



Commissioner's horizon scanning briefing

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1. Policy and Practice

All new government policy announcements subject to [Purdah restrictions](#) until the final election result is announced following the general election on 8th June 2017

[UK terror threat raised to 'Critical'](#) – 24th May 2017

The independent Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre raise the threat UK terror threat level to “critical” as investigations continue following the terrorist attack in Manchester on 22nd May. This means that a further attack remains highly likely and may be imminent. The public are asked to remain calm but alert. [ACT Campaign](#)

[Ransomware: NCSC Guidance](#) – 15th May 2017

National Cyber Security Centre publish guidance for [home users and small businesses](#) and [enterprise administrators](#) following the “WannaCry” malware attack which affected a wide range of organisations globally. The Charity Commission also issued an [alert to charities](#) as regulatory advice under the Charities Act 2011

[Modern Slavery Pocket Guide for Nurses and Midwives](#) – 12th May 2017

Royal College of Nursing guide to help nurses and midwives identify victims of slavery and help people find the assistance and support they need

[Using evidence in scrutiny](#) – 16th May 2017

Centre for Public Scrutiny practice guide aiming to give practitioners an understanding of what makes “good” evidence and how to intelligently evaluate and use evidence to reveal enough of the truth to drive improvement

[Police Federation Annual Conference](#) – 16th – 17th May 2017

[Video available on-demand](#)

- [PFEW Chair Steve White](#) called for tougher sentences for those convicted of assaulting officers
- [Che Donald \(PFEW\)](#) presented findings from the PFEW Welfare, Demand and Capacity survey
- [HMI Sir Thomas Windsor](#) called for greater priority to be given to officer and staff welfare
- [Home Secretary Amber Rudd](#) defended changes to pay and pensions, made bids to improve the mental health support available to police and offered support to forces wishing to introduce spit guards
- [Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, Kevin Hyland](#) drew attention to the issue of Modern Slavery
- [Andy Fittes \(PFEW\)](#) discussed the recently published PFEW Annual Public Value Report 2016/17
- [Che Donald \(PFEW\)](#) commented on the IPCC's approach to investigating firearms incidents and gave his support to the use of body worn video

General Election Manifesto Pledges – Crime, Policing and Criminal Justice – W/C 15th May 2017

<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Liberal Democrats</u>
Police and Crime Commissioners		
Widen the role. Greater devolution of criminal justice responsibility and budgets. Ensure representation on local health and wellbeing boards. Extend first past post voting system.	Re-instate separate governance arrangements for Fire and Police Services. Bring forward legislation to make the devolution settlement more sustainable	Replace Police and Crime Commissioners with accountable Police Boards made up of local councillors
Police Budgets, Recruitment and Practice		
Protect police budgets. Extend direct entry into the police, including at chief officer level and graduate entry schemes	Recruit 10,000 more police officers to work on community beats and 3,000 new firefighters	Invest extra £300m p.a. in local policing. End the 1% cap on police pay rises. Resource BAME staff associations to increase ethnic diversity & participation in policing
Legislate to mandate changes in practices if 'stop and search' does not become more targeted & 'stop to arrest' ratios do not improve	Champion community policing policies and incentivise good policing practice	Increase community policing and require all frontline officers to wear body cameras on duty
Improve co-ordination between mental health services and police		End the use of police cells for people facing mental health crisis
Crime		
Tackle hate crime. Bolster response to cyber threats working with enforcement agencies & National Cyber Security Centre	Provide police with resources needed to be effective in tackling the growing threat of cybercrime. Align law on LGBT hate crime	Combat organised crime, terrorism & CSE & campaign to reduce hate crimes anti-Semitism & intolerance
Focus on labour exploitation and review application of exploitation in the Modern Slavery Act to strengthen enforcement capability	Make age-appropriate sex and relationship education compulsory part of the school curriculum	Extend requirements on companies to strengthen responsibility for supply chains in tackling modern slavery
Victims of crime		
Introduce a Victims' Bill of Rights making clear what level of service they should expect.	Introduce legislation for minimum standard entitlements to service from criminal justice agencies	Introduce a Victims' Bill of Rights
Create domestic violence & abuse commissioner to represent victims & hold police & CJS to account	Appoint a commissioner to set new standards for tackling domestic and sexual violence	Review investigation, prosecution, procedures & rules of evidence in sexual & domestic violence cases
Introduce Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill & enshrine definition of domestic violence & abuse in law	Domestic violence: Prohibit cross examination by abusers, use of community resolution & victim injury certification payment requirements	
Ensure child victims and victims of sexual violence are able to be cross-examined before their trial	Strengthen mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse.	Decriminalise sale & purchase of sex work to focus on those forced, groomed and trafficked
Review funding for refuges & ensure those fleeing violence can secure a new lifetime tenancies	Establish a National Refuge Fund and ensure stability for rape crisis centres	Provide government funding for a national rape crisis helpline

<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Liberal Democrats</u>
Criminal Justice, Courts and Prisons		
Create national community sentencing framework that punishes offenders, and focusses on measures to 'turn people around' & prevent crime	Review the role of Community Rehabilitation Companies & incentivise local authorities, police and probation to engage effectively with young people at risk	Promote Community Justice Panels, restorative justice & increase the use of non-custodial punishments e.g. weekend & evening custody, GPS tagging
Continue to modernise courts, improve court buildings and facilities and make it easier for people to secure justice	Continue to extend use of technology in court service where it enhances access to justice, timely resolution and efficiency	Extend the responsibility of Youth Justice Board to all offenders under 21, giving it the power to commission mental health services
Introduce dedicated provision for women offenders	Review the judicial appointments process to ensure a judiciary that is more representative of society	Establish Women's Justice Board to meet needs of women offenders
Reduce disproportionate use of force against BAME people in prisons, YOIs & secure MH units	Eliminate institutional biases against BAME communities	Reduce the over-representation of BAME individuals at every stage of the CJS
Invest £1bn+ in modernising the prison estate and creating 10,000 modern prison places.	Recruit 3,000 more prison officers and review training and professional development	Transform prisons into places of rehabilitation, recovery, learning, and work
Create a new legal framework for prisons, strengthening the inspectorate and ombudsman	Publish annual reports on prisoner-staff ratios. Introduce personal rehabilitation plans for all prisoners	Introduce presumption against short prison sentences & increase use of non-custodial punishments
Reform entry requirements, training, management and career paths of prison officers	Review the provision of mental health services in prisons	National rollout of programme to early identify vulnerable people (MH, substance misuse) in the CJS
Extend the scope of the Unduly Lenient Sentence Scheme	Re-establish early advice entitlements in the Family Courts	Introduce a legal, regulated market for cannabis. End imprisonment for drug possession & divert users into treatment & education
Counter Terrorism		
Maintain/develop counter-terrorism strategy & establish a Commission for Countering Extremism	Review the Prevent programme assessing its effectiveness and potential to alienate communities	Scrap Prevent strategy & replace with a more community-focussed scheme to tackle extremism
National / International Policing and Investigatory Powers		
Improve border policing. Make it harder for people with a criminal conviction to enter the country. Satellite tracking foreign national offenders subject to deportation.	Recruit 500 more border guards & maintain cross-border security co-operation agreements with our intelligence partners in Europe & beyond	Retain the European Arrest Warrant, membership of Europol and access to European Union information databases
Create a national infrastructure police force, comprising Civil Nuclear Constabulary, the MOD Police & British Transport Police.	Conduct a strategic defence and security review, including cyber security	End indiscriminate bulk collection of communications data & Internet Connection Records
Incorporate the Serious Fraud Office into the National Crime Agency to strengthen Britain's response to white collar crime	Re-introduce effective judicial oversight over how and when investigatory powers are used	Permit communications intercepts and surveillance of those suspected of SOC and terrorism - with proper judicial oversight

2. Research, Development and Statistics

[Fire statistics – 6 months to September 2016 – published 18th May 2017](#)

Home Office publish fire and rescue service statistics showing a 6% increase in incidents attended by FRSs (288,000) in April to September 2016 compared to the same period the previous year, largely driven by a 23% increase in attendance at non-fire incidents. Collectively, fire services attended 87,000 fires during the 6 months to September 2016, marking a 7% reduction on the previous year. While fire-related fatalities have fallen from 141 to 88, primary fires affecting people or property remained relatively stable at 38,000. The Home Office have also published detailed data relating to incidents attended, false alarms, fatalities and casualties, response times, prevention activity and workforce statistics, which are [available at local Fire and Rescue Authority level](#)

[Criminal Justice Statistics quarterly to December 2016 – Published 18th May 2017](#)

MOJ statistics showing the number of people formally dealt with by the CJ system falling to the lowest level on record while the conviction ratio (85%) has remained relatively stable. The custody rate for indictable offences has been increasing since September 2010, from 22% to 30%. Offenders with no previous convictions and cautions are now more likely to go to court and be convicted (53%) than receive a caution. Only 22% of first time offenders went on to court and were convicted 10 years ago.

[National Offender Management Service Workforce Statistics March 2017 – published 18th May 2017](#)

NOMS FTE staff levels (43,488) as of March 2017 are comparable to 2016 levels, following an increase of 561 over the last quarter. The shortfall in prison officer staff, in particular, has fallen from 5.3% to 4.8%. Overall NOMS leaving rates have been increasing since 2010/11, having risen by 1% point over the last year to 8.4%. The prison officer leaving rates have increased at a faster pace, by 1.5% points to 9.4%. Average working days lost to sickness have levelled off at around 10.4 for NOMS staff, having fallen from 11.2 since March 2015.

[Young people not in education, employment or training \(NEET\): May 2017 – published 25th May 2017](#)

Office for National Statistics estimates indicate that the number of young people (16 to 24) not in education, employment or training in the UK (800,000) has fallen by around 8% (-68,000) over the last year. 42% of all young people in the UK who were NEET were looking for work and available for work and therefore classified as unemployed; the remainder were either not looking for work and / or not available for work and therefore classified as economically inactive

Upcoming [Crime Reduction Systematic Reviews](#):

- [Speed cameras to reduce speeding traffic and road traffic injuries](#) TBC
- [Tagging as a method to reduce theft in retail environments](#) TBC
- [Red light enforcement cameras to reduce traffic violations and injuries](#) TBC
- [The effectiveness of electronic monitoring of offenders](#) TBC
- [Effectiveness of asset-focussed interventions against organised crime](#) TBC
- [Personal security alarms for the prevention of assaults](#) May 2017
- Police responses to people with mental health problems June 2017
- The impact of police pre-arrest diversion – systematic review June 2017

3. Inspections

[HMCPST inspection of the recording of case finalisations](#) – 23rd May 2017

Inspectors found that overall management of case finalisations on the Crown Prosecution Service's case management system (CMS) had improved significantly since 2013/14 following considerable investment in the data quality and training. It did, however, recommend the use of a standard template and inputting method for court hearing Information to reduce inconsistencies, roll out of the tool to reduce errors in recording the Principal Offence Category and improvements in the use of data quality compliance checks

HMIC suspend inspections in view of the increased threat level – 24th May 2017

HMIC suspend all inspections in view of the increased threat level to enable forces to deploy available resources as necessary

- HMIC: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Phase 2 fieldwork May 2017 - Mar 2018
- PEEL: Efficiency fieldwork - VfM and matching resources to demand Spring 2017
- PEEL: Legitimacy fieldwork - fairness, legality and ethics Spring 2017
- [HMIC: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking - Phase 1 report](#) June 2017
- Joint Inspections of Stalking and Harassment (HMIC-led) - Report July 2017
- PEEL: Effectiveness fieldwork - incl. prevention, investing, offender mgmt. Autumn 2017
- Force Management Statement completion deadline October 2017
- PEEL 2017/18: Overall findings report published March 2018
- [HMIC: Crime data integrity \(unannounced visits\)](#) Rolling programme
- HMIC: National Child Protection Inspection (HMIC-led) Rolling programme
- Joint targeted [Child Protection Inspection](#) (Ofsted-led) Rolling programme
- Joint inspection of Youth Offending Teams Rolling programme
- Joint inspection of Police Custody Arrangements (HMI Prisons-led) Rolling programme

4. Reviews and Inquiries

- **Evidence in progress:**
 - [Child Sexual Abuse Independent Inquiry](#) – preliminary hearings held for [protection of children outside the UK](#) (9th May), [Cambridge House, Knol View and Rochdale](#) (10th May) and [Children in the Care of Nottinghamshire Councils](#) (11th May)
 - [Independent Review into child abuse allegations in football](#) (ongoing),
 - [Pitchford Undercover Policing inquiry](#) (ongoing)
- **Report in preparation:** [Lammy Review of BAME representation in the CJS](#) (Spring 2017)
- **Reports awaiting government response:** [Countering extremism inquiry](#) (Report published 25th August 2016), [Implications of Brexit for the justice system inquiry](#) (Report published 17th Mar 2017), [Apprenticeships inquiry](#) (Report published 30th March 2017), [Hate crime and its violent consequences inquiry](#) (Report published 1st May 2017)
- **Concluded:** All select committees ceased to exist on the dissolution of Parliament on 3 May 2017. New Committees in the next parliament will decide whether to continue work on the following: [Disclosure of youth criminal records](#), [Prison Reform](#), [Civilian Drone Use](#), [Policing for the Future inquiry](#), [Immigration inquiry](#), [Sharia Law](#)

5. Legislation

[Prison and Courts Reform Bill](#) – Special Report in lieu of election - 19th April 2017 [Commons analysis](#)
Bill to set the framework to make prisons places of safety and reform, devolve operational policies to prison governors, modernise courts to improve speed and [access to justice](#), improve protections for victims and vulnerable people and make provision about whiplash claims.

- Power to stop domestic violence victims being cross examined by their attackers in [family court](#)
- Extending use of [virtual hearings](#) and resolution via video or telephone conferencing in some cases
- Offenders charged with some less serious offences to plead guilty / accept conviction / pay instantly [online](#)
- Stronger powers to HMI [Prisons](#) e.g. triggering urgent govt. response where there are significant concerns
- New agency - HMI Prison and Probation Service will be responsible for all prison and probation operations
- 3 year performance agreements with prison governors to be measured and reported on from October 2017
- Make it easier for the judiciary to deploy judges and handle case backlogs more [flexibly](#)
- Introducing new fixed tariffs capping [whiplash](#) compensation and banning claims without medical evidence

A Public Bill Committee is now receiving written evidence on the Bill [Supporting documents](#)

No further action following dissolution of parliament from 3rd May 2017:-

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#), [Road Traffic Offenders \(Surrender of Driving Licences\) Bill](#), [Rehabilitation of Offenders \(Amendment\) Bill](#), [Crime \(Assaults on Emergency Services Staff\) Bill](#) introduced, [Sexual Offences \(Amendment\) Bill](#) introduced, [Unlawful Killing \(Recovery of Remains\) Bill](#), [Animal Cruelty](#) and [Animal Fighting](#) Sentencing Bills, [British Victims of Terrorism \(Asset-Freezing & Comp\) Bill](#), [Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 \(Amendment\) Bill](#), [Malicious Communications \(Social Media\) Bill](#), [On-line Safety Bill](#), [Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#), [Support to Exit Prostitution Bill](#), Vehicle Technology and Aviation Bill

6. Consultations

[Changes to Alcohol Duty Structures](#)

HM Treasury consultation on introduction of a new duty band to target cheap, high strength 'white' ciders below 7.5% abv and the impacts of a new lower strength still wine band between 5.5% and 8.5% abv

Open date: 20/03/2017

Close date: 12/06/2017

[National Business Crime Centre](#)

The newly formed police-led National Business Crime Centre is consulting on priorities in tackling business crime. The Centre aims to support both policing colleagues and the business community

Open date: 18/05/2017

Close date: 16/06/2017

[Reducing litter: penalties for environmental offences](#)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs consultation on increasing on-the-spot fines for littering, graffiti, fly-posting and introducing new fines for the owners of vehicles from which litter has been thrown

Open date: 10/04/2017

Close date: 18/06/2017

[United Kingdom's future legal framework for imposing and implementing sanctions](#)

Government consultation seeking views on the legal powers needed to continue to be able to impose and implement sanctions following the UK's withdrawal from the European Union

Open date: 21/04/2017

Close date: 23/06/2017

[Local Alcohol and Substance Misuse Policy](#)

National consultation, led by Derbyshire PCC Hardyal Dhindsa, seeking the views of PCCs in relation to the alcohol and substance misuse agenda and local activity underway to address these issues

Open date: 25/05/2017

Close date: 23/06/2017

[Intimidatory Offences and Domestic abuse guidelines](#)

Ministry of Justice consultation on revised sentencing guidance for domestic abuse, including harassment stalking, controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship, disclosing private sexual images and threats to kill

Open date: 30/03/2017

Close date: 30/06/2017

[What's been happening to neighbourhood policing?](#)

Police Foundation is seeking views from the police service, and those in strategic roles in local policing in particular, on how the neighbourhood policing workforce [has changed](#) in different forces since 2008

Open date: 20/04/2017

Close date: TBC