



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

Queen's Speech 2013

During the Queen's Speech, a total of 19 bills were announced. These included carry-overs from the last session and two draft bills. The bills are listed here and include the annual Finance Bill:

- Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill
- Care Bill
- Consumers Rights Bill (Draft)
- Defence Reform Bill
- Deregulation Bill
- Energy Bill
- Finance Bill
- Gambling (Licensing and Advertising) Bill
- High Speed Rail (Preparation) Bill
- High Speed Two Hybrid Bill
- Immigration Bill
- Intellectual Property Bill
- Local Audit and Accountability Bill
- Mesothelioma Bill
- National Insurance Contributions Bill
- Northern Ireland Bill
- Offender Rehabilitation Bill
- Pensions Bill
- Wales Bill (Draft)
- Water Bill

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill – Explanatory Note

"Legislation will be brought forward to introduce new powers to tackle antisocial behaviour, cut crime and further reform the police."

To make provision about anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder, including provision about recovery of possession of dwelling houses; to make provision amending the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, Schedules 7 and 8 to the Terrorism Act 2000 and the Extradition Act 2003; to make provision about firearms and about forced marriage; to make provision about the police, the Independent Police Complaints Commission and the Serious Fraud Office; to make provision about criminal justice and court fees; and for connected purposes.

The Bill is in thirteen parts:

- Part 1 makes provision for a civil injunction to prevent nuisance and annoyance.
- Part 2 makes provision for an order on conviction to prevent behaviour which causes harassment, alarm or distress.
- Part 3 contains a power for the police to disperse people causing harassment, alarm or distress.
- Part 4 covers the new powers to deal with community protection and makes provision for a community protection notice, a public spaces protection order and provisions to close premises associated with nuisance and annoyance.
- Part 5 makes provision for the possession of houses on anti-social behaviour grounds.
- Part 6 contains provisions on establishing a community remedy document and dealing with responses to complaints of anti-social behaviour.
- Part 7 amends the provisions of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.
- Part 8 introduces a new offence of possession of illegal firearms for sale or supply and increases the maximum penalties for the importation or exportation of illegal firearms.
- Part 9 introduces a new offence of forced marriage and criminalises the breach of a forced marriage protection order.
- Part 10 contains various measures in respect of policing, including conferring functions on the College of Policing, establishing a Police Remuneration Review Body, conferring additional powers on the Independent Police Complaints Commission and amending the counter-terrorism border security powers in Schedules 7 and 8 to the Terrorism Act 2000.
- Part 11 makes various amendments to the Extradition Act 2003.
- Part 12 contains a number of criminal justice measures, including revision of the test for determining eligibility for compensation following a miscarriage of justice. This Part also contains a placeholder clause for prospective measures in respect of the setting of court and tribunal fees.
- Part 13 contains minor and consequential amendments to other enactments and general provisions including provisions in respect of the parliamentary procedure to be applied to orders and regulations made under the Bill.

Offender Rehabilitation Bill

"Legislation will be introduced to reform the way in which offenders are rehabilitated in England and Wales."

- The Bill would play a vital role in Government plans to transform the way in which offenders are rehabilitated in England and Wales. It would extend statutory supervision after release to offenders serving short custodial sentences, allowing probation providers to deal with the causes of re-offending. This would mean that all offenders released from prison will receive at least 12 months' statutory supervision.

- For sentences served in the community, the Bill would create greater flexibility for probation providers so that they are free to deliver innovative and effective interventions to tackle re-offending.

Proposals on the investigation of crime in cyberspace

"In relation to the problem of matching internet protocol addresses, my Government will bring forward proposals to enable the protection of the public and the investigation of crime in cyberspace."

The Government is committed to ensuring that law enforcement and intelligence agencies have the powers they need to protect the public and ensure national security. These agencies use communications data - the who, when, where and how of a communication, but not its content - to investigate and prosecute serious crimes. Communications data helps to keep the public safe: it is used by the police to investigate crimes, bring offenders to justice and to save lives.

Local Audit and Accountability Bill

The purpose of the Bill is to close the Audit Commission and make new arrangements for the audit of local public bodies and increase local accountability.

LGA responds to the publicity code being included in the Local Audit Bill

Responding to the Government's announcement to push ahead with proposals to make the Publicity Code law and include it in the Local Audit Bill, Sir Merrick Cockell, Chairman of the Local Government Association, said:

"This announcement confirms what councils feared all along, the consultation on whether the Publicity Code should be made law was flawed both in its central premise and how it was carried out."

Immigration Bill

The purpose of the Bill is to reform immigration law, including provisions to strengthen our enforcement powers and protect public services.

Pensions Bill

A Bill to make provision about pensions and about benefits payable to people in connection with bereavement; and for connected purposes.

The House of Commons Library has prepared a briefing note for MPs explaining the background on the retention and disclosure of criminal records.

An individual who is convicted of a recordable offence will have a "nominal record" of that conviction placed on the Police National Computer. Nominal records will also be created for individuals who are cautioned, reprimanded, warned or arrested for such offences. An individual's nominal record is retained until his 100th birthday and can be disclosed as part of a criminal records check.

The Police National Database is used to record details of "soft" police intelligence, for example details of criminal investigations that did not lead to a conviction. This intelligence will generally be retained for a minimum of six years, longer if it relates to allegations of a serious offence or if the individual concerned is considered to pose an ongoing risk. When a person applies for a so-called "excepted position", then he may be required to provide details of his criminal record by way of a standard or enhanced criminal records check from the Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly the Criminal Records Bureau).

Excepted positions cover (for example) work with children or vulnerable adults or roles in certain licensed occupations or positions of trust (e.g. police officers, solicitors). There has been some debate over two particular issues relating to criminal records checks: the disclosure of non-conviction information and the disclosure of old and minor convictions. The Government has recently legislated (via the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012) to introduce a number of new safeguards relating to the disclosure of non-conviction information, such as a new independent disputes process.

The Court of Appeal ruled in January 2013 that the mandatory and blanket disclosure of convictions as part of a criminal records check was incompatible with Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights (right to respect for private life). The Government is seeking leave to appeal this decision. The Government has also proposed legislation to introduce a new filtering mechanism to restrict the disclosure of old and minor convictions. This legislation requires the approval of Parliament before it can come into force.

2. Policing and crime key developments

Crime is falling

Home Secretary Theresa May said:

“Police reform is working and crime continues to fall. We have swept away central targets, reduced bureaucracy and introduced Police and Crime Commissioners to make the police more accountable”.

[Funding of Police and Community Safety Services](#)

A Submission from APCC on behalf of Police and Crime Commissioners on the Comprehensive Spending Review, and seeking to secure funding for police, crime and community safety services.

[Policing in the new dynamic environment](#)

Tom Winsor, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary has explained his approach to the job and how HIMC may be expected to operate in the new policing landscape. The Chief Inspector, who spoke at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies (RUSI), discussed the model of British policing; the changing dynamic environment; the pressures and challenges which the police face; and the role of HMIC in serving the public interest.

[End of Probation](#)

Justice Minister, [Chris Grayling](#), announced on Thursday that the 106 year old Probation Service in England and Wales will come to an end. The Ministry intends, contrary to overwhelming evidence of the service’s success, that 70% of the Probation Service will be contracted out to the private sector on the grounds that it has failed to deliver sufficient reductions in reoffending. All work with low and medium risk offenders will go to the private or voluntary sector and, in addition, unpaid work programmes and work with victims will also be privatised.

[Drugs Recovery Advisor appointed to Public Health England](#)

Internationally recognised addiction expert Dr A Thomas McLellan will provide independent advice on PHE’s work to tackle the problem of drug misuse.

[Management of the custodial estate](#)

The National Audit Office is currently undertaking a study to examine whether the NOMS strategy for the prison estate is likely to improve the value for money of holding prisoners who have been remanded and sentenced by the courts.

[Toughening up on prisoner privileges](#)

The Government has announced major changes to the Incentives and Earned Privileges (IEP) scheme in male adult prisoners throughout England and Wales.

[Tory MP to be sued by expenses watchdog for refusing to repay £54,000 profit on taxpayer-funded home](#)

- Watchdog to release details of 70 MPs who returned money
- MPs were banned from putting new mortgages on expenses in 2010
- But some politicians allowed to continue claiming for more than two years

[Tough new housing rules to control immigration](#)

New measures announced in the Queen's Speech will help tackle illegal immigration and ensure those living in the private rented sector have leave to remain in this country. First set out by the Prime Minister in March, new legislation will stop rogue landlords cashing in from renting homes to illegal migrants; and new rules will ensure fair play in taxpayer-funded social housing.

3. Reports

[Reducing the market for stolen goods](#)

South Yorkshire Police, in partnership with Sheffield City Council and second hand dealers have launched their latest initiative to reduce the market for stolen goods. Property that has a resale value, such as, electrical items, mobile phones, jewellery, precious metals and games consoles are being stolen by thieves, to sell on for a quick profit.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Further breakdowns of offences committed by offenders with a previous immediate custodial sentence.

[Cabinet Office – Achieving social impact at scale: case studies of seven pioneering co-mingling social investment funds](#)

This report aims to open up more information about developments in social investment by showcasing new fund structures: “co-mingling” social investment funds. These are structures that foundations around the world are using to enable them to leverage their experience and assets to bring new skills, expertise and finance from more commercial investors into delivering social impact. In many cases, co-mingling funds enable foundations to achieve impact at a scale that cannot be achieved with their philanthropic capital alone.

[Centre for Social Justice](#)

Report on whether secure colleges transform youth custody? Last year more than 3,500 young offenders were sentenced to custody and more than 70% of them went onto reoffend within a year, despite an average of around £100,000 per annum being spent on their detention.

[Department of Health](#)

Identifying and supporting victims of human trafficking: Guidance for health staff.

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

Wage inequality and employment polarisation in British cities

[Lemos and Crane](#) - *Lost and Found: faith and spirituality in the lives of*

homeless people is the latest publication from Lemos & Crane building on its pioneering work over the last fifteen years that has brought fresh insight into the needs and aspirations of homeless and vulnerable people, and new guidance and inspiration for hundreds of service providers on how to work in more person-centred ways with clients.

[National Audit Office](#)

The NAO has prepared this briefing for the Justice Select Committee in support of its inquiry into women offenders. The briefing looks specifically at the new funding arrangements for women's centres in the community, which have been funded partly by the Ministry of Justice, the National Offender Management Service (NOMS), and partly by Probation Trusts since 2009.

[Ofsted](#)

Not yet good enough: personal, social and economic education in schools.

[Public Health England](#)

Helping service users to engage with treatment and stay the course.

The Institute for Fiscal Studies has forecast that by 2020 the number of British children in child poverty will have risen by 1.1 million.

The research suggests that by the end of the decade, the total number of children in poverty will have risen to 3.4 million ([Telegraph](#); [Guardian](#)).

A survey by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services has revealed that local councils in England have cut £2.7 billion from adult social care services since 2010, the equivalent of 20 per cent of their care budgets.

As the demand for services continues to rise, the Association warned that whilst substantial savings had been made, it would become increasingly difficult to protect the vulnerable from its effects ([Guardian](#)).

Thursday 9th May 2013

International Development Select Committee – Violence Against Women and Girls

Reform's latest research paper on the welfare state is available at www.reform.co.uk.

The report argues that the Queen's Speech must lay out plans to cut the cost of pensions and tax credits and begin a debate on the future of NHS funding. This would help safeguard these programmes and help to meet the deficit challenge.

Smartphone App Locates Gunfire Source

Scientists have developed a smartphone app that tracks gunfire and points in the direction the shot came from.

Fingerprint Used As Student Currency.

A new technology called "PayTango" will enable consumers to pay with just their fingerprints.

The secure payment system was created by a team of developers and programmers from Carnegie Mellon University. The developers came up with the PayTango prototype earlier this year and have been trialling the pilot program at the university's cafeteria.

From Crowdsourcing to Manhunts: The Role of YouTube, Reddit, and Twitter.

These days, social media allows you to experience the news as it happens. You're not just sympathetically putting yourself in the shoes of someone who lives many miles away; you're living it too.

New EDM: Trial of Single/Double Summer Time

That this House of Commons notes the significant financial, environmental, public health and quality of life benefits that could accrue by advancing the clocks to GMT+1 in winter and GMT+2 in summer; further notes in particular the increased trade in the tourism, hospitality and retail sectors estimated at over three billion and 80,000 new jobs, the reduction in carbon dioxide emissions from reduced heat and light by aligning the clocks more closely to people's lifestyles and the significant health gains from reduced levels of seasonal affective disorder and increased levels of sports participation and physical activity; further notes the likely reduction in death and injury from fewer road accidents and expected reductions in crime and the fear of crime; and therefore calls on the Government to instigate a three year trial of single/double summer time.

Fears are growing over accident and emergency departments after the NHS admitted services have "deteriorated significantly".

Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt has reportedly asked for an extra £400m to cope with the increasing number of patients seeking emergency treatment. A&E departments have been called "war zones" by the [College of Emergency Medicine](#), which also told the Telegraph that many services across Britain have reached "tipping point". This follows a warning from the Care Quality Commission ([CQC](#)) that A&E departments are out of control. The watchdog said something needed to be done.

4. Consultations

[Improving the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime](#) – response sent by the Deputy Commissioner

The Government have launched a consultation which sets out their plans to reform the Victims' Code to give them clearer entitlements from criminal justice agencies and better tailor the service to individual need. The consultation runs until 10th May 2013.

[Consultation on Revised PACE Codes of Practice](#)

The Home Office has published a consultation on revising the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) Codes of Practice. The codes proposed to be amended are codes A, B, E and F which concern stop and search, searching premises, and audio and visual recording of interviews. These draft amendments have been circulated for consultation in accordance with section 67(4) and the consultation closes on 10 May 2013.

[Consultation on Draft Statutory Guidance on the Making or Renewing of National Security Determinations Allowing the Retention of Biometric Data](#)

The Home Office has published a consultation on draft statutory guidance relating to the retention of DNA profiles and fingerprints. The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 came into force last year and reformed the system of retention destruction and the use of DNA and

fingerprint data by the police and other law enforcement authorities, ensuring that only those convicted of a criminal offence will have their fingerprints and DNA retained indefinitely. The consultation closes on 20 May 2013. Responses to the consultation should be sent to: Counter-Terrorism Legislation Team 5th Floor Peel Building Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism.

Take part in our new cyber-security survey

Dods Government are running a new project on cyber-security in the public sector, in association with our research partner McAfee. We aim to build up a picture of awareness of cyber-security risks across central and local government and to gain understanding of the solutions that will be needed in the future. We hope that you will be able to take part in the research and share your views.