



## Commissioner's horizon scanning briefing

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## 1. Policy and Practice

### [£24m additional funding for counter-terrorism policing announced](#) – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Home Secretary makes a further £24m available for counter-terrorism policing in the wake of recent attacks. This comes in addition to the resource (£633m), capital (£42m) and police transformation (£32m) funding already allocated to CT in 2017/18 and will be used bolster protective security measures in crowded places and in response to the threat of vehicles being used as weapons

### [£600,000 Grant funding awarded to child sexual abuse charities](#) – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017

£600,000 grant funding will support the National Association of People Abused in Childhood (£314,360) deliver a telephone support line, training, research and advocacy work; the Safeline Warwick (£24,099) telephone and online counselling service for adult women survivors child sexual abuse; Barnardo's (£184,873) develop approaches to identifying, assessing and preventing the sexual abuse of boys; and Rape Crisis (£76,659) in their work to support survivors and raise awareness via an audio 'survivor voices' project

### [DCLG make £5.5m per year available to help develop Neighbourhood Plans](#) – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017

DCLG make a package worth £22.8 over four years available to provide specialist support to communities in developing Neighbourhood Plans for the location and design of new homes, shops and offices in their area. This supports the ambitions of the government's housing white paper (February 2017) and will accompany further measures to be implemented when the Neighbourhood Planning Act comes into effect later this year

### [Security, law enforcement and criminal justice - a future partnership paper](#) – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Department for Exiting the European Union and Home Office publishes a discussion paper on options for ensuring effective cooperation between the UK and EU on law enforcement and criminal justice partnership after Brexit. The paper highlights the need to establish a new security treaty which builds upon and enhances existing internal security cooperation in working to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute criminal and terrorist activity across our borders. The paper sets three core objectives for new arrangements which include:

- protecting the safety and security of our citizens and upholding justice in the UK and across the EU
- maintaining the closest and most cooperative partnerships between Britain and the 27 EU member states
- continuing to cooperate on the basis of our shared democratic values and respect for the rule of law

### [ACT for YOUTH counter terrorism campaign launched](#) – 28<sup>th</sup> September

Counter Terrorism Security Office launch first safety campaign aimed at young people aged 11 to 16

## [Security Minister makes direction under s5 of the Communications Act 2003](#) – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Security Minister directs Ofcom to ensure that commercial multi-user gateways, which allow calls to be routed through different operators, are only be licensed where the supplier has the ability to identify callers. This will help to ensure that security, intelligence, law enforcement and emergency services have access to the information they need to investigate terrorism and serious crime and identify and locate people at risk of harm. [Prime Minister](#) has also called on internet companies to go 'further and faster' to stop the spread of terrorist material online and develop new technology to prevent material from appearing online in the first place

## [International Call to Action on Modern Slavery](#) – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017

37 countries sign up to Call to Action in the fight against slavery calling for better evidence, more resourcing, and a more joined up response. [UK Prime Minister](#) also announces £20m seed funding to the new Global Fund to End Modern Slavery and plans to host an international summit next spring. [Priti Patel modern slavery speech](#)

**Recent Commons briefing papers** include: [Gypsies and Travellers](#) (28<sup>th</sup> Sep), [Speed limits in England](#) (21<sup>st</sup> Sep), [Public Finances](#) (21<sup>st</sup> Sep), [Tackling aggressive antisocial behaviour](#) (15<sup>th</sup> Sep)

## 2. Research, Development and Statistics

### [Impact of child abuse on later life: Findings from the CSEW](#) – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Office for National Statistics publishes findings in relation from the Crime Survey for England and Wales to March 2016 on adult survivors of child abuse. The [statistics](#) show that:-

- Around one in five adults aged 16 to 59 had experienced some form of abuse as a child
- 51% of adults who were abused as children experienced domestic abuse in later life
- 36% of those who experienced abuse by a family member as a child were abused by a partner as an adult
- 31% of adults who were abused as a child reported also being sexually assaulted as an adult
- Adults who witnessed domestic abuse as a child were more likely to experience adult abuse by a partner
- Women survivors of childhood abuse were more likely to experience adult sexual assault than males
- 57% of women survivors of child abuse experienced adult domestic abuse, compared with 41% of men
- Adult survivors of child abuse were also more likely to have taken illegal drugs in the last year (12%)

### [The New Netwar: Countering Extremism Online](#) – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017

Policy Exchange publishes report on use of the internet by jihadist extremists and options for future policy in disrupting the strategic objectives of the movement. Proposals include pushing technology companies to do more through 'responsive regulation', establishing a new independent regulator of social media content and creating a new legal framework to target those who wish to consume extremist material, either by developing civil remedies, revisiting proposals for 'Extremism Disruption Orders' or considering new criminal legislation. . The report also presents findings from a public attitudes survey which found strong public support for internet companies to be more proactive in locating and deleting extremist content (74%) and for an independent regulator (75%) and new criminal legislation to be introduced do more (74%)

### [Every Transaction Leaves a Trace: Financial Investigation in Policing SOC](#) – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Royal United Services Institute paper makes the case for the wider use of financial investigation techniques in the fight against serious and organised crime. The paper makes recommendations for specific reference to proactive financial investigation capability to be made in the Strategic Policing Requirement and for the greater use of strategic policing alliances to 'pool' specialist financial investigation capacity and capability. The report also calls for a review of the current 'exploitation of financial investigation' as a means of responding to financially motivated cybercrime at the local and regional tiers of policing, and argues for standalone lifetime offender management units within Regional Organised Crime Units that are staffed with financial investigators

## **Police Complaints: Statistics for England and Wales 2016/17 – Published 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

IPCC annual report shows that the number of complaint cases recorded in 2016/17 (34,103) to be comparable to the previous year. Police forces continue to record the majority of complaints within 10 working days, although the proportion recorded within this time fell from 88% to 84%. 279 allegations per 1,000 employees were recorded across all police forces in 2016/17, with allegation rates among the highest and lowest 10 forces remaining broadly similar to the previous year. The average number of working days taken to finalise complaint cases (112) saw a marginal reduction on the previous year (116). Data available at police force level

## **Reported road casualties Great Britain, annual report: 2016 – Published 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Department for Transport Annual Report highlights a 4% increase in the number road deaths (1,792) in 2016, which despite being 44% lower than a decade ago, marks the highest level recorded since 2011. Scotland saw the most significant increase (+18%), while the increase in England (+2%) was not statistically significant, continuing a broadly flat trend seen since 2010. The number seriously injured (+9%) and slightly injured (+4%) also increased, however these figures have been affected by changes in severity reporting by some police forces. Child fatalities show no clear trend having risen from 54 to 69 in 2016 while child casualties fell by 1%. [Data available](#) by road type/condition, local authority, [causalities involved](#), [contributory factors](#) and [drink driving](#)

## **Criminal court statistics quarterly: April to June 2017 – Published 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Outstanding cases in the magistrates and Crown Courts have continued to fall during 2017 as a result of disposals exceeding receipts. Although decreasing, violence against the person offences had the highest volume of receipts, disposals and outstanding cases. The average number of days from first listing to completion in the Crown Court fell further from 194 days in 2016 to 174 days as at June 2017

## **Pre-charge bail data – Published 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017**

College of Policing publishes force data on disposals post arrest, since the changes to legislation in April 2017. From a sample of 30 forces, the proportion of disposals listed as pre-charge bail fell from 26% in March 2017 to 4% in the three months to June 2017. The majority of cases during April to June 2017 were listed as 'released under investigation'. Out of 28 forces providing data, there were 542 extensions to bail authorised by superintendents and three authorised by the courts between April and June 2017. The report notes that caution should be applied when drawing conclusions from the data as it has been taken from a variety of force IT systems which are continuously updated by forces, and not subject to data quality assurance checks

## **Effectiveness of asset-focussed interventions against organised crime – Published 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

College of Policing publishes findings from a systematic review of Asset-Focussed Interventions (AFIs) which seek to deplete organised criminal finance and reduce organised crime. Discussing assumptions and perspectives held, the lack of evidence to support the effectiveness of asset-focussed interventions in reducing organised crime and the need for further research in this area. Upcoming [Systematic Reviews](#) include:-

- [Red light enforcement cameras to reduce traffic violations and injuries](#) October 2017
- [Personal security alarms for the prevention of assaults](#) October 2017
- Police responses to people with mental health problems October 2017
- The impact of police pre-arrest diversion – systematic review October 2017

## 3. Audits and Inspections

### [Joint inspections of the response to children living with domestic abuse](#) – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Ofsted, Care Quality Commission, HMICFRS, and HMI Probation publish findings from joint targeted area inspections of Bradford, Hampshire, Hounslow, Lincolnshire, Salford and Wiltshire. The report calls for a national public service initiative to raise awareness of domestic abuse and violence, concluding that:-

- Professionals have made progress in dealing with the volume of domestic abuse, however the prevalence of abuse remains a widespread public health issue for which a long-term strategy to 'prevent, protect and repair' is required. Far too little is being done to prevent domestic abuse and repair the damage that it does
- Work with families seen on inspection was often in reaction to individual crises as opposed to the long-term resolutions that keep children safe over time. As such, agencies tend to consider only those people and children at immediate visible risk and do not focus enough on perpetrators of abuse
- There is still a lack of clarity about how to navigate the complexities of information sharing and there needs to be greater consistency in the definition of harm, and in the understanding of whose rights to prioritise.
- In terms of 'children and the police', inspectors encountered cases where officers failed to look beyond the incident when assessing risk and take an holistic approach, and neglected to record critical information such as how they engaged with the child, what the child said and their demeanour

### [Border Force - Joint inspection of police custody 2017](#) – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017

HMI Prisons and HMICFRC inspection report finds elements of the Border Force service were good, but highlight some weaknesses and inconsistency arising from the "loose" national structure of the Border Force, in which regions tend to function as independent entities

### [Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme inspection announced](#) – 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration announces plans to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, including the process for selecting refugees, efforts to integrate those resettled and progress in meeting the 2020 target of 20,000 refugees resettled. The inspection will not examine unaccompanied children. Written evidence from stakeholders with which the inspectorate does not routinely engage is welcomed and encouraged via [chiefinspector@icinspector.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:chiefinspector@icinspector.gsi.gov.uk)

### Upcoming reports and inspection activity

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|--|---------|
| • <a href="#">HMIC: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking - Phase 1 report</a>  | Pending |
| • Ofsted: Joint targeted <a href="#">Child Protection Inspection</a> Overview report   | Pending |
| • Ofsted: Joint Targeted Area Inspection thematic overview report  | Pending |
| • <a href="#">HMIC: Crime data integrity (individual force reports)</a>  | Ongoing |
| • HMI Prisons: Joint inspection of Police Custody Arrangements   | Ongoing |
| • HMIC: National Child Protection Inspection (HMIC-led) examining police effectiveness in their interactions with or for children, from initial contact and early identification of children who are at risk, through to investigation | Ongoing |
| • HMIC: Hate Crime thematic inspection   | 2017/18 |
| • HMIC: Counter Terrorism thematic inspection  | 2017/18 |

## 4. Reviews and Inquiries

### [Government review into cycle safety](#) – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017

Department for Transport launches a review into cycle safety following a series of high profile incidents. The review, which will begin reporting in the New Year, will consider the case for creating a new offence equivalent to causing death or serious injury by careless or dangerous driving and consult stakeholders on the different ways in which safety could be improved, including rules of the road, public awareness, guidance and signage

### [Homelessness](#) – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017

National Audit Office report concludes that the Government has not evaluated the impact of its welfare reforms on homelessness, or the impact of the mitigations that it has put in place. Homelessness has significantly increased in recent years with the ending of private sector tenancies being key driver. Local authorities have increased their spending on homelessness while also reducing spending on preventing it. The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 will, however, give local authorities more responsibility for preventing homelessness

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- **Evidence in progress:**
    - [Child Sexual Abuse Independent Inquiry](#) – preliminary hearings held for [protection of children outside the UK](#) (9<sup>th</sup> May), [Cambridge House, Knol View and Rochdale](#) (10<sup>th</sup> May) and [Children in the Care of Nottinghamshire Councils](#) (11<sup>th</sup> May)
    - [Independent Review into child abuse allegations in football](#) (ongoing),
    - [Pitchford Undercover Policing inquiry](#)
  
  - **Reports awaiting government response:**
    - [Countering extremism inquiry](#) ([Report published](#) 25<sup>th</sup> August 2016)
    - [Implications of Brexit for the justice system inquiry](#) ([Report published](#) 17<sup>th</sup> Mar 2017)
    - [Apprenticeships inquiry](#) ([Report published](#) 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017)
    - [Hate crime and its violent consequences inquiry](#) ([Report published](#) 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017)

## 5. Legislation

### [European Union \(Withdrawal\) Bill](#) – Commons Committee Stage (whole House) – TBC [Commons briefing](#)

Bill to repeal the European Communities Act 1972 and other provisions relating to UK withdrawal from the EU

### [Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – TBC

[Lords briefing](#)

Private Members' Bill to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 12

### [Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#) - Lords Committee Stage – TBC

[Lords briefing](#)

Private Members' Bill to make provision about identifying and supporting victims of modern slavery

### [Data Protection Bill](#) - Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017

[Government fact sheets](#)

The Bill to modernise and make data protection laws fit for the digital age by empowering people to take control of their data; supporting UK businesses and organisations through change and ensuring that the UK is prepared for the future after leaving the EU. The Bill will: update regimes for data processing by law enforcement agencies; introduce a new Digital Charter to ensure that the UK is “the safest place to be online”; make it simpler to withdraw consent for the use of personal data; allow people to ask for their personal data held by companies to be erased; require ‘explicit’ consent to be necessary for processing sensitive personal data; expand the definition of ‘personal data’ to include IP addresses, internet cookies and DNA and ensure an effective regulatory framework is in place. New criminal offences will be created to deter organisations from intentionally or recklessly enabling someone to be identified from anonymised data.

### [Assaults on Emergency Workers \(Offences\) Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Private Members' Bill to make certain offences aggravated when perpetrated against emergency workers

### [Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Private Members' 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

### [Mental Health Units \(Use of Force\) Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

Private Members' Bill to make provision about the oversight and management of use of force in mental health units and the use of body cameras by police in the course of duties in relation to people in mental health units

### [Prisons \(Interf. with Wireless Telegraphy\) Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017

Private Members' Bill to make provision about interference with wireless telegraphy in prisons

### [Stalking Protection Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Private Members' Bill to make provision for protecting persons from risks associated with stalking

### [Freedom of Information \(Extension\) Bill](#) – Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Private Members' Bill to extend Freedom of Information Act 2000 in respect of public authorities and extend powers of the Information Commissioner

### [Policing Resources Bill](#) - Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - TBC

Private Members' Bill to make provision for ensuring that police forces in England and Wales have sufficient resources to deliver police services. Proposes the appointment of an independent body to report annually on adequacy of police grant funding. Places duty on Secretary of State to ensure grant recipients have sufficient resources to prevent crime, bring offenders to justice, keep the Queen's Peace and protect, help and reassure the community. Also places duty on Secretary of State to consider PCC police and crime plans, latest adequacy of funding report and the need for contingency funding for police forces to deal with exceptional major incidents

## **[Victims of Crime \(Rights, Entitlements, Notification of CSA\) Bill](#) – Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – TBC**

Private Members' Bill to make provision for specifying new statutory rights and entitlements for victims of crime under the Victims Code of Practice; require PCCs to assess victims services; increase duties of the Victims and Witnesses Commissioner; grant victims the right to request a review of a decision not to prosecute; establish reviews in homicides where no criminal charge has been made; create an obligation on professions to notify cases of possible victims of child sexual abuse

## **[Criminal Records Bill](#) - Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - TBC**

Private Members' Bill to amend the length of time for which an individual may have a criminal record under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

## **[Children Act 1989 \(Amendment\) \(FGM\) Bill](#) – Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - TBC**

Private Members' Bill to state that proceedings under Section 5A of, and Schedule 2 to, the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 are family proceedings

## **[Anonymity \(Arrested Persons\) Bill](#) - Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – TBC**

Private Members' Bill to prohibit the publication of certain personal information until an arrested person has been charged with an offence / set out circumstances where such information can be published

## **[Road Traffic Offenders \(Surrender Driving Licences\) Bill](#) - Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - TBC**

Private Members' Bill to make provision about the provision and surrender of driving licences or certificates in relation to certain offences; make provision in relation to identifying persons in connection with FPNs etc.

## **[Modern Slavery \(Transparency in Supply Chains\) Bill](#) – Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – TBC**

Private Members' Bill to make further provision for transparency in supply chains in respect of slavery and human trafficking

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## **[Bills announced in the Queen's Speech](#) – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017**

- **Sanctions Bill** will make provisions to update, amend or lift key sanctions following the UK's exit from the European Union. [Government plans](#), which include measures to enable Britain to play a central role in global sanctions to combat the threat of terrorism, were published 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017
- **Draft Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill** to ensure victims have the confidence to come forward and report their experiences. The Bill includes proposals to establish a Domestic Violence Abuse Commissioner to hold the justice system to account in tackling domestic abuse, define domestic abuse in law, create new domestic abuse civil prevention and protection order regime, ensure that sentencing of abusive behaviour involving children reflects the life-long impact that this abuse can have, [ratify the Istanbul Convention](#) to allow certain offences committed by British citizens anywhere in the world to be prosecuted in UK courts and to make it easier for domestic abuse survivors to [register to vote anonymously](#)
- **Courts Bill** to modernise and improve the efficiency and accessibility of the courts system. The Bill will include provisions to end the direct cross examination of domestic abuse victims by alleged perpetrators in the family courts, enable more victims to participate in trials through virtual hearings and enable those charged with some less serious criminal offences to opt to plead guilty, accept a conviction and pay a statutory fixed penalty online in order to free up court time for more serious cases.

## 6. Consultations

### [Laser pointers: call for evidence](#)

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy consultation seeking responses from stakeholders and the public on the market for laser pointers and how they are used. This is part of a call for evidence which will consider updating regulations governing the import and trade of laser pointers, as well as potential solutions to the misuse of lasers, such as licensing arrangements, restrictions on supply, and the introduction of a specific criminal offence for 'laser attacks' on planes or vehicles

**Open date: 12/08/2017**

**Close date: 06/10/2017**

### [Draft Sentencing Guidelines for Manslaughter](#)

Sentencing Council consultation on new sentencing guidelines for four types of manslaughter which comprise unlawful manslaughter, gross negligence, manslaughter by reason of loss of control and manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility

**Open date: 04/07/2017**

**Close date: 10/10/2017**

### [2018-19 Local Government Finance Settlement](#)

DCLG technical consultation includes questions in respect of council tax referendum principles for increases of less than 2% for shire counties, London boroughs, Greater London Authority, fire authorities and PCCS. The consultation asks whether respondents views on council tax referendum principles for 2018-19, including whether additional flexibilities are required for particular categories of authority

**Open date: 14/09/2017**

**Close date: 26/10/2017**

### [The impact of Social Media on the Administration of Justice](#)

Attorney General's Office Call for Evidence which aims to establish whether the risks to justice posed by social media are increasing, and whether any further action needs to be taken. Evidence is sought from judges, solicitors and victims' groups with experience of trials being affected by social media commentary or orders and reporting restrictions being breached on social media

**Open date: 15/09/2017**

**Close date: 08/12/2017**

### [The Sentencing Code](#)

Law Commission consultation seeking scrutiny of and feedback on the draft Sentencing Code which aims to provide a single reference point for sentencing, simplify many complex provisions and remove the need to refer to historic legislation. Consultees are invited to feedback on any aspect of the Code, including its structure and wording, but reminded that substantive policy changes to the law on sentencing are outside the project's remit

**Open date: 27/07/2017**

**Close date: 26/01/2018**