



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](#)

Following the implementation of remaining provisions of the Presumption of Death Act 2013, from 1 October 2014 a legal framework will exist for the creation of a presumption of death certificate scheme in England and Wales – bringing it in line with Scotland and Northern Ireland.

[Home Office commitment to review legislation](#)

The Home Office has committed to review certain parts of primary and secondary legislation. It includes a commitment to review s103 – 123 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 by 30 January 2017.

[Proposals to reform judicial review](#)

Proposals to reform judicial review process were published by the Ministry of Justice.

[Home Office circular 006/2014 on police regulations](#)

This circular refers to amendments to determinations made under Police Regulations 2003.

[Police pension scheme 1987](#)

Guidance on commutation on retirement was published on 11 July. It refers to Regulation B7 of The Police Pensions Regulations 1987 (SI 1987/257).

[Presentation of the Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Bill](#)

Bill to make provision, in consequence of a declaration of invalidity made by the Court of Justice of the European Union in relation to Directive 2006/24/EC, about the retention of certain communications data; to amend the grounds for issuing interception warrants, or granting or giving certain authorisations or notices, under Part 1 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000; to make provision about the extra-territorial application of that

Part and about the meaning of “telecommunications service” for the purposes of that Act; and for connected purposes.

[Queen's Speech 2014](#)

Introduced the following 11 Bills:

- Armed Forces (Service Complaints and Financial Assistance) Bill
- Childcare Payments Bill
- Infrastructure Bill
- [Modern Slavery Bill](#)
- National Insurance Contributions Bill
- Private Pensions Bill
- Pensions Tax Bill
- Recall of MPs Bill
- [Serious Crime Bill](#)
- Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill
- Social Action, Responsibility and Heroism Bill
- Protection of Charities Bill
- Riot (Damages) Bill
- National Park Authorities (Elections) Bill

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

The Immigration Bill has received Royal Assent making way for a series of reforms which will ensure our immigration system is fairer to British citizens and legitimate migrants and tougher on those with no right to be here. The Immigration Act 2014 contains 77 clauses and makes fundamental changes to how our immigration system functions.

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

[Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 Amendments](#)

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act, which has been updated to reflect the latest amendments.

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

These documents contain some updates from when they were last published. They include a schedule of when the various sections of the Act are being implemented.

[Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014](#)

It provides many of the measures which underpin the Transforming Rehabilitation programme.

[Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour \(Amount of Penalty\) \(Amendment\) Order 2014](#)

The UK Government has taken the view that the risks and potential harms associated with khat are sufficient as to warrant its control as a Class C drug – alongside its active ingredients. This Order sets the amount of penalty that a person will have to pay when given a penalty notice for disorder (PND) for the offence of possession of khat.

[The Terrorism Act 2000 \(Proscribed Organisations\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Order 2014](#)

This Order amends the Terrorism Act 2000 by adding groups to the list of proscribed organisations

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

2. Strategic policing and crime news

Police and Crime Commissioners welcome new plans to coordinate chief police officers

Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) have welcomed chief officers' decision to support new arrangements to replace the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

[Reform - The expert citizen](#)

Reform have published a new report on the importance of citizen engagement in policing to manage demand over the long term. The research argues that the police service can successfully cope with further cuts in budgets if it mobilises the active support of "expert citizens" and recommends "an entirely different way of working" for the police which sees the public as assets in the fight against crime. It also recommends that police forces use private sector expertise to rebuild public confidence in policing.

[New profiling system for national DNA database](#)

The Home Office have published a paper on the move to a new profiling system for the national DNA database, which it states is more sensitive and more precise.

[IPCC survey on improving confidence in the police complaints system](#)

A survey commissioned by the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC), and conducted by IPSOS MORI. The survey found that one in three people in England and Wales are not confident that if they complain to the police their complaint will be handled fairly.

[All Party Parliamentary Group on Children published report on children being stopped and searched](#)

A report was published by the All Party Parliamentary Group for Children inquiry into children and the police. It is an initial analysis of information requests made to police forces and finds that in 19 forces over the last 5 years one in five or a quarter of stops were on children, including hundreds of under 10s.

[Ministerial Reshuffle](#)

A reshuffle has been taking place and the Prime Minister has announced new ministerial appointments.

Mike Penning confirmed as Minister of Policing, Criminal Justice and Victims

In David Cameron's Ministerial reshuffle, Damian Green has been replaced by Mike Penning who has now been confirmed as the new Minister of Policing, Criminal Justice and Victims. He will work jointly for the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice.

[College of Policing's Code of Ethics laid before Parliament](#)

The College of Policing's Code of Ethics was laid before Parliament today and becomes an official code of conduct. Alongside this announcement, the College published information on a survey of the public undertaken on the code.

IPCC

Has published its [Annual report and accounts for 2013/14](#), and the annual [Deaths during or following police contact: Statistics for England and Wales for 2013/14](#).

Five countries unite over cybercrime

Cybercrime will be discussed by Attorneys General from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK and the USA.

New Responsibility Deal alcohol pledges published

The Responsibility Deal Alcohol Network has a new set of alcohol pledges which tackle alcohol misuse and promote responsible drinking.

British Academy for humanities and social sciences

A Presumption Against Imprisonment: Social Order and Social Values.

Home Office

Caught red-handed: Why we can't count Police Recorded Crime Statistics.

Ministry of Justice

Leaflet for victims of crime: resource for police forces (updated).

Government Response to Home Affairs Committee Report on Reform of the Police Federation published

The Home Affairs Committee has published the Government's Response to the report as a Special Report.

Home Secretary's statement on the use of data communications and interception

The Home Secretary Theresa May made a statement to the House of Commons on 10 July regarding the use of data communications and interception.

Home Secretary's Statement on child abuse investigations

The Home Secretary made a statement to Parliament on child abuse investigations on the specific concerns that in the 1980s the Home Office failed to act on allegations of child sex abuse and that public bodies and other important institutions have failed to take seriously their duty of care towards children.

Home Office crime and policing news update

It includes items on the Modern Slavery Bill, Serious Crime Bill, professional development of senior public service commissioners, police procurement and digital pathfinders.

3. Developments and reports

Crime in England and Wales, period ending March 2014

The CSEW covers a broad range of victim based crimes and includes crimes which do not come to the attention of the police. Decreases were evident for most major crime types

compared with the previous year; violence saw a 20% fall, criminal damage fell by 17%, and theft offences decreased by 10%.

Crime and police workforce statistics

Statistics cover police officers, police staff, police community support officers, designated officers and special constables. See the [‘User Guide to Police Workforce Statistics’](#) for further information, including a glossary, conventions used and other background information.

Police and Crime Chief Executives, MOPAC, City of London Police Authority

This circular announces updated Home Office guidance on police officer misconduct, unsatisfactory performance and attendance management procedures.

Social Value Portal

The [Centre for Citizenship, Enterprise and Governance](#) have been asked by advisors to [Hazel Blears MP](#) to assess the impact of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

Ministry of Justice

Youth Justice Board for England and Wales: annual report and accounts: 2013 to 2014.

Justice Committee submits views on sentencing for theft, encourages greater use of restorative justice

The Sentencing Council periodically issues draft Sentencing Guidelines for public consultation. Under s. 120(6)(c) of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, the Council is required to consult the House of Commons Justice Select Committee on draft Guidelines. The Justice Committee therefore provides parliamentary oversight of Sentencing Guideline development.

Brake supports proposed penalty point increase for risky mobile phone use

Brake, the road safety charity, has welcomed reports that the government is considering doubling penalty points for using a mobile phone while driving. The reports say the move has been recommended by Metropolitan Police chief Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe and Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin has asked his officials to look into the idea.

£16m Youth Engagement Fund being promoted across the country

It was announced that the Youth Engagement Fund of £16m is being promoted across the country. It aims to improve young people’s educational achievement and employment options.

Organisations awarded for funding published

On 7 July, various documents were published by the Ministry of Justice on organisations awarded for different funds in different years.

[Organisations awarded the female rape support fund for 2014-16](#)

[Organisations awarded the peer support fund for 2012-14](#)

[Organisations awarded the victims and witnesses homicide fund for 2011-12](#)

NHS England

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Tier 4 report.

[Special measures scheme for failing care homes](#)

Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP the Health Secretary, who set out proposals to introduce a “special measures” regime for care homes, similar to the one that is responsible for turning around failing hospitals.

The third of [NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups](#) that were reported to have no plans to retender community services despite widespread expectation among public and independent sector providers that these contracts would come up for tender between now and April 2016.

On Tuesday, an independent review of [Staff Engagement and Empowerment](#) in the NHS called for the “accelerated evolution” of alternative models of healthcare provider, including staff owned mutuals.

[Essex’s domestic abuse campaign ‘successful’](#)

A joint partnership between Essex County Council and Essex Police to raise awareness of domestic abuse has been heralded a great success.

On Tuesday, data from the [Office for National Statistics](#) showed that the number of working age people leaving the UK fell by 26,000 in the last year to reach the lowest level since 2001.

[Nottingham Council rolls out SEN scheme](#)

Nottinghamshire County Council announced a new scheme aimed at helping pupils with special educational needs and disabilities get to and from school each day.

[Broadband in Northamptonshire to expand](#)

An additional 3,000 homes and businesses will be able to access high-speed fibre-optic broadband under the Superfast Northamptonshire project.

[Law Commission](#)

Data sharing between Public Bodies.

[Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Troubled Families Programme: progress information and families turned around.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Justice Data Lab statistics: July 2014.

[Council call for cut of fast food VAT to tackle obesity](#)

Councils are calling for at least a fifth of the current value of VAT on fast food, soft drinks and confectionary to be ringfenced for local areas to tackle the growing levels of obesity in their areas.

[Cost savings not the overall solution for local government pensions – NAPF](#)

The government should focus on individual fund performance within the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) with plans to bring poorly-performing funds up to standard, rather than focusing purely on how to reduce costs, the [National Association of Pension Funds](#) (NAPF) has stated.

[Government wants greater 'transparency' on council home values](#)

The government has outlined plans to allow – for the first time – the public in England to see the value of council housing stock assets, in an effort to increase 'transparency'.

[Ageing population putting pressure on public spending – OBR](#)

Tax increases or further spending cuts will be needed in the future to help meet the costs of the UK's ageing population, the financial watchdog has warned.

[Labour vows to open up procurement contracts to social enterprises](#)

Public service contracts could be 'reserved' for social enterprises under plans outlined by Labour, to ensure they are not "locked out" of contracts by the same few big companies.

[Council tax collection rates and statistics](#)

On 3 July, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published collection rates for Council Tax and non-domestic rates in England for 2013-14.

[New fund to help councils tackle fraud](#)

On 2 July, a new fund was announced to help councils tackle fraud – the Counter Fraud Fund which is worth £16 million over the financial years 2014-2015 and 2015-16.

[Unemployment down by 121,000](#)

Labour Market Statistics.

MPs call for cycling budget of £10 per head by 2020

A cycling budget of £10 per head by 2020 is essential to fund long-term development of cycling infrastructure and to make our roads safer for cycling, say MPs on the Transport Select Committee.

4. Consultations

[College of Policing's consultation on detention and custody](#)

This consultation on new police guidance on detention and custody was published on 24 June. The closing date is 12 August.

[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.

[1st August 2014 - Reform of Damages Act 1986](#)

[14th August 2014 - Setting the persistent child poverty target](#)

[Consultation launched on the management of dangerous offenders](#)

New guidance is to be published by the College of Policing which will cover the police role in MAPPA arrangements as well as other aspects of managing dangerous offenders. The

consultation runs until 5th September 2014.

[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.

[Custody consultation looks at use of force](#)

The College of Policing has launched a consultation on new guidance covering the management of people who have been detained. The [document looks in particular at procedures for dealing with those placed in custody](#) – but not arrested - using the Mental Health Act, as well as recommending that any such decision is reviewed by a superintendent. The guidance also recommends that 'standard data' should be collected on the use of force on those who are being detained. Consultation closes on 12th August.

[Healthcare UK is holding its first open strategy consultation](#)

Healthcare UK is inviting its stakeholders to take part in an open consultation on the 24th July to review the 2014/15 business plan.

[Setting the 2020 persistent child poverty target](#)

The Government is seeking views on a proposed new persistent child poverty target for the UK to be achieved by 2020. The consultation runs until 14th August.

[HMIC asks public for views on new assessments of police forces in England and Wales](#)

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has launched a consultation in relation to its new approach to assessing police force performance in England and Wales. Closes Friday 29 August 2014.

[Setting the 2020 persistent child poverty target](#)

Seeking views on a proposed new persistent child poverty target for the UK, to be achieved by 2020. Consultation closes on the 14/08/2014.

[Protecting personal health and care data](#)

Seeks views on proposals to introduce tighter controls and safeguards on the use of personal health and care data. Consultation closes on the 08/08/2014.

[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**

[Reform of the Riot \(Damages\) Act](#)

Consultation on proposals to reform and modernise the Riot (Damages) Act 1886. The consultation will close on 1 August 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](#)

This inspection examined how well police forces have established the arrangements that the Strategic Policing Requirement requires them to have in place to counter a number of specified threats to national security and public safety. It is based on data and documentary evidence provided by all 43 police forces in England and Wales in July 2013. It includes supporting fieldwork, conducted in 18 forces, and in nine Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCs).

[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.