



Police and Crime Commissioner's horizon scanning briefing

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1. Policy and Practice

[New measures to help small charities shape and deliver public services](#) – 13th December 2016

Minister for Civil Society announces new measures via the Public Services Programme to enable more small charities to access the public service market. This will see the development of a Public Service Incubator, work to explore the development of a commissioning kitemark for Commissioners to show their commitment to small charity-friendly commissioning and recruitment of a voluntary, community and social enterprise crown representative to champion commissioning practices that help small charities contribute

[Police Grant Report 2017/18](#) – 15th December 2016

Direct funding for PCCs will be protected at flat cash levels compared to 2015/16, assuming precept income is increased to the maximum amount available over the next two years. The Minister also announced an increase in the level of reallocations to the Police Transformation Fund (£175m in 2017/18). Specific funding for counter-terrorism policing will be maintained over the Spending Review period in addition to £32m for armed policing via the Police Transformation Fund. The 10 PCCs in England with the lowest precept bills will also have the flexibility to raise their council tax precept by £5 per Band D household without requiring a referendum

[Government formally adopts IHRA's working definition of anti-Semitism](#) – 12th December 2016

The government has formally adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of anti-Semitism as "a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities"

[Home Office Serious and Organised Crime Local Partnership Bulletin](#) – 20th December 2016

Fifth edition of the quarterly serious and organised crime local partnerships bulletin includes details of the Home Office SOC conference in February 2017, articles on human trafficking and the GAIN review

[National Action becomes first extreme right-wing group to be banned in UK](#) – 16th December 2016

[Baroness Shields appointed PM's Special Representative on Internet Crime](#) – 16th December 2016

[Legal Aid Agency invites expressions of interest to help modern slavery victims](#) – 15th December 2016

Recent Commons briefing papers: [Sex and Relationship Education in Schools](#) (16th Dec), [Personal, social, health and economic education in schools](#) (16th Dec), [Impact of Brexit on policing and criminal justice: a reading list](#) (16th Dec), [Education of young people leaving custody](#) (15th Dec), [Rough sleepers and anti-social behaviour](#) (13th Dec), [Sentences of imprisonment for Public Protection](#) (9th Dec)

2. Research, Development and Statistics

[A whole-system approach to offender management](#) – 16th December 2016

Institute for Public Policy Research paper argues for a new 'whole-system' approach to offender management, with responsibility over probation services and custody budgets for short-sentence, young, and women offenders being transferred to city region mayors and Police and crime commissioners. This, the paper argues, would help to join-up the system at a local level and increase incentives to reduce re-offending. The paper recognises that since CRC contracts are 'locked in' until beyond 2020, there is less scope for radical reform in the short term. It does however present a case for local areas to bid for controls over custody budgets for certain cohorts (young, female and short-sentence offenders), commissioning of 'secure schools', and further co-commissioning powers where there is an appetite to do so

[Understanding the educational background of young offenders](#) – 12th December 2016

Ministry of Justice analysis of young offenders in the youth justice system based on a data matching exercise between the Department for Education and the Ministry of Justice. The study found that:-

- Young offenders sentenced to custody had lower attainment at KS2 and KS4 than those given community sentences, Youth Rehabilitation Orders, Referral Orders or cautions
- 44% of KS4 young offenders given custodial sentences were eligible for Free School Meals
- 45% of those sentenced to <12 months custody had Special Educational Needs (SEN) without a statement
- 27% to 31% of 16-17 year olds sentenced to custody were looked after
- Over 90% of those sentenced to custody had a previous record of being persistently absent from school and
- Between 16% and 23% had been permanently excluded from school prior to their sentence date

[Non-natural deaths following prison and police custody](#) – 13th December 2016

Equality and Human Rights Commission research report highlights limitations of current recording practices a need for greater awareness / training among for frontline staff to recognise the trauma of arrest and detention for individuals suspected of or charged with offences, particularly sexual offences. The report recommends:-

- Home Office consider whether responsibility for health and mental care in police stations should be allocated to the NHS and at very least, ensure custody health care staff have prompt access to NHS records
- More training is provided to support police custody staff in the identification and treatment of suspects who may be traumatised by the fact of arrest and investigation, and of others with mental health issues
- More training is provided for all probation and CRC staff particularly in relation to inter-agency co-operation when working with those at risk of abusing illegal and prescription drugs
- An obligation is placed on appropriate authorities to carry out risk assessments before release from custody and to disseminate information to all relevant agencies to provide appropriate safeguards and support
- All apparent suicides / non-natural deaths within 2 days of release from police custody or 2 weeks of release from are referred to the IPCC and Prison and Probation Ombudsman for investigation
- Criminal justice agencies should review how accessible relevant policy documentation is to staff
- An inter-agency summit is convened to explore how these 'hidden' deaths can be better exposed/prevented

[Criminal court statistics \(quarterly\): April to June 2016](#) – published 15th December 2016

Disposals in magistrates' courts remain higher than receipts, resulting in the outstanding magistrates' court caseload dropping to the lowest level since Q4 2013 in Q2 2016. Outstanding cases in the Crown Court have been gradually decreasing since Q4 2014 to the lowest number of outstanding cases since Q2 2013. The average number of days from first listing to completion in the Crown Court has decreased from 204 days to 185 days in the last year, however hearing times for not guilty trials in the Crown Court has increased over the last three quarters to a peak of 15.3 hours, while hearing times for guilty plea trials has increased to 1.7 hours

Use of police powers under Terrorism Act 2000 to September 2016 – Published 15th December 2016

- Arrests for terrorism-related offences fell by 20% in the year ending 30 September 2016 from 317 to 255
- The proportion arrested who were female fell from 16% to 11% in the year ending 30 September 2016
- 61 out of the 67 trials were completed by the CPS Counter Terrorism Division led to a conviction
- Sentence lengths have increased in the last year with more receiving sentences of between 4 and 10 years
- 178 people were in custody for terrorism or domestic extremism related offences as of September 2016, with terrorism-related detentions in particular having increased over recent quarters

Upcoming Crime Reduction Systematic Reviews:

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| • Police responses to people with mental health problems | December 2016 |
| • Speed cameras to reduce speeding traffic and road traffic injuries | January 2017 |
| • The impact of police pre-arrest diversion – systematic review | February 2017 |
| • Effectiveness of asset-focussed interventions against organised crime | February 2017 |
| • Tagging as a method to reduce theft in retail environments | February 2017 |
| • Red light enforcement cameras to reduce traffic violations and injuries | February 2017 |
| • Diversity and organisational outcomes | February 2017 |
| • The effectiveness of electronic monitoring of offenders | February 2017 |
| • Personal security alarms for the prevention of assaults | February 2017 |

3. Inspections

Ongoing and upcoming inspection activity

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| • PEEL: Effectiveness - prevention, investigation, vulnerability, SPR, ROCU | Report pending |
| • JTAI Partnership response to children affected by domestic abuse | Report pending |
| • HMIC: Modern Slavery | TBC |
| • Joint Inspections of Stalking and Harassment (HMIC-led) | TBC |
| • HMIC Force Management Statement template issued | April 2017 |
| • Force Management Statement completion deadline | October 2017 |
| • HMIC: Counter-terrorism | Unannounced visits |
| • HMIC: Crime data integrity (unannounced visits) | Rolling programme |
| • Joint targeted Child Protection Inspection (Ofsted-led) | Rolling programme |
| • Joint inspection of Police Custody Arrangements (HMI Prisons-led) | Rolling programme |

4. Reviews and Inquiries

Charlie Taylor's Review of the Youth Justice System – 11th December 2016

The Ministry of Justice publishes the [final report](#) of Charlie Taylor's Review of the Youth Justice System. While recognising successes in reducing first time entrants into the youth justice system, the report highlights that those that remain in the youth justice system are more commonly black, Muslim and white working class boys – many in care with mental health or other health problems and learning difficulties. As traditional criminal justice responses have been shown to be inadequate and calls for:-

- **A more devolved youth justice system** – The government should legislate to remove the requirement for local authorities to establish a youth offending team and the statutory duty should be transferred to local authorities. Existing duties of cooperation on the police, probation, education and health services should remain. The MOJ should devolve the money it spends on custodial places to local areas in order for them to assume responsibility for commissioning their own secure provision
- **Greater flexibility in the delivery of youth offending services** - Funding for youth justice services should no longer be narrowly ring-fenced and the MOJ should halt the centre's role in routine performance management and remove the requirement for local authorities to produce an annual youth justice plan. MOJ should consider whether local authorities should be able to use their own assessment systems.
- **Enhancing the multi-agency approach** - Health commissioners should rethink the way mental health support is provided to children at risk. Local authorities, police forces and health services should jointly operate diversion schemes for children who offend. Local protocols to ensure charging decisions take account of health screening assessments should be established. Local authorities should ensure that care home staff are properly trained to resolve minor incidents and protocols with police should be established to agree a proportionate approach to offending in care homes
- **Improving the response to those coming into contact with the YJS** - Children should not be held in police custody for longer than 6 hours unless in extremis. A set of mandatory standards for appropriate adult schemes should be agreed and inspected against. Children should not be required to make a decision about seeing a solicitor at interview and there should be a presumption of releasing a child subject to voluntary attendance if a solicitor cannot attend within 2 hours of arrest. The College of policing should introduce mandatory child-specific training for all custody sergeants. Girls aged 17 and under should be allocated a named female officer responsible for their welfare. The Home Office and MOJ should consider distinguishing between under 15s and 15 to 17 year olds and how childhood offending is considered and disclosed
- **Children in court** – Judiciary should consider how cases involving children can be prioritised to reduce waiting times. MOJ should review the fee structure of cases heard in the Youth Court in order to improve the quality of legal representation. MOJ should consider whether the law on reporting restrictions. Government should introduce a new system of Children's Panels made up of specially trained magistrates. Panels would investigate the causes of the child's behaviour and put in place rigorous multi-agency plans. The Government should also remove or substantially restrict the availability of short custodial sentences
- **Secure schools** – The Ministry of Justice and Department for Education should work together to create Secure Schools that are commissioned in a similar way to alternative provision free schools, accommodating up to 60-70 children and having autonomy and flexibility over their staffing and approach. Secure schools should deliver a better integrated health offer. Local authorities should aim to retain the same social worker during a child's time in custody and all children should be made aware of where they are going to live at least 2 weeks before they leave custody
- **Ensuring accountability in a more devolved system** – Youth offending services should be inspected by Ofsted as part of the inspection of children's services and secure schools should be inspected by Ofsted with support as necessary from the Care Quality Commission. The MOJ should create an Office of the Youth Justice Commissioner as a single place for responsibility for policy to replace the Youth Justice Board

Government Response to the Review of the Youth Justice System – 11th December 2016

The Government has committed to taking forward the majority of Charlie Taylor's recommendations and make immediate investments to improve safety. The Justice Secretary has committed to ensuring that education and training is at the heart of youth justice and [announced](#) plans to launch two 'secure schools' alongside new measures to monitor progress in English and maths, health and behaviour, and an additional £15m a year investment in youth custody staffing. Further plans will be set out by the government in spring 2017

Report: Child Protection – Published 16th December 2016

Public Accounts Committee report concludes that services for children in need of help or protection are not good enough and progress following the Munro review in 2011 has been too slow. The Department for Education's newly stated ambition to improve services by 2020 is welcome but the Department lacks a credible plan for how and by when it will make a difference. The report recommends that the Department should:-

- Set out how it will ensure minimum standards March 2017 and disseminate and learn from good practice
- Set how it will work with local authorities to transform services by 2020 - including timetable / resources
- Speed up its use of leading indicators to intervene in local authorities before they fail
- Examine whether children with disabilities should have a different pathway of support
- Set out how it will attract more high calibre people to social work and ensure relevant training / assessments

Troubled Families: Progress Review – Published 20th December 2016

Public Accounts Committee report highlights that an evaluation commissioned by DCLG could not find evidence of whether or not there had been any significant impact on "turning around" the lives of all families for which local authority payments have been made. It also reports that the delay in commencing the programme was unacceptable. The committee recommends that DCLG

- Reports to Parliament and the public on the progress of the programme using meaningful evidence
- Develop a more meaningful longitudinal methodology for evaluating impact and quality, reporting annually
- Reviews the payment by results mechanism to ensure that it is not diluting the quality of support provided
- Ensure terminology used to communicate achievements gives an accurate depiction of progress
- Make more accurate claims about any savings that can be attributed to the programme and assess VfM

Report: Support for Ex-Offenders – Published 16th December 2016

Work and Pensions Committee report highlights the need for a clear strategy for how different agencies work together to improve employment outcomes for ex-offenders. The report recommends that the Department:-

- Clearly state who has ultimate responsibility for helping prison leavers into work
- Ensure all prisons demonstrate strong links with employers, including local businesses
- Ensure all prisons offer workshop courses, apprenticeships or similar with real employers
- Transfer and ring-fence funding from the DfE to the MOJ for the education and training of prisoners
- Enable claims for ESA to be made in prison and paid on day of release for prisoners who cannot work
- Ensure all Jobcentres have a specified person who specialises in helping ex-offenders into employment
- Requires CRCs to track and report on employment outcomes of the prisoners they resettle
- Ensures DWP develops practical guidance to help employers recruit ex-offenders
- Extend Ban the Box to all appropriate public bodies and consider making it a statutory requirement for all

Independent review into young people's involvement in social action launched – 14th December 2016

The review will look at how to increase participation in full-time social action by reviewing opportunities and barriers faced by organisations supporting young people. The review is expected to conclude by October 2017

Independent Child Sexual Abuse Inquiry publishes internal review into its work – 16th December

Review refocuses the Inquiry and lays out a detailed schedule of work for 2017. It concludes that the Inquiry's work needed rebalancing to make sure sufficient attention was paid to making recommendations for the future

5. Legislation

Policing and Crime Bill – Ping Pong Stage – TBC [Supporting documents](#)

- 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
- [Third reading in the Lords](#) took place on 19th December 2016
- [Emergency services collaboration](#) (ESC) provisions documents updated 8th December 2016

Children and Social Work Bill – Committee Stage in Commons – 10th January 2017

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

Digital Economy Bill – Committee Stage in Lords – TBC

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. [Commons analysis paper](#)

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill – 2nd reading in Commons – 13th January 2017

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. [Briefing](#)

National Citizen Service Bill – 2nd reading in Commons – 16th January 2017

[NCS](#) brings different communities together and gives 15 to 17-year-olds the opportunity to take part in new experiences, develop skills and give back to communities across England. The Government has committed to offer an NCS place to everyone that wants one. [Lords briefing](#) – 20th October 2016

Asset Freezing (Compensation) Bill – 2nd reading in Commons – 20th January 2017

A Bill to make provision for the imposing of restrictions on assets owned by persons involved in supplying terrorist organisations in the United Kingdom with arms, for the purpose of securing compensation for citizens of the United Kingdom affected by the supply of such arms

Criminal Finances Bill – Commons Report Stage – TBC

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. [Explanatory documents](#) , [Commons Library Analysis](#) , [Consultation responses](#)

Homelessness Reduction Bill – Commons Committee Stage – 11th January 2017

Private Members Bill to place a duty on local authorities to help eligible people at risk of homelessness to secure accommodation 56 days before they are threatened with homelessness; provide those who find themselves homeless with support for a further period of 56 days to help to secure accommodation. Builds on the government commitment in Dec 2015 to consider all options, including legislation, to prevent homelessness

Preventing & Combating Violence Against Women & DV Bill - Commons Committee Stage – TBC

Private Members' Bill to require UK to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention)

Sexual Offences (Pardons Etc.) Bill – Commons 2nd reading – 20th January 2016

Private Members' Bill to formally pardon gay and bisexual men convicted for now abolished sexual offences and enable any mention of these offences to be removed from criminal record checks

Stalking (Sentencing) Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 20th January 2017

Private Member's Bill to increase the maximum sentences available to the court for stalking offences

[Commons Briefing paper](#)

Road Traffic Offenders (Surrender of Driving Licences) Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 27th January 2017

Private Members' Bill to make provision about the surrender / production of driving licences or test certificates in relation to certain offences; and identifying persons / securing payment in connection with fixed penalty notices

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Amendment) Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 27th January 2017

Private Members' Bill to repeal CT and Security Act 2015 provisions requiring teachers, carers and responsible adults to report signs of extremism or radicalisation amongst children in pre-school educational settings

Malicious Communications (Social Media) Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 24th March 2017

Private Members' Bill to make provision about offences, penalties and sentences in relation to communications containing threats transmitted or broadcast using online social media

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

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; and related provisions

Missing Persons Guardianship Bill – Lords 2nd reading - TBC

Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill – Lords 2nd reading - TBC

6. Consultations

Bladed articles and offensive weapons

Sentencing Council consultation on 3 guidelines; possession of a bladed article/ offensive weapon; threatening with a bladed article/ offensive weapon, and a youth guideline which covers all offences involving bladed articles and offensive weapons. The new guideline will provide sentencers across the Crown Court, magistrates' court and youth court with guidance to improve consistency and transparency in sentencing

Open date: 06/10/2016

Close date: 06/01/2017

Public Policy Statements on Hate Crime

Three CPS consultations on public policy statements relating to: crimes against disabled people; offences involving hostility on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and; racially and religiously aggravated hate crime. The statements aim to comprehensively set out how the CPS approach these crimes

Open date: 10/10/2016

Close date: 09/01/2017

Leveson Inquiry and its Implications

Government consultation on issues relating Section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act 2013 (incentives to join a recognised regulator) and whether, as criminal cases associated with the Leveson Inquiry are entering their final stages, whether Part 2 of the inquiry remains appropriate, proportionate and in the public interest.

Open date: 01/11/2016

Close date: 10/01/2017

Breach guideline

Sentencing Council consultation on proposed sentencing guideline on breach of court order offences including breach of a Community Order, Suspended Sentence Order, Protective Order, Criminal Behaviour Order, Anti-Social Behaviour Order, Sexual Harm Prevention Order, Sexual Offence Prevention Order, Post Sentence Supervision, Failing to Surrender to Bail and Failing to Comply with Notification Requirement.

Open date: 25/10/2016

Close date: 25/01/2017

Provisional Police Grant Report 2017 to 2018

Home Office consultation on the provisional police grant report which sets out the aggregate amount of grants proposed for the police in England and Wales for 2017 to 2018 and the proposed amount of grant for each local policing body.

Open date: 15/12/2016

Close date: 26/01/2017

Crime Severity Score for England and Wales

ONS consultation on proposed methodology for the Crime Severity Index and its use. Feedback can be sent to crimestatistics@ons.gsi.gov.uk or submitted via the [template](#) provided the end of January.

Open date: 30/11/2016

Close date: 31/01/2017

Draft regulations for the Apprenticeship Levy

HM Revenue and Customs technical consultation for large employers, employer advisers, and payroll agencies on draft regulations covering calculation, reporting, payment and recovery of the Apprenticeship Levy

Open date: 14/12/2016

Close date: 03/02/2017