



Commissioner's horizon scanning briefing

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1. Policy and Practice

[Increases in the reporting of Hate Crime – 8th July 2016](#)

The National Police Chiefs' Council are monitoring weekly hate crimes returns from police forces following increases in reporting to the True Vision website. 3,076 hate crimes and incidents were reported to UK police forces between 16th and 30th June 2016, marking a 42% increase (+915) on the same period last year. While hate crime reporting peaked nationally on 25th June 2016, a marked decrease has since been observed. NPCC Lead for Hate Crime, ACC Mark Hamilton commented that *"forces have been monitoring and managing hate crime more robustly since the attacks in Paris in 2015. We believe that greater awareness and confidence in the police response has contributed to this increase in reporting"*. On 29th June, Home Minister Karen Bradley [announced](#) that the government would be publishing a new Hate Crime Action Plan which would include xenophobic attacks, measures to increase reporting, developing third party reporting centres, preventing hate crime on public transport and tackling attacks against Muslim women. HASC launched an inquiry on 4th July.

[Home Secretary announces a 1% pay increase for police officers – 6th July 2016](#)

From 1st September 2016, police officers will receive a 1% increase to base pay for all ranks, a 1% increase to dog handlers' allowance and alignment of mileage expenses to standard HMRC rates following recommendations by the Police Remuneration Review Body and the Senior Salaries Review Body

[Nominations open for awards celebrating police volunteers – 30th June 2016](#)

For the first time, the public are being invited to nominate inspiring police volunteers as part of the 2016 Lord Ferrers Awards. The awards recognise the outstanding contribution to local policing made by special constables, volunteer police cadets and police support volunteers. Deadline for nominations is 17th July 2016.

[Driving accountability from within: Key lessons for new PCCs – 28th June 2016](#)

Independent think tank 'Police Foundation' paper highlights lessons learned during the first term of PCCs based 60 interviews with PCCs, Chief Constables, deputy PCCs, Police and Crime Panel members and other local and national stakeholders between 2012 and 2014. The paper makes a range of recommendations for PCCs in relation to reviewing their OPCC, considering the appointment of a Deputy, consider how best to incorporate ethical standards into their organisational structure and strengthening accountability by engaging with research partners to implement evidence-based policies. The report also makes recommendations with regard to the relationship with and recruitment of Chief Constables – including setting mutual goals and values – and developing effective relationships with Police and Crime Panels

Cyber Crime Assessment 2016 – 7th July 2016

National Crime Agency and Strategic Cyber Industry Group Assessment of the current cyber threats to UK businesses argues that the speed of criminal capability development is currently outpacing our response as a community. Only by working together across law enforcement and the private sector can we successfully reduce the threat to the UK from cyber-crime.

Putting Children First: Plans to reform children's social care and social work – 5th July 2016

Secretary of State for Education [launches](#) plans to reform children's social care by improving in the quality and status of the profession, investing in graduate schemes, reducing bureaucracy; introducing new checks and balances to hold the system to account and new ways to intervene more quickly where services fail. A new pilot scheme 'staying close' was also announced which will allow young people leaving children's homes to live nearby and retain links with those that have cared for them.

Historical Child Sex Abuse Investigations – 27th June 2016

Lords Library briefing considers current guidance for conducting investigations into historical child sex abuse and provides background information on recent investigations that have taken place.

Online Abuse – 6th July 2016

Commons Library briefing paper on the nature and extent of online abuse, existing legislation and campaigns and calls for action

Counter-extremism policy in English schools - Commons briefing paper - 27th June 2016

Dog fighting – Commons debate pack - 28th June 2016

Syrian refugee resettlement: A guide for local authorities – LGA Guidance – 29th June 2016

Undercover policing guidance – College of Policing Guidance - 29th June 2016

Preventing and responding to suicide – College of Policing Guidance – 6th July 2016

2. Research, Development and Statistics

Effectiveness of speed cameras in reducing speeding traffic and road traffic injuries - July 2016

Interim results from a systematic review provide further evidence that speed cameras are an effective intervention for reducing speeding behaviour and can help combat some of the negative consequences of speeding such as fatalities and injury crashes. Considering continuing increases in traffic volumes, speed cameras appear to be a worthwhile intervention to protect public safety. The systematic review took account of an additional 16 evaluations supplementing 35 studies from the previous Cochrane review. Across both newly and previously identified studies, the implementation of speed camera programmes was associated with on average, a 7% reduction in speed, a 52% reduction in vehicles exceeding the speed limit, a 19% reduction in crashes an 18% reduction in injury crashes and a 21% reduction in severe or fatal crashes. There was little evidence that the effect differed by type of speed camera, whether overt, covert, fixed or mobile.

NHS Indicators: England, July 2016 – published 6th July 2016

House of Commons statistical summary showing highlights failures to meet NHS targets with regard to A&E attendance times: 95% of patients spend less than four hours in A&E (March 2016 = 87.3%), Emergency ambulance attendance: 75% of Red 1 calls attended within 8 minutes (March 2016 = 66.5%) and Mental health recovery: 50% of those treated making a reliable recovery (January 2016 = 46%). Mental health treatment time targets are, however, being met. The report also highlights increasing demand on A&E and emergency ambulance calls and steady increases in NHS staff numbers over the last year.

Police Disapproved Register statistics – published 5th July 2016

College of Policing Disapproved Register prevents officers from re-entering the police service if they have been dismissed, or resigned or retired while subject to a gross misconduct investigation. The register features 833 officers ranging in rank from constable to chief superintendent. More than 80% of gross misconduct cases came from internal reporting. In January 2015 the Government amended Police Regulations to prevent officers from resigning or retiring when subject to gross misconduct investigation, except in exceptional circumstances.

Local Authority Homelessness statistics – House of Commons analysis tool released – 5th July 2016

Prison Population Statistics – Commons briefing paper – 5th July 2016

Statistics on alcohol – Commons summary of statistics - 27th June 2016

A parliamentary [debate pack](#) concerning guidelines on alcohol consumption has also been prepared.

Upcoming Crime Reduction Systematic Review publications:

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| • Mediation, mentoring and peer support to reduce youth violence | June 2016 |
| • Criminal justice interventions in domestic violence | June 2016 |
| • Motivational approaches for domestic violence perpetrator programmes | June 2016 |
| • Domestic violence perpetrator programmes: A review of reviews | June 2016 |
| • Police responses to people with mental health problems | July 2016 |
| • The impact of police pre-arrest diversion | July 2016 |
| • Effectiveness of asset-focussed interventions against organised crime | July 2016 |
| • Tagging as a method to reduce theft in retail environments | August 2016 |
| • Red light enforcement cameras to reduce traffic violations and injuries | August 2016 |
| • Diversity and organisational outcomes | August 2016 |
| • The effectiveness of electronic monitoring of offenders | September 2016 |
| • Personal security alarms for the prevention of assaults | November 2016 |

3. Inspections

[Referral orders - do they achieve their potential?](#) – Published 5th July 2016

HMI Probation thematic report examines the effectiveness of referral orders – the first community sentence received by most young people who have committed a crime. The report highlights that not enough attention is given locally and nationally to ensuring that referral orders achieved their objectives in terms of reparation, re-integration and restorative justice. Panels sometimes feel constrained by the pre-determined views of youth offending team (YOT) case managers and do not feel that they have enough control over decision-making. Guidance was felt to be too detailed in parts and in some ways contradictory. Young people respond well to the involvement of volunteers, however, relationships between volunteers and YOT workers were found to be more variable. YOTs have a strong commitment to restorative justice although there can be confusion about what this means. More victims could benefit from restorative justice and more attention could be given to reparation.

[A review of short-term holding facility inspections 2011-2015](#) – Published 8th July 2016

HMI Prisons thematic report summarising findings from 40 inspection reports between 2011 and 2015 on short-term holding facilities (STHF) - predominantly located at ports of entry or at immigration reporting centres. Overall findings are generally positive, sighting improvements in adult safeguarding arrangements since 2014. The report notes however that facilities are often not designed to hold men, women and children separately and do not permit access to the open air, even when detainees are held for unreasonably long periods.

[Criminal Justice Joint Inspection business plan 2016-17](#) published 27th June 2016

HMIC Inspection Programme

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| • PEEL: Efficiency, Legitimacy and Leadership | Fieldwork in progress |
| • <u>JTAI Missing and absent children & child sexual exploitation (thematic)</u> | Summer 2016 |
| • PEEL: Effectiveness - prevention, investigation, vulnerability, SPR, ROCU | Fieldwork Autumn 2016 |
| • HMIC Thematic Inspections: crime recording, counter-terrorism | Unannounced visits |
| • Joint Inspections of Stalking and Harassment (HMIC-led) | TBC |
| • Joint targeted <u>Child Protection Inspection</u> (Ofsted-led) | Rolling programme |
| • Joint inspection of Police Custody Arrangements (HMI Prisons-led) | Rolling programme |

4. Reviews and Inquiries

[Prostitution - Home Affairs Committee interim report](#) - published 1st July 2016

Interim report published as part of the [HASC inquiry](#) has found that views on the legal approach to prostitution are strongly polarised. The challenge of making a rational assessment is compounded by a lack of robust evidence. The inquiry found considerable variation in the policing approach to prostitution throughout the country – not all of which is consistent with national policy. Forces often have to choose whether to enforce soliciting offences to reduce the impact on communities or build trust and confidence among sex workers to identify and convict criminals and reduce harm. The committee raise concerns that treating soliciting as an offence is having an adverse impact on the health, safety, welfare of sex workers and their opportunities to exit prostitution. While a final report will be issued later in the year, the interim report recommends:

- Guidance for police and local authorities on how young people identified as victims should be dealt with
- An in-depth research study to be commissioned by the Home Office
- Decriminalising soliciting by sex workers and sex workers sharing premises at the earliest opportunity
- Ensuring zero tolerance of the organised criminal exploitation of sex workers
- Legislating for the deletion of previous convictions and cautions for prostitution via the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act

[The College of Policing inquiry](#) – Home Affairs Committee follow up report published 9th July 2016

- [Hate crime and its violent consequences inquiry](#) – Announced 4th July 2016
Home Affairs Committee inquiry into hate crime and its violent consequences, including hate crime motivated by extremism and actions carried out by fixated individuals ("lone wolves")
 - [Female Genital Mutilation inquiry](#) – Announced 4th July 2016
Follow-up inquiry on the developments since the Home Affairs Committee reported on FGM in 2015
 - [Lammy Review of BAME representation in the CJS](#)
Review into the over-representation of BAME groups at most stages of the criminal justice system. Over 300 responses have been submitted as part of a call for evidence. The review has also featured roundtable events and interviews with key individuals from across England, Wales and the USA, and has raised issues including the effect of public perception of gang culture on young men, alternative approaches to custody, such as problem-solving courts and the extent to which the diversity of the judiciary and legal profession affects trust in the justice system. The review is expected to report in spring 2017.
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- **Reports in preparation:** [Countering extremism inquiry](#) (Home Affairs Committee), [Proceeds of crime inquiry](#) (Home Affairs Committee), [Restorative justice inquiry](#) (Justice Committee), [Future role of the magistracy inquiry](#) (Justice Committee)
- **Reports awaiting government response:** [Reform of the Police Funding Formula inquiry](#) (Report published 11th December 2015), [Police Diversity inquiry](#) (Report published 21st May 2016), [Efficiency in the Criminal Justice System](#) (Report published 27th May 2016)
- **Evidence in progress:** [The rise of anti-Semitism inquiry](#) (4th July 2016), [Apprenticeships inquiry](#) (29th June 2016), [Support for ex-offenders inquiry](#) (15th June 2016), [Sexual Violence in Schools inquiry](#) (14th June 2016), [Child Sexual Abuse Inquiry \(Goddard\)](#) (ongoing)

5. Legislation

Investigatory Powers Bill - Lords 2nd reading – 27th June 2016

Make provision about the interception, acquisition and retention of communications data and other bulk data for analysis and the use of equipment interference. Establish the Investigatory Powers Commissioner and other Commissioners and make provision about oversight arrangements; make further provision about investigatory powers and national security; amend s3 and s5 of Intelligence Services Act 1994. Due to be enacted in 2016. See [Lords briefing paper](#) (21st June 2016) and [Joint Select Committee recommendations](#) for further information

Policing and Crime Bill – Lords 1st reading - TBC

- Places a statutory duty on police, fire and ambulance services to collaborate to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Enable PCCs to take on responsibility for fire and rescue services.
- Reforms the police complaints and disciplinary systems, including measures to extend disciplinary procedures to former officers (up to 12 months after leaving). Makes changes to governance of the IPCC.
- Enable chief officers to confer a wider range of policing powers on police civilian staff and volunteers.
- Introduces provisions in respect of breach of pre-charge bail conditions and makes changes to rules governing how police deal with people suffering mental crisis under s135 & s136 of Mental Health Act 1983
- Makes changes to terms of office for Deputy PCCs and would give the Home Secretary the power to change the name of a police area by order
- Provides statutory definition of the terms 'lethal', 'component part' and 'antique firearm' (Firearms Act 1968)
- Amends Licensing Act 2003 to make clear powdered and vaporised alcohol are both covered by the Act
- Makes provisions relating to the enforcement of EU, UN and other financial sanctions
- Mandates that offences relating to CSE (Sexual Offences Act 2003) cover streaming / transmission of indecent images of children. Enables Secretary of State to issue statutory guidance to local taxi and private hire licensing authorities with regard to the protection of children and vulnerable adults
- **New Lords briefing** published 5th July 2016. [Supporting documents](#) available.

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill – Lords 2nd reading – 8th July 2016 [\[Briefing\]](#)

Private Members' Bill to require commercial organisations and public bodies to include a statement on slavery and human trafficking in their annual report and accounts; and to require contracting authorities to exclude from procurement procedures economic operators who have not provided such a statement.

On-line Safety Bill – Lords 2nd reading - TBC

Private Members' Bill to require internet service providers (ISPs) to provide an internet service that excludes adult-only content; require information to be provided about online safety; make provision for parents to be educated about online safety; make provision for the regulation of harmful material through on-demand programme services; to introduce licensing of pornographic services

Rehabilitation of Offenders (Amendment) Bill - Lords 2nd reading - TBC

Private Members' Bill to make provision about rehabilitation periods for particular sentences - amending Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

Digital Economy Bill – [Receives first reading in Commons](#) on 5th July 2016

Bill to make provision about; restricting access to online pornography; protecting intellectual property related to electronic communications; [improving government data to transform public services](#) - allow public authorities to share personal data with other public authorities to improve the welfare of individuals (e.g. Troubled Families programme), measures to help detect and prevent government losses due to fraudulent activity, The Bill also proposes tougher penalties for nuisance callers and increasing the sentencing options for people who infringe copyright laws online. Royal Assent is expected spring 2017.

Children and Social Work Bill – Lords Committee stage – 11th July 2016

Bill to make provision about looked after children; ensure lessons are learned from serious child safeguarding cases; create a new 'power to innovate' giving local authorities the freedom to test out innovative new ways of working and introduce measures to improve how agencies share information.

New legislation announced as part of the Queens Speech – 18th May 2016:

Prison and Courts Reform Bill

Make provision for new 'reform prisons'; transformation of the prison education system; new performance metrics / League Tables; new prison-based counter extremism programme; 'secure alternative academies' for young offenders; [problem-solving courts](#); expanded use of tags / satellite tracking and new arrangements for [women offenders with children](#). Reform Courts and Tribunals to ensure delivery of faster and fairer justice for users by making better use of technology and modernising working practices.

Counter-Extremism and Safeguarding Bill

Prevent radicalisation, tackle extremism in all its forms, and promote community integration. Provide stronger powers to disrupt extremists and protect the public, ensure better mental health provision for individuals in the criminal justice system. Introduce a new civil order regime to restrict extremist activity, safeguard children from extremist adults through powers to intervene in intensive unregulated education settings which teach hate and drive communities apart, stronger powers for the Disclosure and Barring Service; close loopholes so that Ofcom can continue to protect consumers who watch internet-streamed television content from outside the EU on Freeview; consultation on powers to enable government to intervene where councils fail to tackle extremism. The Government will consider the need for further legislative measures following Louise Casey's review

Criminal Finances Bill

Tackle corruption, money laundering and tax evasion. Allow the Government to recoup more criminal assets by reforming the law on proceeds of crime, including provisions to strengthen our enforcement powers and protect the public. Introduction of a criminal offence for corporations who fail to stop their staff facilitating tax evasion; Improve the operation of the Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) regime to encourage better use of public and private sector resources against the highest threats; to target entities that carry out money laundering instead of individual transactions; and to provide the National Crime Agency (NCA) with new powers; Improve the ability of law enforcement agencies and courts to recover criminal assets more effectively, particularly in cases such as those linked to grand corruption.

Bill of Rights

Measures to reform and modernise the UK human rights framework - based on those set out in the European Convention on Human Rights, but taking into account the UK's common law tradition

Local Growth and Jobs Bill

Allow Local Authorities to retain 100% of the business rates collected in their area, estimated to involve the transfer of up to £13 billion from central to local government and therefore have more freedom to invest in local communities

Modern Transport Bill

Provisions relating to new forms of transport including autonomous and electric vehicles and new regulations to achieve safe commercial and personal drone flights

Neighbourhood Planning and Infrastructure Bill

Reform planning and give local communities more power and control to shape their own area

6. Consultations

[Advanced Practitioner Police Constable](#)

The College of Policing is inviting feedback on the draft model for Advanced Practitioners for Constables which, following a pilot in early autumn, will be applied to both officer and staff Advanced Practitioners more widely across the service. The model has been developed in response to recommendations from the Police Leadership Review in June 2015 which called for greater opportunities for professional development to ensure expertise and leadership are rewarded and recognised.

Open date: 21/06/2016

Close date: 13/07/2016

[Sentencing youths: principles and guidelines on sexual offences and robbery](#)

Sentencing Council consultation on the production of up to date consolidated youth sentencing guidelines in respect of sexual offences and robbery

Open date: 12/05/2016

Close date: 03/08/2016

[Magistrates' Court Sentencing Guidelines](#)

Sentencing Council consultation on draft revised guidelines for 27 summary offences in the Magistrates' Court which include motoring offences, drug and alcohol related offences, football-related offences, animal cruelty, school non-attendance and licencing-related offences. The draft guidelines use the Sentencing Council methodology of determining the seriousness of an offence which assesses both the culpability of the offender and the impact of the harm caused by their offending.

Open date: 19/05/2016

Close date: 11/08/2016

[Independent review into sharia law: call for evidence](#)

Independent review examining whether the religious code is being misused or exploited in Britain to discriminate against certain groups, undermine shared values or cause social harms, is seeking views from individuals with experience of sharia law. The review is particularly keen to speak to those who have worked as part of a sharia council or have used a sharia council in any capacity in the last 5 years.

Open date: 04/07/2016

Close date: 18/08/2016

[Self-sufficient local government: 100% business rates retention](#)

DCLG consultation seeking to identify issues that should be kept in mind when designing reforms that will allow local government to retain 100% of the business rates they raise locally. The government has also issued a [call for evidence](#) on needs and distribution to inform a fair funding review of what the needs assessment formula should be following the implementation of 100% business rates retention.

Open date: 05/07/2016

Close date: 26/09/2016

[What next for devolution? A discussion paper](#)

LGA are inviting responses to a [green paper](#) which aims to encourage local debate and generate wider scrutiny of the devolution process. It sets out some ideas and a series of big questions which will help to structure the conversations that are already happening in local areas.

Open date: 05/07/2016

Close date: TBC