



## 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

[Missing persons law comes into force](#)

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

[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](#)

[Modern Slavery Bill](#)

[Serious Crime Bill](#)

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

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

This Order came into force on 2 August 2014.

[SI 2014/1787 Criminal Justice Act 2003 \(Alcohol Abstinence and Monitoring Requirement\) \(Prescription of Arrangement for Monitoring\) Order 2014](#)

## 2. Strategic policing and crime news

### [Association of Police and Crime Commissioners](#)

Police and Crime Commissioners one year on: Delivering police accountability. PCCs are made up of 16 Conservatives, 13 Labour and 12 Independents. Police forces in England and Wales are now more accountable to the public they serve. PCC decisions are scrutinised by Police and Crime Panels and we hold Chief Constables to account on behalf of the public. These greater checks and balances are increasing community confidence in the police.

### [GMP Chief welcomes IPCC investigation](#)

Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Sir Peter Fahy has been served notice that he is under IPCC investigation for criminal and gross misconduct. The decision by the independent commission relates to his 'alleged support to an allegedly poorly-handled investigation into a suspected sex offender'. The notice was issued following allegations made by a whistleblower currently serving within the force.

### [HMIC praises Scottish custody](#)

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland has reported that custody arrangements north of the border are operating effectively, despite 'disparate' provision prior to the birth of the organisation last year.

### [Giving people more power over what happens in their neighbourhood](#)

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) is taking action to give local communities new rights. These rights will give community, voluntary and charity groups the opportunity to take the initiative when it comes to how local public services are run and planning decisions are made.

### [50 years since the last executions took place in Britain](#)

Gwynne Evans, 24, and Peter Allen, 21, were hanged on 13 August 1964, exactly 50 years ago.

### [Policy paper: Transforming the criminal justice system: strategy and action plan](#)

The Ministry of Justice has published a policy paper explaining the 'Criminal justice system 2014 to 2015: strategy and action plan,' which is an update on the version published last year.

## 3. Developments and reports

### [Do victims of crime know their rights?](#)

IARS has produced a free e-learning course for victims of crime that aims to empower them by increasing their knowledge of their rights in the criminal justice and restorative justice process.

### [Offenders to pay more towards victim support services](#)

The Ministry of Justice has announced that the victim surcharge will be extended to offenders given a custodial sentence in the Magistrates Court.

### [Fall in youth unemployment welcome but more must be done, UKCES claims](#)

UK Commission for Employment and Skills welcomes new findings on youth unemployment, but claims much work is still to be done to tackle the problem.

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

The report, *An Inspection of the work of Probation Trusts and Youth Offending Teams to protect children and young people* was undertaken by HM Inspectorate of Probation in response to findings from mainstream inspections of youth offending and probation work which suggested that child protection work was not being consistently delivered well enough. The inspection focused on work to identify children at risk and to take action where necessary.

## **Beyond Youth Custody**

Resettlement of girls and young women. A Research Report, addresses the gap in knowledge about the effective resettlement of girls and young women.

## **Lankelly Chase**

Women and Girls at Risk: evidence across the life course.

## **Department for Transport**

Reported road casualties in Great Britain, final estimates involving illegal alcohol levels: 2012.

## **Deaths related to drug poisoning in England and Wales: 2013**

Deaths related to drug poisoning in England and Wales from 1993 onwards, by cause of death, sex, age and substances involved in the death. ONS.

## **Addaction**

The Alcohol and Crime Commission Report by John Podmore, a professor at the University of Durham and ex-governor of Belmarsh, Swaleside and Brixton prisons. 'What we have is a booze-fuelled revolving door and a system that doesn't understand the complexities of alcohol-related crime.'

## **HMP Preston - a reasonably good local prison, but some deterioration, says report**

HMP Preston was providing a good amount of work, training and education for prisoners, but needed to pay more attention to safety issues, said Nick Hardwick, Chief Inspector of Prisons, as he published the report of an unannounced inspection of the local prison in Lancashire.

## **Labour highlights 'The Choice on Justice' with Prisons Crisis Summit on Worsening State of Jails**

The Prisons Crisis Summit will bring together senior figures including prison governors, prison staff, police, probation, charities, local government and voluntary groups. The summit will identify the major problems and discuss what action is needed to get prisons properly punishing and reforming criminals and cutting the numbers of victims of crime.

## **Ministry of Justice**

Final results for cohorts 1 payment-by-results prison pilots.

## [New Economics Foundation](#)

The Reality of Now: How the social process drives organisational behaviour.

## [College of Policing](#)

Digest August 2014.

## [Committee launches inquiry into current and future uses of biometric data and technologies](#)

The House of Commons Science and Technology Committee has launched an inquiry into the potential use and collection of biometric data and whether regulations in this emerging field are adequate.

## [Public 'frustrated by roads policing cuts'](#)

Roads policing should not be treated as a luxury and there is more public demand for more officers in this critical area.

## [Stop and search 'will be independently reviewed'](#)

An academic will monitor the Met's use of stop and search powers the Deputy Commissioner Craig Mackey has revealed.

## [Two year wait for water cannon authorisation](#)

Fearing fresh disorder on streets, police chiefs tried to get water cannon approved in December 2012 – 20 months on Theresa May has yet to make a decision. However, contracts have been exchanged over machines in the Met.

## [Police contact points 'used by a person per week'](#)

Contact points introduced after the closure of some police stations are used by an average of just one person per week it has been claimed by the London Assembly.

## [Met reaches out with first Polish tweeter](#)

The Met is using its first dedicated Polish tweeting officer in an attempt to reach a wider range of communities across the capital.

## [Thames Valley officers will not be prosecuted following drug search death](#)

The Crown Prosecution Service has decided that no further action will be taken against five Thames Valley officers in relation to the death of Habib Ullah.

## [Public Health England](#)

Aluminium foil for smoking drugs: A briefing for commissioners and providers of services for people who use drugs.

## [Government's Commissioning Academy to double in size](#)

The government is to double the size of its Commissioning Academy programme to meet an ambitious target of 1,500 participants by 2016. Launched in April 2013, the Academy is designed to help commissioners in public sector organisations develop the practical skills and judgment to design different ways to provide services and manage new markets.

## [Parish Council 'clusters' could manage county council services](#)

Bucks County Council (BCC) is proposing to give parish councils greater powers as part of a new 'clusters' initiative it plans to implement. The parish council clusters – of between five

and 20 authorities – would manage services in each parish, rather than through the county council.

## **New fees go live for Child Maintenance Service**

Parents who cannot agree to organise and pay their own child maintenance without government help will be charged an additional fee. The DWP says that the introduction of the fee is designed to encourage separated couples to come to their own financial arrangements.

## **Calls for a 'digital bill of rights' backed by the Law Society**

The Law Society has backed the idea, which is to be raised in a speech by its president Andrew Caplen before the American Bar Association.

## **Housing associations urged to overhaul purchase and management procedures**

Housing association could save £285m on repairs and maintenance by overhauling their purchase and management procedures.

## **Camden Council to introduce £20,000 minimum wage guarantee**

Camden Council has committed to ensuring that its lowest paid members of staff will receive a minimum earnings guarantee of at least £20,000, as recognition of the high costs faced by staff in London.

## **Councils take over £2bn waste PFI contract**

Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council have taken over ownership of their 25-year private finance initiative (PFI) waste contract, just three years into the £2bn deal.

## **More government funding for sustainable transport**

Seven councils are sharing nearly £1m of extra government funding for their sustainable transport schemes, including those encouraging cycling, walking and public transport use.

## **Inadequate funding could jeopardise Care Act reforms – Councils warn**

Approximately nine out of 10 councils in England and Wales are worried that inadequate government funding could jeopardise vital reforms to the adult social care system under the Care Act.

## **New Economy to help support local government redesign**

Think tank New Economy has been appointed by the DCLG to help support local authorities looking to redesign their public services while generating cost savings.

## **Data integration in the public sector**

Decisions which are made on the basis of poor-quality data expose public sector bodies to risk, and cost them money.

## **4. Consultations**

### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

### **Justice launch open consultation on proposal to introduce a civil protection order for Female Genital Mutilation**

The Justice launched an open consultation seeking views on whether the introduction of a specific civil law measure could help protect potential victims of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The consultation runs until **19 August 2014**.

### **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's consultation on management of sexual and violent offenders**

A consultation by the College of Policing on new guidance on the management of sexual and violent offenders was launched on 11 July. The closing date is 5 September.

### **College of Policing consults on investigation of rape and sexual offences**

The College of Policing has published consultation on the investigation of rape and sexual offences. It closes on 22 September.

### **5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 Consultation launched on the management of dangerous offenders**

### **Changes to Mental Health Act (1983) Code of Practice**

Seeks comments on proposed changes to legislation governing the treatment of people with mental health problems. Close date: 12/09/2014.

### **Have your say on the National Minimum Wage**

Consultation closes on the 29 September 2014.

### **Recovery of public sector exit payments**

This consultation seeks views on the government's plans to legislate for the recovery of exit payments when high earners return to the same part of the public sector within twelve months of leaving. Consultation closes on the 17/09/2014.

### **Integrated inspections to assess the contribution of all professionals to the help, care and protection of children and young people**

The consultation launch of the targeted programme of integrated inspections. This marks a major step forward in the way that the contribution of local agencies is assessed with regards

to the help, care and protection of children, young people and families. Closes on 12 September 2014.

## [NICE quality standards – the process guide](#)

The second update to the process guide for developing NICE quality standards is now available for comment in draft form. Note that the process guide is provisional and may change after consultation. **Consultation dates: Tuesday 10 June - Wednesday 3 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.

## 5. Reviews and Inspections

### [HMIC provides assurance that chief constables are having regard to the Strategic Policing Requirement – but finds that more needs to be done](#)

#### [HMIC Programme](#)

HMIC sets out its inspection programme and resources for the year ahead.

#### **Thematic Inspections already Committed to in 2014/15:**

- Making Best Use of Police Time
- Valuing the Police Programme – Phase 4
- Undercover Policing (Home Secretary Commission)
- Domestic Abuse (Home Secretary Commission)
- Crime Data Integrity – July 2014
- Child Protection – July 2014

#### **Thematic Inspections Commencing in 2014/15**

- Valuing the Police Programme – Phase 5
- Strategic Policing Requirement
- Police Integrity and Leadership (Police Integrity and Corruption)
- Follow up to Mistakes Were Made Report
- Revisit of Stop and Search
- Protecting Vulnerable People Programme: Missing Children
- Police Management of Information
- Police National Database (PND) Audit
- Use of the Police National Computer (PNC) by Non-Police Organisations

#### **Proposed Topics for New Thematic Inspections in 2014/15**

- Modern Slavery
- So-Called Honour Based Violence (HBV)
- Cyber Crime.