Weekly e Briefing: 18 October 2013

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

The **Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill** completed its passage through the Commons, and now goes to the Lords for consideration.

The Home Office has produced a number of documents relating to the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill

- Overarching documents
- Policing Anti-Social Behaviour
- <u>Tackling irresponsible dog ownership</u>

The Joint Committee on Human Rights has published its report on the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill.

Lords motion to agree the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Amendment: Qualifying Offences) Order 2013 - Oct 15

Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000

Describes the background to Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000 and considers its operation in the context of recent controversy and proposed changes under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill.

Immigration Bill to reduce 'pull factors' of UK

Immigrants will be subject to a series of checks when applying for housing, healthcare and banking under the new Immigration Bill.

2. Policing and crime key developments

The IPCC has concluded its investigation into the Police and Crime Commissioners for North Wales and Hampshire.

<u>IPCC disagrees with findings of West Mercia investigation into conduct of Police</u> <u>Federation representatives over a meeting with Andrew Mitchell MP.</u>

Announcement on Direct entry to the police

This written ministerial statement was laid in the House of Commons on 14 October 2013 by Damian Green, and in the House of Lords by Lord Taylor of Holbeach.

College of Policing commission on direct entry to the police

College of Policing has been commissioned to lead on the development of direct entry schemes for policing following recommendations from the Winsor review into policing.

The Minister for Policing and Criminal Justice, Damian Green MP, has announced that Police and Crime Commissioners will be able to recruit Chief Constables from abroad, so long as their criminal justice system is similar to the UK's.

New recruitment rules also mean that individuals can become superintendents in the police without first being a police constable (<u>Guardian</u>).

ACPO marks refreshing of speed enforcement guidance

On the publication of refreshed guidance on speed enforcement, including 20 mph zones, National Policing Lead on Roads Policing, Chief Constable Suzette Davenport said: "We are very pleased to be able to publish our newly-refreshed guidance on speed enforcement".

Detention of children in police custody regularly reviewed

Figures published on children in custody. 800 children spend night behind bars every week with some as young as ten.

Brake welcomes 20mph enforcement guidance

Brake has welcomed guidance from the Association of Chief Police Officers clarifying the police position on enforcement of 20mph speed limits and reveals plans for tailored speed awareness courses for drivers who break 20mph limits.

Advance notice: meeting of Policing APPG

The APPG on Policing is to hold a meeting on equalities in senior ranks of policing on Monday 11th November when Sir Peter Fahy, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police and Vice President of ACPO, will be giving evidence.

Shadow City

Exposing human trafficking in everyday London. London, as the capital city, has a vast dark side to it that few of us see. London residents don't believe they ever come into contact with it, but they are wrong. As Andrew Boff's report shows, Londoners are probably never more than a few hundred yards away from a victim of trafficking.

Mobile phone companies join Home Office fight against phone theft

A Home Office summit to tackle the growing number of mobile phone thefts has stepped up work to look at how security features can be used to make handsets less attractive to thieves, Crime Prevention Minister Norman Baker has announced.

How teens' 'sexting' photos end up on paedophile websites.

Internet Watch Foundation warned how many explicit images are uploaded. They are often self-portraits by schoolgirls under pressure from boys. Research by the foundation unearthed 12,000 images in just 40 hours.

Sexual offences: Wrong questions asked of victims, says Keir Starmer.

Victims of sexual offences have been afraid of reporting them because police have asked "the wrong questions", the director of public prosecutions for England and Wales has said.

Scotland Yard's new base designed by Google HQ firm.

Officials have chosen the architects who will design Google's new headquarters at King's Cross to re-design London's new police HQ.

£500 bonus for officers to deal with dead bodies backed by police chiefs.

The payments recognise when the work being done can try even the toughest emotional and professional resolve, said the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

Drink-driving increases among elderly.

Police forces reported that 232 over-75s were caught driving over the legal limit last year, including a 93-year-old stopped in Devon. This represents a 20 per cent increase since 2010, said the car insurer Swiftcover.com.

Severance: 'Officers let down by ACPO'.

Federation members feel "deeply let down" by colleagues from the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) over the compulsory severance issue, the Fed Chairman has said.

PCCs reviewing chief officers' terms and conditions.

Police and crime commissioners are looking into chief officers' terms and conditions – including expenses and allowances – to assess whether they are fair and transparent.

Force health units 'cannot cope with stressed staff'.

Occupational health units are lacking the resources and manpower to deal with officers and staff suffering mental health issues due to soaring stress levels, it has been revealed.

Hate Crime Awareness Week

This will be from 12th to 19th October.

New powers for tighter restrictions on sex offenders

New measures have been announced that will give greater powers to the police to protect the vulnerable from sexual predators.

Serious and organised crime strategy

The Government has set out how they will prevent people getting involved in serious and organised crime.

Framework document for the National Crime Agency - Sets out the accountability, management, operational and financial arrangements of the National Crime

Understanding organised crime: estimating the scale and social and economic costs

Department for Communities and Local Government - Live tables on social housing sales.

Home Office Understanding criminal careers in organised crime.

Undercover police legal battle continues.

Officers suspended over claims they had sex at police station while on duty.

Gay hate crime victims 'not being taken seriously'.

3. Reports

Public sector absences at 8.7 days a year

Absence in the public sector remains higher than the average for the wider economy, a new survey from the CIPD and Simplyhealth shows.

E-borders scheme 'yet to deliver benefits'

A number of failures have been identified in the UK e-borders scheme in a new <u>report</u> by the independent chief inspector of borders and immigration. John Vine found that vital information was deleted and new arrivals to the UK were not checked by the scheme.

Demand management can improve access and cut costs - Socitm

Local authorities must use demand management to reduce "unnecessary" enquiries and pressure on services, Socitm has advised.

Advisory Council seeking members

The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs is seeking members with expertise in a number of drug related areas.

Government funds new mental health service for children and young people

A £50,000 investment means that children and young people will be able to access an online advice service for support dealing with issues such as depression and anxiety.

National Audit Office

Departmental Overview: The performance of the Ministry of Justice 2012-13.

Public Health England

Turning evidence into practice: Biological testing in drug and alcohol treatment.

The Home Affairs Select Committee has published its report on Asylum

The Justice Select Committee has approved Paul McDowell as the next HM Chief Inspector of Probation.

Women on company boards: go for 40% of non-executive posts by 2020, urge MEPs

EU-listed companies should aim to ensure, by 2020, that at least 40% of their non-executive board members are women, so as to promote gender equality in economic decision making, say draft rules proposed by the European Commission and backed by the Women's Rights and Gender Equality and Legal Affairs committees today. In 2012, only 15% of non-executive board members at the EU's largest companies were women.

A report by the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission has warned that today's middle-class children will be the first in more than 100 years to be worse off as adults than their parents. The report highlights graduate debt, the high unemployment of 18–24 year olds, and low home ownership as contributing factors (<u>Guardian</u>; <u>Independent</u>; <u>Mail</u>).

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne MP, has announced that Chinese tourists will no longer need to apply for an extra UK visa when visiting the EU. The new plan aims to let the UK share in China's increasing wealth after a study showed that China's wealthy tourists were spending money in other EU countries and not applying for a separate UK visa (FT; Telegraph; Guardian; Independent; BBC Online).

The Prime Minister David Cameron has announced a new "employment allowance" to help small firms reduce the amount they pay in national insurance, worth around £2,000 for each business. The legislation, based on an announcement in this year's Budget, will benefit around 1.25 million businesses, 450,000 of which will no longer pay any national insurance (Telegraph; Guardian).

The Chief Inspector of Adult Social Care, Andrea Sutcliffe, has announced that members of the public who have experience of social care will be recruited to carry out inspections of adult care services alongside experienced inspectors. Care services will be ranked from poor to excellent under new plans to improve current adult care services (Guardian; Independent).

4. Consultations

Alcohol fraud: next steps

This consultation provides further details and seeks views on the next steps the Government plans to take to tackle existing and emerging threats to the UK alcohol duty regime. The consultation runs until 28 October.

Conducting Privacy Impact Assessments Code of Practice consultation

The ICO is consulting on its draft <u>'Conducting privacy impact assessments code of practice'</u> 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 <u>NICE public health guidance 18 (2009)</u>. 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.

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

Local Consultations <u>School Admissions consultation on electronic process</u> <u>Language Solutions (Translations and Interpretations) Service Review</u> <u>Leisure Centre Satisfaction Survey</u> <u>Heathfield Primary and Nursery school proposal</u>

City Adult Draft Mental Health Strategy Consultation