



## 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

### [Election 2015: Prime Minister and ministerial appointments](#)

Following the 2015 general election, David Cameron has formed a government.

### [Immigration Act 2014: appeals](#)

Policy guidance on the appeals process from the Immigration Act 2014.

### ['Legal highs' to be banned under temporary power](#)

Ban on five substances will come into force at 00:01 on Friday 10 April for up to 12 months.

[www.asbtools.co.uk](http://www.asbtools.co.uk) is a new website that allows practitioners to share their experiences of using the new ASB tools and powers which commenced on 20th October.

### [Historic law to end Modern Slavery passed](#)

A landmark Bill to help eradicate modern slavery received Royal Assent. The Modern Slavery Act 2015 is the first of its kind in Europe, and one of the first in the world, to specifically address slavery and trafficking in the 21st century.

### [The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 \(Risk of Being Drawn into Terrorism\) \(Amendment and Guidance\) Regulations 2015](#)

### [Serious Crime Bill: overarching documents](#)

### [New rules to crackdown on violent prisoners comes into force](#)

### [Bill on PCC recall](#)

### [Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#)

## Upcoming secondary legislation published

### **SI 2015/626 The Police (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations 2015**

These Regulations came into force **1 May 2015**. Regulation 4 came into force on 13 March 2015 and Regulation 5 comes into force on 1 January 2016.

### **SI 2015/625 The Police Appeals Tribunals (Amendment) Rules 2015**

These Rules came into force on 1 May 2015.

### **SI 2015/704 The Misuse of Drugs (Designation) (England, Wales and Scotland) Order 2015**

This Order, which extends to England, Wales and Scotland comes into force on **31 May 2015**.

### **SI 2015/800 The Serious Crime Act 2015 (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2015**

These Regulations came into force on **3 May 2015**.

### **SI 2015/820 The Serious Crime Act 2015 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2015**

Regulation 2 brings into force on **3 May 2015** provisions of the 2015 Act relating to computer misuse, serious crime prevention orders, the seizure and forfeiture of drug-cutting agents, child cruelty, child sexual exploitation, termination of pregnancy on grounds of sex of foetus and the new offences of participating in the activities of an organised crime group and the possession of a paedophile manual. Regulation 2 also brings into force on the same date consequential amendments in Schedule 4 to the 2015 Act that relate to these provisions, and to sections 72 and 80 of the 2015 Act, which are commenced by section 88(4) and (5) of the Act.

## **2. Strategic policing and crime news**

### **Rotherham police prioritised burglary and car crime over child abuse**

A researcher who supplied the council and police with reports detailing the child sexual exploitation problem in Rotherham was told that “it was awful but burglary and car crime were policing priorities”.

### **National Rural Crime Network Brochure**

A new revised brochure has just been added to the new National website.

### **POCA Codes of Practice**

New and revised codes of practice on the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 were published on 21 April as a result of changes to legislation. There is a code providing guidance on exercising new powers to search and seize and detain property, a code providing guidance on the operation of the investigation powers and a code providing guidance on the operation of the powers to search for criminal cash.

### **College of Policing launches secure website for police guidance**

The website will host Authorised Professional Practice (APP) which was created by the College as the official source of professional practice and which aims to provide a consistent national approach to high-risk areas of policing.

## **Policy Paper: 2010 to 2015 government policy: reoffending and rehabilitation**

What the government is doing to reduce reoffending to reduce the number of victims and the cost to the taxpayer.

## **Policy Paper: 2010 to 2015 government policy: alcohol sales**

How the government is introducing new measures to fight alcohol-related crime and antisocial behaviour.

## **Policy Paper: 2010 to 2015 government policy: violence against women and girls**

How the government is supporting victims of domestic violence and abuse and making sure perpetrators are brought to justice.

### **3. Developments and reports**

#### **Voter turnout hits the 66% mark**

Local government staff have been praised for running a 'smooth, efficient and robust' election, with figures showing voter turnout was around 66% yesterday.

#### **The two-minute silence: remembrance of the Glorious Dead**

On VE Day the nation will fall silent at 3pm to mark the enormous sacrifice of those across Europe who gave their lives to protect their nation in the Second World War.

#### **DBS criminal record checks: police performance**

View statistics showing how police disclosure units have performed against published service standards.

#### **Prison population figures: 2015**

Latest prison population figures for 2015.

#### **Youth custody data**

Monthly statistics on the population in custody of children and young people within the secure estate.

#### **Police launch new Tower Hamlets probe**

Police are investigating four new allegations of electoral fraud at scandal-stricken Tower Hamlets after the borough's mayor was found guilty of corrupt practices.

#### **UK's first Tri-Service Safety Officer appointed in Cornwall**

The "groundbreaking idea" of a tri-service officer is being introduced in the Cornish town of Hayle – also home to the county's first emergency services hub. As the UK's first Tri-Service Safety Officer, Andrew Hichens is a qualified on call firefighter with Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service; an emergency first responder for South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust and has also been trained in specific crime and disorder duties with Devon and Cornwall Police.

#### **Teachers given training on radicalisation**

School and college leaders are to be offered seminars to help them stop young people being drawn into extremism and radicalisation.

## **Data sharing to prevent fraud**

After conducting a survey into the data sharing arrangements between public authorities and Specified Anti-Fraud Organisations (SAFOs), the ICO has published a report reviewing how these organisations share data to prevent fraud. The review report looks at the data sharing arrangements already in place and establishes whether they meet the recommendations in our statutory Code of Practice on Data Sharing, the Home Office's Data Sharing for the Prevention of Fraud Code of Practice and the requirements of the DPA.

## **Feedback on ICO Big Data report**

Last year the ICO published a discussion paper on [big data and data protection](#). In the paper they invited responses to three key questions:

- Does the paper adequately reflect the data protection issues arising from big data?
- What further guidance, if any, should our office provide?
- Are other practical measures and tools needed to protect data privacy?

The summary of the feedback has now been published.

## **Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations (PECR)**

The ICO's website has been updated to make it easier to access information about the PECR. The new pages have been designed as a plain language guide to enable you to navigate your way through our PECR guidance.

## **Victory for council after pothole fraudster found guilty**

A man who tried to sue a council for £50,000 after blaming a moped accident on a pothole has been given six months in jail.

## **Service Dogs UK - helping police veterans with PTSD**

Service Dogs UK is a new Charitable organisation that trains 'rescue' dogs to help veterans with PTSD and in doing so, improves the lives of both.

## **Social work infographics reveal 'difficult' reality of the profession**

Two new infographics have revealed the 'varied and complicated' working lives of social workers in a public awareness push.

## **Early intervention fund for councils could save £17bn, claim charities**

Early intervention into the lives of troubled young people could save the Government almost £17bn every year, a coalition of over 50 charities has claimed.

## **Empowered communities urged to enter £10,000 prize fund**

A nationwide competition has been launched today, offering £10,000 to organisations that help re-shape public services.

## **Apolitical, long-term housing strategy needed – KPMG**

With the gap between house prices and wages still growing, the next government needs an apolitical, long-term housing strategy, engaging both public and private sectors, research from KPMG has reiterated.

## **Medical staff shortage risking lives of detainees**

A shortage of medical staff for detainees in the East of England is putting lives at risk, a health worker has warned.

## [Charities accuse UK of breaching UN human rights on housing](#)

The UK is in breach of its United Nations human rights commitment to provide people with adequate homes due to the housing crisis, according to a coalition of leading charities.

## [Cloud computing use growing in public services despite security concerns](#)

Cloud computing is either already in use or being piloted by almost 90% of local public service providers despite 'underlying' concerns about security, a new report from Socitm has revealed.

## [Study warns of obesity timebomb](#)

The UK is facing an obesity 'crisis' with the majority of people expected to be overweight by 2030, new research is warning.

## [LGA launches social media learning hub for councils](#)

A new social media hub has been launched to help local government get to grips with Twitter and online communication.

## [Policy paper: 2010 to 2015 government policy: corporate accountability](#)

Making companies more accountable will make them more attractive to investors and make the public want to buy their products and services.

## [Policy paper: 2010 to 2015 government policy: weapons proliferation](#)

Securing global safety by preventing countries and terrorists access to the materials needed for weapons of mass destruction, and by mitigating the effects of land mines and cluster munitions.

## [Policy paper: 2010 to 2015 government policy: Regional Growth Fund](#)

Using the Regional Growth Fund to support businesses to create and protect jobs in the private sector, particularly where public sector employment is reducing.

## [Policy paper: 2010 to 2015 government policy: European funds](#)

Negotiating the European Union (EU) Common Strategic Framework for 2014 to 2020.

## 4. Consultations

### [Local Government Association](#)

Remodelling public protection: The future of councils' regulatory services.

### [Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Parking reform: tackling unfair practices. Closes 27 May 2015.

### [Cabinet Office](#)

Public service ombudsman. Closes 16 June 2015.

### [Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Extending the remit of the Local Government Ombudsman to larger parish and town councils. Closes 30 June 2015.

## [Strengthening rights for people with learning disabilities](#)

Consultation to seek the views to strengthen rights of people with learning disabilities, autism and mental health issues to enable them to live independently. Closes on the 29 May 2015.

### **Sentencing Council tackles dangerous dogs**

The Sentencing Council has published proposals for how courts should sentence people convicted of dangerous dog offences. The consultation is open until 9th June 2015.

### **Nice Domestic Violence Quality Standard Upcoming Consultation**

Nice are seeking views and comments on the draft guidance and guidelines for Domestic Violence from the Quality standards programme. The Consultation will run from 11 May to 9 June.

### **Open access restriction at Cooplaw: how to comment**

Open date: 17/04/2015

Close date: 15/05/2015

## 5. Reviews and Inspections

### **IPCC investigates death of man restrained by police outside Devon pub**

Devon and Cornwall police launch criminal inquiry into death of man who fell unconscious while he was being restrained after disturbance in Paignton.

### **Inspection regime failing to protect vulnerable says report**

Ofsted inspections of children's services are 'outdated' and 'one-dimensional,' according to a new report from Impower.

### **HM Inspector of Probation**

A joint inspection of the treatment of offenders with learning disabilities within the criminal justice system - phase two in custody and the community.