry into PCCs, including: the effectiveness of commissioners in reducing crime and delivering an effective police service within their police force area; the role of commissioners in holding their chief constables to account; and the role of police and crime panels in holding their commissioners to account. It will look at the division of functions and staff between commissioners and chief constables following the Stage 2 transfers under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The role of commissioners in budget and precept setting, the effectiveness of commissioners in promoting local policing priorities, progress on collaboration and transparency will also be considered.

Public Administration Select Committee Inquiry into Crime Statistics
The Public Administration Select Committee (PASC) is conducting an inquiry into crime statistics. The Committee will be examining whether appropriate checks are in place to ensure crimes are recorded properly and therefore whether policy makers in government, as well as the public, can have confidence in crime statistics.

Statistical bulletin on crime in England and Wales published
The Office for National Statistics has published its latest statistical bulletin for the 12 months to June 2013 on crime in England and Wales which shows that crime continues to fall.

Policy Exchange: The Pioneers: Police and Crime Commissioners, one year on
Policy Exchange has consistently argued that single, democratically-elected figures have the potential for renewing the police governance model and revitalising the relationship between the public and the police.

Police.uk website relaunched
This website was relaunched today and now includes e-mail alerts for people when crime data for their area is updated, the ability to compare forces with other similar forces and crime prevention advice.

Authorised Professional Practice launched
The College of Policing has launched online policing guidance, Authorised Professional Practice (APP), to the public, making it available on smartphones and tablets for the first time.

Collaborative report on the criminal victimisation of people with mental health problems published
This study was conducted by a partnership of Victim Support, the Institute of Psychiatry at King’s College London, Mind and St George’s University of London and Kingston University in collaboration with University College London. It was designed to understand the experiences of victimisation and engagement with the criminal justice system among people with mental health problems.

Stonewall, the gay equality charity, has published ‘Homophobic Hate Crime: The Gay British Crime Survey 2013’ which looks in detail at the experiences and extent of homophobic hate crimes and incidents in Great Britain by polling more than 2,500 lesbian, gay and bisexual people across the country. In addition to the examination of homophobic hate crime and incidents, the research also looks at when and where such crimes and incidents are committed and how victims respond, as well as how well the police and criminal justice system serve victims.

**Home Secretary Theresa May admits burqa fugitive error as court reveals he is suing UK**
Pressure is mounting on the home secretary, Theresa May, over her handling of the fugitive al-Shabaab-linked terror suspect, Mohammed Ahmed Mohamed, after it emerged on Thursday that he is suing the government, claiming that it was complicit in his torture in Somaliland.

**College of Policing tackles anti-social behaviour at a national level**
Researchers at the College have collated and reviewed the most robust evidence on how effective different police strategies are in reducing crime and disorder.

**Landmark day for justice**
Live television broadcasting from the Court of Appeal has begun allowing filming of legal arguments and the final judgement in criminal and civil cases.

**Major shake up to prisoner incentives**
Significant reforms to the Incentive and Earned Privileges (IEP) have come into force across prisons in England and Wales.

**Victims to tell courts impact of crime**
The new Victims’ Code published this week will ensure that victims receive all the support they deserve, every step of the way through the Criminal Justice System.

**Forthcoming reviews and inspections**

**Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary’s (HMIC) approach to monitoring forces – An overview for the public, forces and local policing bodies**
Her Majesty’s Inspectors of Constabulary (HMIs) routinely monitor the performance of all police forces to identify apparent issues for closer scrutiny, ensure emerging problems with efficiency and effectiveness are spotted quickly, and problems are resolved quickly with Chief Constables and local policing bodies.

**HMIC: Domestic Violence**: On 9 September, the Home Secretary commissioned HMIC to look at the effectiveness of the police response to cases of domestic violence and abuse. Starts for Nottinghamshire on the 4 November. This is a Home Secretary commissioned Thematic due to be completed by April 2014.

**CJJI: Child Protection Arrangements.** In June 2013, the HMIC Board agreed a series of child sexual exploitation related inspections to be conducted over the next three years.
HMIC: National Thematic Review – Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). The scope of the inspection is subject to further development but the focus is in the prevention of crime.

CJJI: National, Thematic Review: Road Traffic Offences Involving Fatalities
In the light of continuing concern about traffic offences involving fatalities, despite the introduction of new offences in 2008, the review will analyse and assess the quality of police/CPS investigation and prosecution of such cases, and the progress made by the CPS following HMCPSI’s 2008 review, establish good practice and make recommendations for positive change. Inspection in 2013/14.

CJJI Inspection: Integrated Offender Management (IOM)
IOM provides an overarching framework for agencies to prioritise interventions with offenders of greatest concern in their locality. This inspection is intended to assist in assessing the impact of IOM and disseminating good practice.

HMCPSI Inspection: Statutory Charging
The previous joint report in 2008 highlighted a number of concerns over the efficiency of the operation of the statutory charging scheme (whereby the CPS took over the responsibility from the police for determining whether an alleged offender should be charged in the more serious or contested cases, by virtue of the Criminal Justice Act 2003). With changes in the landscape implemented in 2010–11 and 2012–13, this follow-up was postponed to 2013–14.

HMIC: Crime Data Integrity. This inspection will examine the effectiveness of the police in dealing with reports of crime by members of the public. The scope is subject to development but is likely to build on the findings of HMIC’s previous inspections in this area. Scoping work will include consultation with the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee.

3. Reports

Research reports on organised crime published
Also on 7 October, three documents were published on organised crime.
- The first was a research paper estimating the scale and the social and economic costs of organised crime.
- The second was a paper on understanding criminal careers in organised crime
- The third was a review on the evidence on cyber crime:

Report on the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill published by the Joint Committee on Human Rights
The Joint Committee on Human Rights has published a report on the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill.

Crime and policing news update
The latest edition was published by the Home Office on 31 October.

Home Office
The number of ASBOs from 1 April 1999 to 31 December 2012 has been published including the number of breaches from 1 June 2000 to 31 December 2012.
**Home Affairs Select Committee follow-up report on police leadership and standards**
This report was published on 30 October.

**Home Office**
Seizure of drugs in England and Wales, Financial year ending 2013.

**Ministry of Justice**
Annual statistics on Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) eligible offenders.

**Ministry of Justice**
Further breakdowns of criminal histories of offenders sentenced in 12 months up to March 2013.

**Ministry of Justice**
Offender management statistics (quarterly) - April-June 2013.

**Big commercial organisations which knowingly perpetrate fraud on the public should face tough penalties, the Justice Committee says**
The draft Guideline is split into separate guidelines for the offences of (i) Fraud, (ii) Possessing, making or supplying articles for use in frauds, (iii) Revenue fraud, (iv) Benefit fraud, (v) Money laundering, (vi) Bribery and (viii) Corporate offenders. It will replace the existing Definitive Guideline for fraud offences published by the Sentencing Guidelines Council in October 2009. A guideline for sentencing organisations convicted of financial crimes has been produced for the first time, as have guidelines for bribery and money laundering perpetrated by individuals.

**Drug treatment performing well but faces big challenges**
According to the latest annual adult statistics released by Public Health England, specialist services remained easy to access for people who need help, with 98% waiting under three weeks to get into treatment.

**Impact assessments on Offender Rehabilitation Bill published**
Impact assessments and a delegated powers memorandum were published on 4 November that relate to the Offender Rehabilitation Bill.

**TV broadcasting in courts goes live**
On 31 October, Courts Minister Shailesh Vara announced that television broadcasting from the Court of Appeal can go live.

The population will rise by 9.6 million in the next 25 years, largely due to immigration, according to projections by the Office for National Statistics. The figures also show a projected increase in the ratio of pensioners to people still in work, with the number of people over 80 doubling (FT; Telegraph; Guardian; Independent).

The House of Commons Public Accounts Committee has said that implementation of the Universal Credit scheme has been “extraordinarily poor”. The Committee suggested that at least £140 million of the £425 million spent on the scheme was likely to be written off, and suggested that the scheme should be delayed (FT; Telegraph; Guardian; Independent).
Home Office still failing to get to grips with backlogs says committee of MPs
The House of Commons Home Affairs Committee has today published its final report on the work of the UK Border Agency, covering the period from January to March 2013. We will continue to monitor the work of the new Directorates of the Immigration Service on a three monthly basis.

Department for Communities and Local Government

Ministry of Justice

National Council for Voluntary Organisations
Payment by Results contracts: a legal analysis of terms and process.

Alcohol Justice
Alcohol Advertising on Public Transit.

Equality and Human Rights Commission
Crime and Disabled people Baseline statistical analysis of measures from the formal legal inquiry into disability-related harassment.

HM Government
Care Leaver Strategy - A cross-departmental strategy for young people leaving care

HMIC
Business Plan 2013-14 - Inspection programme and resources.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation
A review of devolved approaches to child poverty

Lifeline
The Third Sector and the Near Future of Drug and Alcohol Treatment

National Housing Federation
Impact of welfare reform on people with disabilities

Prison Reform Trust
Through the gateway: how computers can transform rehabilitation

Third Sector Research Council
Community Capital and the role of the state: an empowering approach to personalisation.

Little evidence of genuine repatriation of powers says committee of MPs
The House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee has today published its assessment of each of the 129 measures subject to the United Kingdom’s block opt-out, including the European Arrest Warrant. This is an area of policy which is highly legally complex and politically sensitive. Yet, says the Committee, again and again the Government has failed to provide the information Parliament needs to scrutinise these measures properly.
**Compact Week**

This week 4th - 8th November is Compact Week aims to promote and celebrate the Compact: the longstanding agreement that sets out shared commitments and guidelines for partnership working between government and the voluntary sector.

**Notts County Council budget cuts: 800 jobs to go as £83 million cut in council spending**

The authority is expecting to cut 800 jobs from its 9,400 strong workforce as it attempts to cut its budget by £154 million over the next three years.

**‘We are failing our children’ – Sir Michael Marmot**

The UK is facing a ‘public health time bomb’, a new report into inequalities across Europe has warned. The report, published by the WHO and the UCL Institute of Health Equity and led by Sir Michael Marmot, found the UK’s high proportion of children living in poverty and lack of education and jobs for many is having profound effects on the nation’s health. It recommends better early-years provision for children, and action to tackle inequality.

The report states: “All children aged three and above are eligible for 15 free hours of early-years education per week. In addition, from September 2013, the most disadvantaged two-year-olds will be also be eligible. Local authorities will be responsible for funding these places, and there are concerns regarding the effect that this will have on other services available to families.”

**The King’s Fund calls for stronger commissioning role for HWBs**

Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) must begin to grapple with more pressing challenges, a report from The King’s Fund has urged. One year on from their establishment, HWBs have made good progress establishing themselves, the report found. But continuing on their current trajectory would offer only a “limited role” as information-sharers and high-level coordinators. Taking on a stronger commissioning role will be essential, which will have implications for their composition, size and additional professional support. Developing a strong partnership between CCGs and local authorities offers HWBs the “best prospect to make a real difference”.

**The Prime Minister David Cameron has ordered that savings be found in the budget for HS2.** Mr Cameron has ordered a review into how to complete the project under its £50 million budget (Times; Guardian; Independent; Mail; BBC Online).

**The homeless charity Shelter has warned that thousands of children living in B&Bs or temporary accommodation face conditions which are “shameful” and “often violent”**. Their report is based on Government figures which revealed that 80,000 British children were in temporary accommodation in March, with the Local Government Association saying that B&Bs were in some cases the only option given a shortage of affordable housing (Times; Guardian; Mirror; BBC Online).

**Savings for taxpayers £2.3 billion higher than previous year.**

The Cabinet Office’s Efficiency and Reform Group is making strong progress towards delivering the government’s target of £15 billion of savings for the public purse this financial year, Minister for the Cabinet Office Francis Maude announced today.

**The UK Living Wage rate has been increased by 20p per hour to £8.80 in London and £7.65 outside London.**
The voluntary rate is independently set each year according to the basic cost of living (FT; Guardian; Independent; BBC Online).

A survey by Citizens Advice has found that nearly half of all benefit claimants do not have the skills to complete online application forms for the new Universal Credit. Gillian Guy, Chief Executive of Citizens Advice, warned that although "the idea of a single universal benefit is a good one but the poor, unclear delivery is a big risk to our clients' well-being" (Times; Express).

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Thomas, has said that the use of video links in hearings held prior to Crown Court trials would cut costs, allowing defendants to appear from home (Mail; Independent).

4. Consultations

Conducting Privacy Impact Assessments Code of Practice consultation
The ICO is consulting on its draft ‘Conducting privacy impact assessments code of practice’ and would like to hear views. The deadline for responses is 5 November.

Needle and syringe programmes (update): guideline consultation
NICE is conducting an update of NICE public health guidance 18 (2009). The consultation closes on the 5 November.

Do drug and alcohol workers need a Voluntary Professional Register?
Skills for Justice is carrying out a consultation and are seeking views of practitioners, employers, membership organisations, commissioners of services and policy makers.

Biodiversity offsetting in England
This consultation sets out proposals for biodiversity offsetting and how it might be introduced in England. The consultation is open until 7 November 2013.

Police and Crime Commissioners Survey
Neighbourhood and Homewatch are conducting a survey into the experience of PCCs in their first year. The survey is open until Friday 8th November.

Consultation on enabling targeted, local alternatives to personal licences to sell alcohol
The Minister of State for Crime Prevention (Jeremy Browne): A consultation on enabling targeted, local alternatives to personal licences to sell alcohol has been launched.

Registration of providers of social work services
In January and February of this year, the department consulted on proposals to commence part 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 2008 (CYPA).

Data sharing between public bodies
The Law Commission has published a consultation paper on the subject of data sharing between public bodies. The consultation will run until 16th December 2013.

Environment Agency Charges Consultation for 2014
This consultation sets out our charging proposals for our Environmental Permitting, Abstraction and EU Emissions Trading Schemes. The consultation will run until 20 December 2013.

**Rents for social housing from 2015 to 2016**
The Government has launched a consultation into proposed changes to rent policy for social housing, to apply from April 2015 onwards. The consultation will run until 24th December 2013.

**Competition and Markets Authority: vision, values and strategy**
This consultation sets out the Competition and Market Authority (CMA's) proposed: Vision, strategy and values. This was opened on the 1 October and is due to take full effect by 1 April 2014

**College of Policing statement on integrity in policing**
The consultation on the draft code has been launched by the College of Policing, and runs for five weeks until November 29. The final code is expected to be published next spring. The Code of Ethics will set out the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in policing. It will apply to the more than 220,000 police officers and staff across England and Wales. It emphasises the importance of personal integrity, honesty and fairness.

**Legislative Reform Order: Changes to entertainment licensing**
This consultation is about implementing reforms to entertainment licensing via a Legislative Reform Order. It sets out proposals to amend the Licensing Act 2003 so that certain entertainment activities in defined circumstances no longer require a licence before they can take place. The consultation closes on 17 December 2013.

**Government ministers will today announce a public consultation to decide on pension scheme charges, expected to cap management fees charged by pension providers at around 0.75 per cent.**
The Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Sajid Javid MP, said the plans would ensure “someone’s saving will deliver the biggest possible returns and not be eaten away at by a variety of charges and fees” (F.T.; Telegraph; Times; Mail; Mirror; BBC Online; City A.M.).

**Ministry of Justice Consultation on Transforming Management of Young Offenders**
The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has today launched a consultation into proposals on changes to the way young adult offenders are managed in custody and access support and services to reduce their reoffending. Consultation closes 13 December.

**Review of UK and EU balance of competences: call for evidence on social and employment policy**
The government is carrying out a review of the balance of competences between the UK and the EU. The review will provide an analysis of what the EU does and how it affects the UK. The Review of the balance of competencies detailed guide provides full details of the review programme. Consultation closes 17 January 2014.

**Local Consultations**
**City Adult Draft Mental Health Strategy Consultation**