



Commissioner's horizon scanning briefing

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1. Policy and Practice

[Bidding opens for £11 million Modern Slavery Innovation Fund](#) – 27th October 2016

Home Secretary launches an £11 million Innovation Funding for innovative projects that trial new approaches to tackling modern slavery in countries from which victims are trafficked. Bidders must provide evidence their scheme would drive at least one of 6 key objectives set out by the Home Office: improve law enforcement, legislation and policy; aid victim support and recovery; improve global co-ordination; encourage responsible business and slavery-free supply chains; and enhance the evidence base. A £3 million Child Trafficking Protection Fund was also launched to protect child victims and children overseas with potential to be trafficked

[£8.5 million fund to support law enforcement agencies in tackling modern slavery](#) – 18th October 2016

Home Secretary announces £8.5 million Police Transformation Funding to provide over 50 additional analysts, specialists and investigators at a national and regional level who will assist the police in England and Wales to transform the operational response to modern slavery

[£5 million awarded to expand 'Police Now' across 19 forces](#) – 19th October 2016

Home Secretary awards £5 million Police Transformation Funding to expand the 'Police Now' scheme which provides a route for university graduates with leadership potential to become police officers. The scheme will be expanded to cover up to 19 partner forces and is expected to offer 250 places to candidates in 2017

[£40 million Government homelessness prevention programme announced](#) – 17th October 2016

The Government has made £20 million available to local authorities to pilot innovative new initiatives, £10 million for targeted support for those at imminent risk of sleeping rough or those new to the streets and made £10 million available in Social Impact Bonds to help long-term rough sleepers with the most complex needs

[College of Policing issue new stop and search training and guidance](#) – 27th October 2016

The College of Policing have set new standards for training and [APP guidance](#) for police on stop and search that aims to give officers confidence to use their powers legally, fairly, professionally and transparently and help them recognise the potential for unconscious bias. This includes an online training module and test for constables and sergeants alongside a two-day practical classroom session. Sergeants are required to take part in a further one-day course on supervising and monitoring stop and search carried out by their officers

[Pilot drug driving education course commences](#) – 24th October 2016

The Department for Transport commence trials of supplementary drug driving education as part of existing rehabilitation courses in England and Wales for people convicted of driving while over the alcohol limit

Government apprenticeship funding policy updated – 25th October 2016

Updated guidance on apprenticeships funding from May 2017 now includes Government commitment to:-

- Pay £1,000 each to employers (and all training costs for smaller employers) taking on 16-18 year old apprentices or 19-24 year olds who were in care or subject to [education and health care plans](#)
- Make additional payments to help 16-18 year old apprenticeship providers adapt to the new funding model
- Continue additional funding to providers that train apprentices from the most deprived areas
- Invest over £60 million in supporting the training of apprentices from the poorest areas in the country
- Extend the period by which employers must spend funds in their digital account to 24 months
- Enable employers to transfer digital funds to other employers in their supply chains, sector in 2018
- Provide more funding for STEM apprenticeships and greater flexibility to train those with prior qualifications

Policing and the Fire Service Minister speech on fire reform – 18th October 2016

Brandon Lewis outlines his vision for fire reform at Fire Protection Association Sector Summit, which includes:-

- Improving efficiency and collaboration – Procurement should be key focus. Collaboration should not be restricted to emergency services. Local leaders have flexibility to determine how they collaborate
- Improving accountability and transparency – PCCs taking on functions of fire and rescue authorities (where a strong local case is made) will bring a direct democratic mandate to oversight and greater accountability. The government expects a new inspectorate to be fully operational in April 2018
- Workforce reform – Government will shortly publish the Adrian Thomas Review which makes recommendations for modernisation and transformation of the service across the themes of working environment; conditions of service; industrial relations; retained duty system and management

Recent Commons briefing papers include: [Migration statistics](#) (25th Oct), [Performance of the Disclosure and Barring Service](#) (24th Oct), [Troubled Families programme](#) (20th Oct), [Youth unemployment statistics](#) (19th Oct), [Damage to property by police forcing entry](#) (14th Oct)

2. Research, Development and Statistics

Stop and search training - randomised control trials – 28th October 2016

The Research Advisory Service tested the impact of a College of Policing / Equality and Human Rights Commission stop and search training pilot across six volunteer police forces. The research found the training to have a range of small positive effects on officers' knowledge, attitudes and anticipated behaviours in hypothetical scenarios, some of which were sustained at a three-month follow-up. The pilot training had a more limited impact on officers' stop and search records and no effects were found on proportion of searches leading to arrest or on the quality of written grounds that officers recorded to justify their searches

Children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour online - 27th October 2016

NSPCC literature review brings together current research on online harmful sexual behaviour (HSB), including the comparison and cross-over between children and young people displaying online and offline HSB

Crime in England and Wales: year ending June 2016 – Published 20th October 2016

Latest figures from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) indicate that crime levels to June 2016 saw no significant change on the previous year, while police recorded crime increased by 7% - largely due to improvements in crime-recording practices and processes. Fraud offences referred to the police increased by 5%, while industry data showed that frauds on UK-issued cards increased by 46%. Headline estimates from the Crime Survey will include data on fraud and computer misuse offences from January 2017. CSEW estimates showed no significant change in levels of violence compared to a 24% increase in police recorded violent crime – affected in part by the inclusion of 2 additional harassment offences within the notifiable offence list. Police recorded offences involving knives or sharp instruments increased by 9% and those involving the use of firearms also rose, by 7%. For these offences, there appears to be a mixed picture on the extent to which this represents changes in recording processes or genuine rise. [Crime outcomes to June 2016](#) also published

[Police powers and procedures - year ending 31 March 2016](#) – Published 27th October 2016

Statistics on [arrests](#), [stop and search](#), [other PACE powers](#), [fixed penalty notices for motoring offences](#) and [breath tests](#) for 2015/16 – including force level statistics. The data shows that:-

- Arrests by police fell by a further 5% continuing the downward trend seen since 2007/08
- Stops and searches fell by 28% to the lowest number since data collection began (2002)
- 16% of stops led to an arrest - up from 14% in 2014/15 and the highest since data collection began
- Searches on White individuals fell by 38%, while searches on BME individuals fell by 13%
- Persons detained for more than 24 hours under PACE increased by 11% to 3,338
- The number of road checks and intimate searches undertaken remains broadly similar to 2014/15
- While FPNs for motoring offences fell by 1% overall, FPNs for speed limit offences increased by 6%

[Offender management statistics: Jan to Mar 2016 and Apr to Jun 2016](#) – Published 27th October 2016

The total prison population decreased by 1% in the year to July 2016, however the sentenced population increased by 2%. While the number of prisoners given sentence lengths of less than 12 months is falling, the number serving determinate sentences of four years or more continues to rise. New supervision requirements (Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014) continue to impact on probation caseloads (+13%) and the numbers recalled. Court order caseloads rose by 5%, with suspended sentence order caseloads increasing by 10%

[Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements \(MAPPA\) annual report 2015/16](#) – 27th October 2016

Ministry of Justice statistical bulletin shows a 5% increase in MAPPA-eligible offenders between 2014/15 and 2015/16. Category 1 Registered Sex Offenders per 100,000 pop increased by 6%. Numbers of MAPPA eligible offenders charged with Serious Further Offences (SFOs) fell by 13% to 193. Data available at police force level

[NOMS Community Performance Management Quarterly](#) – Published 27th October 2016

NPS and CRCs performance briefing presents comparative data at CRC level. Baselines to set expected performance levels are being established up to February 2017. No reoffending information is as yet available as insufficient time has passed for the first cohort of offenders under new arrangements

[Proven reoffending statistics quarterly: January to December 2014](#) – Published 27th October 2016

The adult and juvenile proven reoffending rate (25.6%) has remained relatively stable since 2004. Offenders aged 10 to 14 have highest reoffending rate (39.5%), however numbers have fallen by around 84% since 2004

[Deaths of offenders in the community annual statistics 2015/16](#) – Published 27th October 2016

Ministry of Justice data reports 725 deaths of offenders in the community in 2015/16, marking a 30% increase on 2014/15. Self-inflicted deaths (264) rose by 40% while deaths from natural causes (235) rose by 19%. 296 deaths were among post-release supervision offenders where caseloads have increased significantly since February 2015 following the Offender Rehabilitation Act in. Includes data at CRC and Probation Trust level. [Safety in custody quarterly update to June 2016](#) is also published highlighting ongoing increases in deaths, self-harm and assaults among the prison population

[NOMS prison cost per place and cost per prisoner: 2015 to 2016](#) – 27th October 2016

Includes comparative data at individual establishment level

[National Crime Agency Missing Persons Bureau Report 2015/16](#) – 25th October 2016

NCA profile highlights year on year increases in the number of police recorded missing person calls and incidents since 2012/13. Includes data at police force level, however this is generally incomparable over time and across forces due to inconsistencies in recording practices

[Home Office Evaluation of the Intoximeter EC/IR breath testing device](#) – 19th October 2016

3. Inspections

Concerns raised regarding the contribution of police to safeguarding children – 18th October

HMI Education, Children's Services and Skills raises concerns based on evidence from Ofsted's inspections of local authority children's services in 2015/16. More than half of Ofsted's 42 inspections of local authority children's services identified serious weaknesses in the contribution made by the police to safeguarding children. This included evidence that police were not sharing information about domestic abuse cases in a timely way, notifying social workers quickly enough when children went missing, attending important child protection conferences, carrying out joint child protection visits with social workers or tackling DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) backlogs. HMIC's Thomas Winsor's response can be found [here](#).

HMIC Inspection Programme

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|--|--------------------|
| • PEEL: Efficiency, Legitimacy and Leadership | Draft reports |
| • JTAI Partnership response to children affected by domestic abuse | In progress |
| • PEEL: Effectiveness - prevention, investigation, vulnerability, SPR, ROCU | In progress |
| • HMIC: Counter-terrorism | Unannounced visits |
| • 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: 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

[Inquiry launched into Emergency Services Communications](#) – 24th October 2016

The Public Accounts Committee inquiry into the Emergency Services Network following risks highlighted in a recent [NAO report](#). Inquiry session is scheduled for Wednesday 16th November 2016

[Inquiry launched into Syrian Resettlement Programme](#) – 24th October 2016

The Public Accounts Committee inquiry into costs surrounding the Syrian refugee resettlement programme following a recent [NAO report](#). Inquiry session is scheduled for Monday 7th November 2016

[Report: The role of the magistracy](#) - published 17th October 2016

Justice Committee report concludes that unresolved issues relating to the role of the magistracy, its workload and serious problems with recruitment and training must be addressed as a matter of urgency. The report calls for the Ministry of Justice and senior judiciary to develop an over-arching strategy which takes into account the impact of court closures, proposals for problem solving courts and whether the magistrate role could be expanded. Other recommendations include:-

- Ensuring magistrates are consulted on any further changes to the criminal justice system
- Amending the protocol to support judicial deployment in the magistrates' court, considering allowing magistrates to sit without legal advisers when with a District Judge and lifting legal restrictions to allow magistrates to supervise community orders in all courts, where consistent sitting can be arranged
- Increasing sentencing powers to 12 months' custody and providing a timetable for implementation
- Taking steps to increase the diversity of magistrates and rebalance the age profile
- Comprehensive review of magistrates' training needs and more funding to support training
- A more robust appraisal scheme that identifies and addresses inadequate performance
- Ensure at least 90% of users can reach their nearest magistrates' court by public transport within one hour
- Explore practical low cost solutions to security risks in alternative court venues lacking a secure dock
- Maintain full access to physical courts until facilities such as video links are fully operational

[Report: Treatment of young adults in the criminal justice system](#) – published 18th October 2016

Justice Committee report concludes that the CJS does not adequately address the distinct needs of young adults. The report sets out a blueprint for a recommended strategic approach which comprises:-

- Overarching principles to inform a step-change in policy and practice
- Understanding risks and needs including a policy of universal screening for mental health needs
- A distinct approach and training among specialist criminal justice professionals dealing with young adults
- Building the evidence base for the treatment of young adult offenders building on what works
- Legislative and departmental reform to extend statutory support provided for under-18s to those under 25
- Further work to evaluate the impact of maturity as a mitigating factor in sentencing and revise CPS Code
- Extend detention in YOIs to age 25 via the Prison Reform Bill and test various custody models

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- **Evidence in progress:** [Lammy Review of BAME representation in the CJS](#) (ongoing), [Child Sexual Abuse Independent Inquiry](#) (ongoing), [Child Protection inquiry](#) (31st October 2016), [Hate crime and its violent consequences inquiry](#) (25th October 2016), [Troubled Families Inquiry](#) (19th October 2016), [Apprenticeships inquiry](#) (19th October 2016), [Inquiry into the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse](#) (18th October 2016), [Undercover Policing inquiry](#) (ongoing), [Support for ex-offenders inquiry](#) (14th September 2016), [Sharia Law](#) (6th September 2016), [Prison Reform inquiry](#) (TBC),
 - **Accepting written submissions:** [Implications of Brexit for the justice system inquiry](#) - deadline 11th Nov
[Inquiry launched into the disclosure of youth criminal records](#) – deadline 11th November 2016

5. Legislation

[Investigatory Powers Bill](#) - 3rd Reading House of Lords – 31st October 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 2016.

See [Lords briefing paper](#) (21st June 2016) and [Joint Select Committee recommendations](#) for further information

[Policing and Crime Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – 2nd November 2016

- 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 PCC, Home Secretary the power to change police area name 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
- [Supporting documents](#) and [running list of amendments](#) (11th Sept 2016)

[Children and Social Work Bill](#) – Lords Report stage – 8th November 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

[Modern Slavery \(Transparency in Supply Chains\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – TBC

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](#)

[Criminal Finances Bill](#) – [Introduced](#) 13th October 2016 – Commons Committee 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](#)

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – 1st November 2016

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.

Digital Economy Bill – Public Bill Committee to conclude by 1st November 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. [Commons analysis paper](#)

Sexual Offences (Pardons Etc.) Bill – Commons 2nd reading – 16th December 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. **20th October 2016** Justice Minister Sam Gyimah [announced plans](#) to implement 'Turing's Law' through an amendment to the Policing and Crime Bill. [Commons briefing](#) – 20th October 2016

Homelessness Reduction Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 28th October 2016

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, and to provide those who find themselves homeless with support for a further period of 56 days to help to secure accommodation. The bill will also ensure that other local services refer those either homeless or at risk of being homeless to local authority housing teams. Bill builds on the government's commitment in December 2015 to consider all options, including legislation, to prevent homelessness. The draft bill underwent scrutiny by the Communities and Local Government Select Committee and has received [government support](#) [Commons briefing](#) - 24th Oct 2016

Stalking (Sentencing) Bill - Introduced 12th October 2016 - Commons 2nd reading – 28th October 2016

Private Member's Bill to increase the maximum sentences available to the court for stalking offences
[Commons Briefing paper](#)

Preventing & Combating Violence Against Women & DV Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 16th Dec 2016

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)

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

National Citizen Service Bill – Introduced 11th October – Lords 2nd reading – TBC

[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

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; 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

Missing Persons Guardianship Bill – Lords 2nd reading – TBC

Private Members' Bill to make provision for the administration of the affairs of missing persons

6. Consultations

[Expedited immigration and asylum appeals for detained appellants](#)

Ministry of Justice consultation on proposals for an expedited appeals process for detained immigration and asylum appellants. This includes a suggested revised timescale from the point of the Home Office decision to the appeal being determined and whether the government should charge a fee to bring an appeal

Open date: 12/10/2016

Close date: 22/11/2016

[Reforming Misconduct in Public Office](#)

Second phase of the Law Commission's consultation explores definitions, scope and prosecution requirements in relation to the offence

Open date: 05/09/2016

Close date: 28/11/2016

[Parliamentary constituency boundary reform](#)

Boundary Commission consultation on proposals to revise constituency boundaries, ensure that the difference between constituency sizes is no more than 5% points and deliver financial savings by reducing the number of MPs from 650 to 600. Local public hearings will also be held as part of the process. Two further rounds of consultation will take place in 2017 and final recommendations will be submitted in autumn 2018

Open date: 13/09/2016

Close date: 06/12/2016

[National Surveillance Camera Strategy](#)

Surveillance Camera Commissioner consultation on strategy to enable system operators to understand best practice and their legal obligations and enable the surveillance camera community to demonstrate compliance with the principles of the surveillance camera code of practice and other guidance. The strategy has been divided into 10 key work strands each led by sector expert. Delivery plans will be published in 2017.

Open date: 25/10/2016

Close date: 06/12/2016

[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