

Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Policy and Practice | <i>Government strategy, guidance and policy announcements</i> |
| 2. Research and Statistics | <i>Policing and criminal justice statistical publications and research</i> |
| 3. Audits and Inspections | <i>Criminal justice inspectorate reports and government audits</i> |
| 4. Reviews and Inquiries | <i>Government and independent inquiries and legislative reviews</i> |
| 5. Legislation | <i>Summary of bills currently progressing through parliament</i> |
| 6. Consultation | <i>Current police and criminal justice-related consultation activity</i> |

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1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

[Government announces £28m to support children and young people](#) – 7 May 2018

Minister for Sport and Civil Society announces ten projects to receive a share of over £28 million to support disadvantaged children and young people as part of the Life Chances Fund. The fund helps young people into employment by providing education and training. The projects will also help reduce the number of days young people spend in care and help vulnerable children prepare for school.

[£25.3m Housing First Funding awarded to reduce rough sleeping](#) – 9 May 2018

Housing Secretary awards funding for new pilot projects in Greater Manchester, Liverpool and the West Midlands to support rough sleepers with complex needs to move into stable and affordable accommodation

[New laws to protect UK's critical infrastructure come into force](#) – 10 May 2018

New measures come into force requiring health, water, energy, transport and digital infrastructure companies to have robust safeguards in place to protect against cyber threats and to report breaches and network outages to regulators within 72 hours or face fines of up to £17 million. The measures will also give new regulators powers to assess critical industries, make sure plans are in place to prevent attacks, issue legally-binding instructions to improve security and, if necessary, impose significant fines.

[Updated Fire and Rescue National Framework for England](#) – 8 May 2018

Home Office publishes updated Fire and Rescue National Framework which embeds the government's fire reform agenda and sets priorities and objectives for fire and rescue authorities across England. Changes include new guidance on how fire and rescue authorities should work with the National Fire Chiefs Council and HMICFRS; changes in guidance to reflect Policing and Crime Act reforms allowing mayors and PCCs to exercise the functions of FRAs; provisions supporting the development and delivery of professional standards for FRAs and addressing the lack of co-ordination of standards across the country; a section outlining how FRAs should support and develop their workforce and; changes to encourage commercial transformation by FRAs, leading to further collaboration, innovative thinking and sharing of best practice.

[Step Change Programme - Call to Action](#) – 9 May 2018

National Counter Terrorism Security Office call-to-action for policing, the private sector and government to support the integrated delivery of 25 projects intended to enhance the protective security of the UK

[Towards a sustainable adult social care and support system](#) – 11 May 2018

Collection of LGA articles exploring what an adult social care system fit for future generations might look like

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 14 May 2018

[Funding for victims of modern slavery and trafficking](#) – 9 May 2018

Administrative Court declaration confirms the basis on which legal aid is available under the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO). Modern slavery and human trafficking victims are entitled to immigration funding irrespective of whether a formal application is made for leave to remain, or this is automatically considered under the modern slavery victims' discretionary leave policy.

[One community: LGA Guide to effective partnership working between councils](#) – 14 May 2018

Guide setting out core principles to working effectively in partnership, featuring case studies showing the added value greater partnership between the principal and local tiers of local government

[Updated guidance on the 'interests of justice' test for Legal Aid](#) – 9 May 2018

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Devolution to local government](#) (9 May), [Gypsies and Travellers](#) (8 May), [Government spending plans for 2018/19](#) (8 May), [Public sector pay](#) (3 May), [Safeguarding children and young people in sport](#) (30 Apr)

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Impact Evaluation of the National Speed Awareness Course](#) – 14 May 2018

Ipsos MORI evaluation commissioned by the DfT assesses the effectiveness of the National Speed Awareness Course, concluding that participation in the course has a larger effect in reducing speed reoffending than the penalty points and fine associated with Fixed Penalty Notices in similar cases. The effects appeared to persist for as long as it is possible to assess with the data available (3 years). Non-compliance with speed limits after an offence and the likelihood of being involved in an injury collision are correlated. Further research into the likelihood of being involved in an injury collision following participation in the course would be beneficial.

[National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2018](#) – Published 13th May 2018

National Crime Agency's 2018 Assessment draws on intelligence from UK law enforcement, government departments, the intelligence community and the private and voluntary sectors to demonstrate the increasing scale and complexity of organised crime. Criminals continue to abuse technology and the impact of globalisation to adapt their methods of committing crime. The report highlights:-

- A continual and gradual increase in the scale of modern slavery in the UK and an upward trend in criminal firearms discharges, with the majority of weapons not having been previously used
- UK is a prime destination for corrupt foreign Politically Exposed Persons to launder proceeds of corruption
- UK cyber-crime continues to rise in scale and complexity but under-reporting of data breaches continues to erode our ability to make robust assessments of the scale and cost of network intrusions.

[Crime against businesses: findings from the 2017 Commercial Victimisation Survey](#) – 3 May 2018

Data from the latest Commercial Victimisation Survey indicates that there has been no significant change in incident rates since 2014 within the wholesale and retail sector, which accounts for the highest proportion of crime, and the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing and Manufacturing sectors. The proportion of premises experiencing crime (44%) has, however, fallen since 2012 (53%), largely due to a reduction in the prevalence of vandalism and theft. While the incidence rate of shoplifting has seen no significant change, the median average cost of shoplifting (£60) has continued to rise since 2012 (£35). Levels of customer theft have seen a significant increase within the Manufacturing sector and a non-significant increase in the Wholesale and retail and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sectors. The majority of premises across all sectors surveyed in 2012 to 2017 were satisfied with the way police handle crime in their area.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 14 May 2018

[Nature and Scale of Labour Exploitation Across All Sectors Within the UK – 8 May 2018](#)

Updated Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority report highlights the difficulties in accurately measuring the prevalence of labour exploitation – but notes the increasing number of suspected cases being reported. NRM referral data shows that the number of Vietnamese potential victims is consistently high and continues to increase. Vietnamese, British and Albanian were the most common nationalities referred for labour exploitation in 2017, while GLAA intelligence indicates that exploitation of Romanian workers is most frequently reported. There is often a correlation between the nationality of potential victims and exploiters, however, British suspects appear more readily prepared to exploit victims from other backgrounds. The impact of Britain leaving the EU is unknown despite it being the predominant factor likely to have a bearing upon the intelligence picture.

[Police force prices for goods and services: 2018 – 9 May 2018](#)

Home Office publishes latest 'basket of goods' data set showing comparisons in police force spend on common items such as police helmets, shirts, and vehicles and services like gas and face-to-face language interpretation. Forces have saved £273 million in three years on equipment costs with most savings in the last year deriving from the Collaborative Law Enforcement Programme (CLEP).

[Payment by results statistics: October 2015 to June 2017 – Published 10 May 2018](#)

Proven reoffending statistics for adult offenders being managed by Community Rehabilitation Companies, under Payment by Results arrangements, and by the National Probation Service

[Monthly Youth Custody Report: March 2018 – Published 10 May 2018](#)

[Local Authority Reported Fly-tipping statistics – Updated 12 May 2018](#)

[IOPC Monthly Roundup: April 2018 – Published 11 May 2018](#)

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

[An Inspection of the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme – 8 May 2018](#)

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration Inspection report examining the ambition to resettle 20,000 Syrian refugees by 2020 concludes that the target required the Home Office to move at a pace which was not sustainable. The department should also have been more directly engaged with the pre-arrival stages of the process. The report makes 7 recommendations which include:-

- Reviewing the Scheme's staffing, roles and grading – ensuring staff can be deployed flexibly, as required
- Ensuring the data required to manage the process is defined, captured, shared and processed/analysed
- Determine what constitutes 'best practice' and produce and update as necessary the Scheme's guidance
- Explore with 'upstream' partners how to make better use of time between scheme acceptance and departure
- Maintain closer contact with participating local authorities, to ensure firm offers of accommodation/support
- Review the Scheme's communication strategy and ensure that where the Scheme is dependent on support from other government departments, ministers are sighted on any misalignments and solutions are found.

Upcoming reports and inspection activity

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| • HMIC: Crime data integrity (individual force reports) | Ongoing |
| • HMI Prisons: Joint inspection of Police Custody Arrangements | Ongoing |
| • HMICFRS: Hate Crime thematic inspection | 2017/18 |
| • HMICFRS: Counter Terrorism thematic inspection | 2017/18 |
| • HMICFRS: Independent study of police air support | |
| • HMICFRS: Police response to county lines (Thematic) | |

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

Reducing Modern Slavery – Public Accounts Committee Report – Published 2 May 2018

Public Accounts Committee report concludes that the Home Office has taken too long to turn its Modern Slavery Strategy into an effective and co-ordinated approach across government and understand the complexities of the crime. Government does not yet have the data or systems to understand the crime and does not know how much money it spends tackling modern slavery or what success looks like. Potential victims are waiting too long for a decision on whether they will be treated as a victim of modern slavery, causing distress and anxiety to vulnerable people. The Department has not put in place minimum care standards and does not know what happens to victims after they have gone through the system – or whether they have been trafficked again. The report makes recommendations for the Home Office to-

- Set targets, actions, a means of tracking resources, and clear roles and responsibilities
- Continue to gain a better understanding of the crime, the victims and the perpetrators
- Take immediate action to ensure that its Transparency in Supply Chains legislation is more effective via administering and monitoring compliance and considering publishing a list of companies complying
- By January 2019 ensure that the reformed NRM system enables it to collect and analyse data to understand the crime, the businesses and the sectors where prevalence is highest
- Within 6 months, set out what actions the competent authorities are taking to reduce the time potential victims wait for a decision, and how the reformed NRM will reduce decision making times further
- As a matter of urgency, put in place care standards for the current victim care contract. It should also contract for, or put in place itself, an inspection regime to ensure that all care reaches these standards.
- Work with the NCA, CPS, the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, PCCs, local police forces and local authorities to understand, tackle and reduce regional variations in the response to modern slavery

Independent Review of the Mental Health Act: interim report – 1 May 2018

Department of Health and Social Care interim report of the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act highlights a rising number of individuals being detained under the act as a primary driver of increasing demand - as opposed to some people being detained more often. People from black African and Caribbean heritage remain more likely than any other group to report negative experiences. Concerns about inappropriate use of the MHA in relation to people with a learning disability or autism have also been highlighted - potentially linked to lack of appropriate alternative provision in the community. The interim review recommends:-

- Whole-system approaches to reduce need for detention e.g. health & care services working alongside police
- Work to improve care planning / aftercare for service users who have been detained
- Improvements in the Mental Health Act e.g. provision for advance planning, Community Treatment Orders
- Advocacy as an impactful safeguard by many service users - provision and standards are currently variable
- Improved interaction between the MHA and the criminal justice system – particularly re. decision making
- Rescue the notion of the 'informal patient' who is not subject to legislation
- Further work to consider what should, and should not, amount to a 'deprivation of liberty' at the interface of the MHA and the Mental Capacity Act, building on the need to reform Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

Continuing Importance of Ethical Standards for Public Service Providers – 10 May 2018

Committee on Standards in Public Life reports that there has been little progress on measures to reinforce ethical standards in outsourced public services noting, in particular, a lack of internal governance and leadership on ethical standards in those departments with significant public service contracts. The report calls for a consultation on whether the Freedom of Information Act should apply to private sector providers where information relates to the performance of a public service contract.

Undercover Policing Inquiry Strategic Review – 10 May 2018

Report following a strategic review by the Undercover Policing Inquiry team based on analysis of the Inquiry's progress to date. The report considers how the Inquiry can deliver its key objectives: getting to the truth and delivering recommendations on the future of undercover policing.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 14 May 2018

[Government response to review into the provision of Registered Intermediaries](#) – 14 May 2018

Response to the Victim's Commissioner's [review](#)

[HMCTS response to National Audit Office report on court reform programme](#) – 9 May 2018

Inquiries

[Transforming Courts and Tribunals inquiry](#) – Launched 10 May 2018

Public Accounts Committee inquiry into HM Courts and Tribunals Service reforms to introduce new technology and modernise the justice system, following a recent National Audit Office [report](#) which found that the scale of proposed changes present a challenge, with less progress having been made than originally planned. Costs have increased whilst benefits have decreased, and, whilst HMCTS has taken steps to manage risks and improve how it manages the changes, it will be difficult to deliver without additional meaningful engagement with other related parties such as police and legal professionals. The reforms introduced in 2016 included using online services and video technology to reduce demand on courtrooms, and a 'Common Platform' for sharing data and information between HMCTS, the Crown Prosecution Service and the police.

Submissions of [written evidence](#) open until 31 May 2018

[Powers to deal with unauthorised caravan sites announced](#) – Launched 5th April 2018

[Consultation](#) open until 15 June 2018

[Business rates retention](#) - CLG Committee – Report in preparation

[Digital currencies inquiry](#) – Oral evidence session 1 May 2018

[Policing for the future](#) – Home Affairs Committee – Oral evidence session 1 May 2018

[Disclosure of evidence in criminal cases inquiry](#) – Oral evidence session 1 May 2018

[Transforming Rehabilitation](#) – Justice Committee – latest evidence 17 April 2018

[Modernising the Disclosure and Barring Service](#) – [evidence session](#) held 19 March 2018

[Hate crime and its violent consequences](#) – HA Committee – latest evidence 24 April 2018

[Economic crime inquiry](#) – Treasury Committee – latest evidence

[Prison Population 2022: Planning for the Future](#) – Justice Committee – latest evidence 7 March 2018

[Emergency Services Network](#) – Public Accounts Committee – [Evidence session](#) held 21 February 2018

[Counter-terrorism](#) - Home Affairs Committee – Open

[Young victims of financial crime inquiry](#) – APPG on financial crime - Open

[Spread of so-called 'pop-up' brothels](#) – APPG on prostitution – Open

[Cycle safety Review](#) – Department for Transport - Open

[Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(IICSA\)](#) comprising 13 independent investigations:

5. LEGISLATION

[Laser Misuse \(Vehicles\) Act](#) Received Royal Assent – 10 May 2018

Act makes it a crime to shine or direct a laser beam that dazzles or distracts, or is likely to dazzle or distract, air traffic controllers, pilots, captains of boats and drivers of road vehicles. Offenders will face penalties of up to 5 years in prison, an unlimited fine or both. The police have also been given extra powers to catch those who misuse lasers and prosecution has been made easier by removing the need to prove there was an intention to endanger a vehicle.

[Secure Tenancies \(Victims of Domestic Abuse\) Act](#) Received Royal Assent – 10 May 2018

Act making provision about granting of old-style secure tenancies in cases of domestic abuse

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Bill](#) – 3rd Reading – 16 May 2018

[Reading list](#) [Lords briefing](#)

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

[Data Protection Bill](#) – Ping Pong stage – 14 May 2018

[Commons Library Analysis](#)

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.

[Government fact sheets](#)

[Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Bill](#) – Ping Pong stage – 21 May 2018

[Commons briefing](#)

Government Bill to give the UK the necessary legal powers to maintain existing sanctions regimes currently imposed through EU law and introduce new measures against countries, organisations and individuals who threaten our security or undermine international law following Brexit.

[Further information](#)

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 15 June 2018

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

[Assaults on Emergency Workers \(Offences\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – TBA

[Briefing](#)

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

[Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#) – Commons 1st reading – TBA

[Lords briefing](#)

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

[Mental Health Units \(Use of Force\) Bill](#) – Commons Report Stage – 15 June 2018

[Briefing](#)

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 Report Stage – 6 July 2018

Private Members' Bill includes provisions to create a new power for the Secretary of State to authorise public communications providers, such as mobile network operators, to interfere with systems in order to disrupt the unlawful use of mobile phones in prisons. Amend existing Prisons (Interf. with Wireless Telegraphy) Act 2012.

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

[Lords briefing](#)

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

[Stalking Protection Bill](#) - Commons Committee Stage – TBA

[APCC response](#)

[Criminal Records Bill](#) - Lords Committee Stage – TBA

[Lords Briefing](#)

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

[Service Animals \(Offences\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 16 June 2018

[Emergency Response Drivers \(Protections\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 6 July 2018

[Licensing of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – 26th October 2018

[Human Trafficking \(Child Protection\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 18th January 2019

[Foreign Nationals \(Criminal Offender & Prisoner Removal\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 22nd Feb 2019

[Policing Resources Bill](#) - Lords 2nd reading - TBA

[Victims of Crime \(Rights, Entitlements, Notification of CSA\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – TBA

[Children Act 1989 \(Amendment\) \(FGM\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading - TBA

[Anonymity \(Arrested Persons\) Bill](#) - Lords 2nd reading – TBA

[Road Traffic Offenders \(Surrender Driving Licences\) Bill](#) - Lords 2nd reading - TBA

[Modern Slavery \(Transparency in Supply Chains\) Bill](#) – Lords 2nd reading – TBC

Bills Pending

[Offensive Weapons Bill](#) to ban the sale of the most dangerous corrosive products to under-18s, make it a criminal offence to possess corrosive substances in a public place without good reason, introduce restrictions on online sales of knives and make it illegal to possess certain offensive weapons like zombie knives and knuckle-dusters in private. Announced on 8th April as part of the government's Serious Violence Strategy.

[Draft Domestic Abuse Bill](#) to better prevent domestic abuse by promoting awareness, protecting and supporting victims, pursuing and deterring and rehabilitating perpetrators and improving performance across all local areas, agencies and sectors. The Bill aims to ensure victims have the confidence to come forward and report their experiences and 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.

[Draft 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

[Local government ethical standards](#)

Committee on Standards in Public Life call for evidence as part of its review to examine the structures, processes and practices in local government, maintaining codes of conduct for local councillors, investigating alleged breaches fairly and with due process, enforcing codes and imposing sanctions for misconduct, managing conflicts of interest and whistleblowing.

Open date: 29/01/2018

Close date: 18/05/2018

[CJJI Business Plan 2018/19](#)

Business Plan setting out the proposed programme of Criminal Justice System inspections for 2018/19 in which two or more inspectorates will be working together. Continuing commitments include Prison Offender Management, Police and UK Borders Authority Custody, Joint Targeted Area Inspections of Child Protection and Youth Inspection Programme. Thematic inspections include Hate Crime and NCA procedures for warrant applications. New inspections include Domestic Abuse: Evidence-led Prosecutions and Older People. Scoping and feasibility studies include Ethnic disproportionality in the CJS and Management of Sex Offenders in the CJS. The consultation invites comments to inform the finalisation of the programme.

Open date: 20/04/2018

Close date: 18/05/2018

[HMCTS reform roadshow for legal professionals](#)

Ticketed event in London on 24 May 2018 to engage legal professionals and professional court users

Event date: 24/05/2018

[Transforming the response to domestic abuse](#)

Government consultation seeking feedback from victims and survivors, support organisations, research experts and professionals across policing, criminal justice, health, education and local authorities on how best to tackle domestic abuse at every stage - from prevention through to rehabilitation. Consultation will be used to inform development of the Domestic Abuse Bill and will include a series of consultation events across the country.

Open date: 08/03/2018

Close date: 31/05/2018

[Children in need of help and protection: Call for evidence](#)

Call for evidence seeking views from professionals across education, children's social care, health and other specialist services on what is being done to improve the educational outcomes of children in need.

Open date: 16/03/2018

Close date: 01/06/2018

[Integrated Communities Strategy green paper](#)

Government green paper seeking views on the vision for stronger and more integrated communities and proposed actions to tackle the root causes of poor integration by boosting English language skills, increasing economic opportunity among people from different backgrounds, building stronger leadership, supporting the integration of recent migrants, respecting and promoting equal rights and building vibrant communities.

Open date: 14/03/2018

Close date: 05/06/2018

[Litter and refuse: updating enforcement guidance](#)

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs consultation seeking views on guidance on proportionate and effective use of fixed penalties for littering, abandoned vehicles, fly-tipping, parking, and offences related to domestic waste bins. Guidance will be put into the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse

Open date: 10/04/2018

Close date: 08/06/2018

[Drug Misuse: Custody-community transitions](#)

Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs public evidence gathering day on drug misuse in prisons and the harms associated with transitions between custody and the community will be open to members of the public who wish to observe. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions of the working group.

Event date: 08/06/2018

[Powers for dealing with unauthorised development and encampments](#)

Cross-departmental government consultation seeking views on the law and powers available to deal with unauthorised development and encampments, including local authority and police powers, court processes, trespass, planning enforcement, the provision of authorised sites and the impacts on the travelling community

Open date: 05/04/2018

Close date: 15/06/2018

[Guideline on sentencing arson and criminal damage](#)

Sentencing Council publishes proposed new guidelines covering arson and criminal damage offences to help ensure consistent and proportionate sentencing for these offences which can vary greatly in severity. The guidelines include arson, damage / arson with intent to endanger life, damage to the value of above and below £5000, threats to damage property and racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage offences.

Open date: 27/03/2018

Close date: 26/06/2018

[Reconsideration of Parole Board decisions: Creating a new and open system](#)

Ministry of Justice review into the law, policy and procedure relating to parole decisions, focussing on the law, policy, guidance and practice relating to challenges to Parole Board decision making; the transparency of Parole Board decision making; victim involvement in Parole Board hearings and arrangements for communicating with victims

Open date: 28/04/2018

Close date: 28/07/2018

[Guideline on sentencing public order](#)

Sentencing Council consultation on new guidelines covering public order offences in England and Wales to help ensure consistent and proportionate sentencing for these offences - which can vary greatly in severity and their impact on emergency workers and police dogs and horses. The guidelines include riots, violent disorder, affray, racially or religiously aggravated offending and offences related to stirring up hatred based on sexual orientation

Open date: 09/05/2018

Close date: 08/08/2018

[Parole process review](#)

Victims' Commissioner is seeking views from victims, and those who have been invited to join the Victim Contact Scheme in particular, as part of the Government's review of the parole process. The consultation seeks feedback on how victims are engaged and involved in the process and whether arrangements for keeping victims informed at all key stages of the parole process are working

Open date: 14/02/2018

Close date: N/A