



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 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

Modern slavery white paper published - A flagship Bill to tackle modern slavery, the first of its kind in Europe, has been published by the Home Secretary Theresa May.

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill

Offender Rehabilitation Bill - Report, together with formal minutes.

Immigration Bill - amendments to be considered at remaining stages

European Council adopts financing programmes in the area of justice and fundamental rights
The European Council, meeting in Brussels today, adopted has without discussion two regulations establishing the financing programmes in the area of justice and fundamental rights within the framework of the Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020.

2013 No. 2788 The Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Covert Human Intelligence Sources: Relevant Sources) Order 2013

This Order came into force on 1 January 2014.

SI 2013/2981 The Crime and Courts Act 2013 (Commencement No. 6) Order 2013

The following provisions of the Act came into force on 11 December 2013—

SI 2013/3172 The Terrorism Act 2000 (Proscribed Organisations) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2013

This Order came into force on 13 December 2013.

Child protection: Duties to report concerns - Provides information on the duties on those who come into contact with children as part of their professional lives to report suspected abuse or neglect of children. It also highlights recent calls for a mandatory duty to report suspected abuse or neglect.

2. Policing and crime key developments

[Home Office publishes successful bids for £20m Police Innovation funding](#)

The Home Office have published the successful projects which will share in the £20m precursor funding to the Police Innovation Fund. All 43 forces were successful in at least one bid. The press release states that investment in body worn cameras, joint working between police and the fire service and using technology to improve efficiency were three of the key themes. Successful bids were also received on raising awareness of child exploitation, developing responses to organised crime, working closely with mental health professionals and co-locating services with local councils.

[Calls for reform of the criminal law on child neglect](#) - The current criminal offence of child neglect is set out in section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933. The charity Action for Children has launched a campaign calling for reform of the law, arguing that the legislation needs to "catch up" with modern society's understanding of neglect. However, the Government has said it has no plans to change the law in this area as the courts and children's services already interpret the 1933 Act "in a contemporary way". In October 2013 Damian Green stated that he had asked officials to undertake a targeted consultation.

[Home Affairs Committee: New evidence session](#)

Committee to hear further evidence on Police and Crime Commissioners: progress to date
Tuesday 21 January 2014

[Young criminals must be punished, but education is the cure says Clegg](#)

The "sky-high" rate of reoffending by young criminals must be reversed, the Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg and Justice Secretary Chris Grayling said today as they unveiled radical proposals to rehabilitate young offenders through better education and training. They have announced plans to introduce Secure Colleges, a new generation of secure educational establishments for young offenders, and to open a pathfinder Secure College in the East Midlands in 2017.

[College of Policing and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary publish concordat on working together](#)

The College of Policing and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) have published a concordat setting out how they will work together to achieve the highest possible standards in policing. It sets out the respective roles of the College and HMIC in relation to standards in policing and how the two organisations will work together.

[New campaign urges people to be 'Cyber Streetwise'](#)

The 'Cyber Streetwise' campaign aims to change the way people view online safety and provide the public and businesses with the skills and knowledge they need to take control of their cyber security. The campaign includes a new easy-to-use website and online videos. [The new website](#) offers a range of interactive resources, tailoring an individual's visit to provide clear advice on the essentials for enjoying a safe experience online.

[Tackling extremism in the UK: report by the Extremism Taskforce](#)

Following the killing of Drummer Lee Rigby the Extremism Task Force was set up to look at whether the government was doing all it could to confront extremism and radicalisation and to agree practical steps to fight against all forms of extremism.

Taskforce to tackle child abuse launched

The first meeting of the 'US-UK taskforce to Counter Online Child Exploitation' was launched at the US Department of Justice in Washington by Policing Minister Damian Green on 9 December 2013. The taskforce members include the National Crime Agency's Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre Command, the FBI and the Homeland Security Investigations.

Overview of hate crime published

An overview of hate crime in England and Wales has been published by the Home Office, the Office for National Statistics and the Ministry of Justice. There are two main official sources for the number of hate crime offences in England and Wales, namely the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) and police recorded crime.

Experimental Analysis of Examinations and Detentions under Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000 published

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has published a new report on the use of stop and search powers at ports and airports under the Terrorism Act 2000. The experimental analysis looks at patterns in ethnicity of the examinations under Schedule 7 of the Act and suggests that relatively high numbers of those examined are from certain ethnic backgrounds, though the Commission has stressed that the statistical analysis is still experimental.

Joint Committee on Human Rights published report on the Offender Rehabilitation Bill

The Joint Committee on Human Rights (JCHR) has published its Report on the Offender Rehabilitation Bill. Human rights law imposes positive obligations on the State to take all reasonable steps to protect the public from crime, including from re-offending by known offenders.

MEPs make recommendations on sexual exploitation and prostitution

Opinion of the European Parliament's Committee on Development for the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality on sexual exploitation and prostitution and its impact on gender equality.

More detailed recording 'holds forces to account'

The government has announced a new statistical framework designed to 'better reflect how the police responds to reports of crime'.

Monotonic Patterns - a sign of worse to come?

Ahead of a major year for the UK emergency services, security correspondent Dr Dave Sloggett looks back on the key terrorism issues of the previous 12 months and asks whether these worrying trends are an indicator of what's to come.

Campaigning organisation applauds mental health custody plan

The Centre for Mental Health has reacted positively to the government's plan to post mental health nurses in police stations and courts across the UK.

Met report happy new year despite strike

The Metropolitan Police have reported a relatively quiet night following one of the biggest New Year's Eve parties ever staged in the capital.

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, admitted that crime figures may have been manipulated. Sir Bernard gave evidence to the Public Administration Select Committee in response to recent allegations by a Metropolitan Police constable that figures for reported crime were manipulated to meet targets. In his statement, Sir Bernard told MPs that the allegations contained "truths we need to hear" (*Independent, Mirror, BBC Online*).

Pre-Lisbon Treaty EU police and criminal justice measures: the UK's 2014 opt-in decision - Home Affairs Committee: Government response

'Plebgate' affair: Met PC admits misconduct.

PC Keith Wallis, 53, admitted falsely claiming to have witnessed a row between then-cabinet minister Andrew Mitchell and police in September 2012.

Parking offence fines in England could be cut.

The government could also order local authorities to bring in a five-minute "grace period" before issuing tickets when cars remain in bays for too long.

Scotland Yard's rotten core: Police failed to address Met's 'endemic corruption'.

Organised crime infiltrated police 'at will', according to secret report. Top-level internal inquiry identified scores of corrupt individuals working for Met.

Police officer jailed for sexual activity with girl, 14.

He was found guilty at Stafford Crown Court of three counts of engaging in sexual activity with a child from April 2010 to November 2011.

Lords reject government's antisocial, crime and policing bill.

Peers voted by 306 to 178, majority 128, against the plans amid fears that noisy children, carol singers and nudists could fall victim to the new injunctions.

Calls for Met to 'come clean' about spying on Hillsborough campaigners.

The Metropolitan Police are today under pressure to come clean on whether Special Branch spied on Hillsborough families.

Body decay research 'could improve police dig training'.

Research into the gases police dogs pick up as they search for and find dead bodies could lead to improved training of the canines at a national level.

Government statement on Drug policy

The Minister of State for Crime Prevention (Norman Baker): The Coalition Government has decided to opt out of the European Commission's proposals for a Regulation and a Directive on new psychoactive substances.

LGO improving, but still has way to go, say MPs

In 2012, the Communities and Local Government Committee raised serious concerns about the performance of the Local Government Ombudsman [LGO] and called on it to raise its

game significantly. In a Report published today, the Committee argues that over the past 12 months the LGO has made a concerted effort to act on its recommendations and become more accountable, efficient and transparent.

Child sex gang found guilty of series of rapes on vulnerable girls

The Home Affairs Select committee has called on the Government to introduce special courts to ensure child sex attackers are brought to justice.

More than 100 Brits believed to be involved in massive international paedophile gang

A paedophile ring which streamed live child abuse from the Philippines has been shut-down after British police joined forces with Australian and US investigators in Operation Endeavour, which spanned 12 countries.

Child sexual exploitation and trafficking – OCC's response to the cross party inquiry into the effectiveness of legislation for tackling child sexual exploitation and trafficking within the UK.

Wildlife crime: MEPs call for tougher penalties - Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) voted for a non-binding resolution on January 15, 2014, calling for increased penalties, mandatory destruction of illegal ivory, and better training of police and prosecutors to combat trophy hunting and the organised criminal killing of rhinos, elephants and other wildlife for profit.

3. Reports

Funding for mental health nurses

£25m of funding is being provided for mental health nurses and other mental health professionals to work with police stations and courts so that people with mental health problems or substance misuse problems can be diagnosed earlier. The money is for liaison and diversion services. Ten areas are receiving the funding: Merseyside; London; Avon and Wiltshire; Leicester; Sussex; Dorset; Sunderland and Middlesbrough; Coventry; South Essex; and Wakefield. If successful, the programme will be rolled out nationally in 2017.

Medway pilot scheme tackles disability hate crime.

Research has revealed at least a third of people in Medway with a learning disability have been bullied, verbally abused and physically assaulted.

Greater Manchester Police chief charged over shooting.

The Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police, Sir Peter Fahy, is to be prosecuted after an unarmed man was shot dead by an officer.

Norfolk Police criticised in bid for new Joanne Foreman inquest.

A man seeking a fresh inquest into his stepdaughter's death has told the High Court that Norfolk Police "did not effectively investigate" the case.

Police use criminal cash to buy cameras and catch more crooks.

Cartoon catch-phrases are helping Merseyside police officers identify the city's most serious criminals, thanks to personalised settings on crime-busting surveillance cameras.

Margaret Hodge attacks 'pathetic' bid to retrieve cash from organised crime bosses.

Britain's organised crime bosses are holding on to their illegal profits because of the "rubbish" and "pathetic" performance of law enforcement organisations, MPs have warned Parliament. The Commons Public Accounts Committee condemned the enforcement of confiscation orders as appalling. It also accused the Home Office's top civil servant of giving a "nonsensical" defence of its performance.

More diversity in police is needed to get trust back, says Labour's Yvette Cooper.

Yvette Cooper wants to see forces, including the Metropolitan Police, follow in the footsteps of the New York Police Department by setting "active" recruitment policies to increase diversity among their officers.

Detective charged with 'sexual misconduct'.

A Nottinghamshire police officer has been charged with four counts of misconduct in a public office.

Chemical bullet analysis 'could identify firearm offenders'.

Researchers believe analysing the lead composition of bullets could help place suspects at the crime scene.

Statistics on crime in England and Wales – Assessment of compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

ACPO response to UK Statistics Authority report on crime stats.

Fire and Rescue bulletin

The latest Fire and Rescue bulletin was published on 14 January. It covers the emergency service mobile communications programme, procurement of a replacement incident recording system and the Fire Kills campaign annual report.

Delivering Differently prospectus published

The prospectus for the Delivering Differently programme was published on 10 January. It provides local authorities information on the funding available, guidance on how they can apply and the application criteria. The Delivering Differently programme is all about transforming services via alternative delivery models, such as mutuals and voluntary organisations. The fund is £1m which will be shared between ten local authorities.

Attorney General warns Facebook and Twitter users about contempt of court

A change in policy has been announced whereby the Attorney General will publish advisory notes to help prevent social media users from committing a contempt of court. This is designed to help inform the public about the legal pitfalls of commenting on Facebook and Twitter in a way which could be seen as prejudicial to a court case or those involved.

New guidance issued to ensure youth offending teams remain effective

The Ministry of Justice has published 'Modern Youth Offending Partnerships – Guidance on effective youth offending team governance in England' which recognises the many significant reforms both nationally and locally which have affected Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and statutory partners.

Revised guidance on disclosure issued to the legal profession

The Attorney General and the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales have published a revised judicial protocol and revised guidance on the disclosure of unused material in criminal cases. This follows the recommendations of Lord Justice Gross in his September 2011 'Review of Disclosure in Criminal Proceedings' and takes account of Lord Justice Gross and Lord Justice Treacy's 'Further review of disclosure in criminal proceedings: sanctions for disclosure failure' published in November 2012.

A [review of the Health and Safety Executive \(HSE\)](#), lead by Martin Temple, has now been published. The review concludes that the functions performed by HSE are still required, and that it should be retained as a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB). The report sets out the review process, an analysis of HSE's functions, measures to improve for the future and considers arrangements for corporate governance.

[Greening Government Commitments – second annual report](#)

The Greening Government Commitments (GGCs) are targets for reducing the environmental impact of government estates and operations over the lifetime of this Parliament. The second annual report of progress against the GGCs in 2012 to 2013 demonstrates transparently that government departments in England and their arms' length bodies are delivering more efficient estates and operations by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from buildings and travel, creating less waste, consuming less water, and procuring more sustainably.

Public audit exemption guidance updated

Just before Christmas, the ICO published updated guidance on the [section 33 public audit exemption](#) under the FOI Act. Section 33 applies to public authorities that carry out audit or audit-type inspections of other public authorities, such as Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission and HM Inspectorate of Prisons.

The Universal Credit scheme is expected to face delays as Cabinet Office IT experts withdraw from the project. A spokesperson from the Department for Work and Pensions said: "Our primary concern remains ensuring that this vital reform is delivered in a safe and secure way" ([Guardian](#)).

Danny Alexander MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, has announced a scheme to offer members of the public and businesses the chance to buy government land and property on the open market. The proposal aims to make more land available for housing and local businesses ([City A.M.](#)).

[Delivering integrated care at pace and scale](#)

Integration of health and care is now the key objective of health reform. With healthcare needs changing because of an ageing population and the growing prevalence of chronic conditions such as diabetes, many experts and NHS leaders have advocated joining up health and care services. In recent months NHS England, the Government and the Opposition have announced new initiatives and proposals to deliver integration at pace and scale.

4. Consultations

[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.

The Home Office have outlined plans to allow holidaymakers and business travellers to pay to skip passport queues when entering the UK. The proposal is part of a consultation paper which aims to cover the costs of the UK Border Force, using the income from passengers to help fund the UK's immigration system ([Telegraph](#); [Mail](#)).

Local authority parking strategies

The Government has launched a consultation in which it invites views on local authority parking strategies and government options for parking enforcement. The consultation is open until 14th February 2014.

The Public Accounts Committee has revealed that up to £55 billion a year is being lost to the taxpayer due to fraud, error and unpaid taxes. The Committee called on the Treasury to develop a strategy for tackling fraud through the public sector ([Times](#); [Mirror](#); [BBC Online](#)).

Government approves low-level lights to boost cyclists' safety

More than 80% of cyclists favoured the use of low-level signals during the track-based trials of the system, which works by repeating the signal displayed on main traffic lights at the eye level of cyclists.

Future funding of the Housing Ombudsman

The Government has announced a consultation on the proposal to extend the Housing Ombudsman's existing fee charging model to local authority landlords from April 2014. This consultation closes on 30th January 2014.

Fingerprint comparison consultation document – Plus [appendix](#).

This is a consultation issued to allow comments from interested parties; all comments will be given consideration when finalising the fingerprint comparison Appendix FSR-C-128 prior to publication. Comments should be sent to FSRConsultation1@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk and should be submitted by 20 January 2014.

Plan for joint inspections by Criminal Justice inspectorates

On 15 January the four Criminal Justice Inspectorates published a consultation setting out the proposed joint inspection activity in the criminal justice system from 2014 to 2016. The consultation asks two specific questions, 'Do any work streams duplicate, overlap or clash with inspections or other work you have planned (or are otherwise aware of) for 2014/15 or 2015/16? Are there any other subject areas that warrant inclusion in our criminal justice joint inspection programme?'. The consultation closes on 31 January.

College of Policing's Strategic Intent

Consultation on ideas and views on this important strategic intent.

Climate Change - Enforcement and Sanctions Guidance

This consultation explains a proposed approach to enforcement for the European Union Emissions Trading System, CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme and Climate Change Agreements. Closing date 21 March 2014.

[The Transforming Rehabilitation programme and the LGPS](#)

This consultation paper relates to the draft statutory instrument that enacts the technical changes to the local government pension scheme (LGPS). The draft regulations allow the continued participation in the Local Government Pension Scheme by employees engaged in probation services (within the Secretary of State for Justice's Transforming Rehabilitation Reforms) when they are transferred to the National Probation Service or a Commercial Rehabilitation Company. The Regulations allow for the benefits of all probation services employees (past and present) to be administered by one administering authority and for the transfer of all past service liabilities in relation to those employees to that one authority. The consultation closes on 10 February and the regulations are planned to come into effect on 1 April.

5. Reviews and Inspections

[HMIC announces new programme of annual inspections](#)

On 18 December, Damian Green gave a written ministerial statement on the Provisional Police Funding Settlement. In his statement, he announced that HMIC will be undertaking a new annual programme of inspection for all forces. HMIC welcomed this decision, saying that together with its thematic work, the new programme will give the public a clear and reliable picture of how their force compares with other forces, and whether or not there has been an improvement in performance. The new inspections will focus on how well each force is cutting crime, providing a service that is fair and providing value for money. There will be a consultation on the plans for the new inspections, with more information being made available soon.

[Making best use of police time](#) - Valuing the Police is a major Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) programme to inspect the efficiency and effectiveness of police forces. This work will begin in the new year with the findings to be published in the summer.

[Terms of reference for the investigation into the conduct of three Police Federation representatives](#) - Following this incident on 12 October 2012 Mr Mitchell attended a meeting with three Police Federation representatives: Inspector Ken MacKaill of West Mercia Constabulary, Detective Sergeant (DS) Stuart Hinton of Warwickshire Police and Sergeant (PS) Chris Jones of West Midlands Police at his constituency offices in Sutton Coldfield. Immediately after the meeting Inspector MacKaill gave a statement to the media in which he said that Mr Mitchell had "refused to elaborate" on the events of 19 September and that he should therefore resign.

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.

[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.

Started 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 HMCPSP'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.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary

Police Custody: Good practice examples.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The Home Affairs Committee has announced an inquiry into female genital mutilation (FGM).

Cheshire PCC commissions HMIC to review force's response to burglary dwelling

Earlier this month, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire commissioned HMIC to review how well Cheshire Constabulary investigates cases of burglary in a dwelling. The review will include how the force processes crime reports, attends the crime scene, gathers evidence, investigates the crime and charges the offender. According to HMIC's website, HMIC will look at the force's governance structure and its methods to gather intelligence and prevent incidents. It will look at the way the force handles its staff and other resources and the strategies for managing offenders and reducing re-offending.

Joint inspection of police custody facilities

On 7 January, HMIC announced that under the scrutiny requirements of the UN Optional Protocol against Torture, the UK is obliged to ensure regular and independent inspection of all places of detention. To meet this requirement HMIC and HMIP (HMI Prisons) have established a programme of inspections of custody conditions in all police forces and London Borough commands. There will be an average of 12 inspections per year and the programme is expected to take five to six years to deliver. The inspections will be a mixture of announced and unannounced inspections, with individual reports for each inspection and periodic 'thematics'.