

## Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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| 1. <b>Policy and Practice</b>     | <i>Government strategy, guidance and policy announcements</i>              |
| 2. <b>Research and Statistics</b> | <i>Policing and criminal justice statistical publications and research</i> |
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To be included on our mailing list, please contact [Dan Howitt](#), Nottinghamshire OPCC

## 1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

### [£20m fund to help those facing homelessness into safe and secure homes](#) – 10 October 2018

Government launches the Private Rented Sector Access Fund for local schemes that will help up to 9,000 people at risk of homelessness to secure a private rented home over the next two years. The deadline for bids is 21 November 2018. From 1 October 2018, Prisons, Job centres and NHS Trusts were also required to refer those at risk of homelessness to councils as part of the Homelessness Reduction Act [duty to refer](#).

### [Government announces new measures to tackle serious violent crime](#) – 2 October 2018 [APCC blog](#)

Home Secretary announces new action to tackle violent crime in the UK, which include:-

- Consultation on a new legal duty for police officers, education partners, local authority and health care professionals to take action to prevent violent crime and ensure serious violence remains a top priority
- A £200m youth endowment fund to build the evidence for early intervention over the next 10 years. This will focus on 10 to 14 year olds at risk and displaying signs such as truancy, aggression and ASB
- Independent review of drug misuse to ensure that law enforcement agencies and policies target and prevent the drug-related causes of violent crime. The review will examine including both recreational drug use and drug use causing the most harm to individuals and communities. [APCC blog](#)

### [Government announces new measures to combat forced marriage](#) – 2 October 2018

Home Secretary announces a package of measures to tackle forced marriage which include a communications campaign to raise awareness of the issue, work with the judiciary to examine whether anonymous evidence of forced marriage can be admissible as closed evidence in the appeals process, and consultations on:-

- Whether there should be mandatory requirements for professionals to report forced marriage to authorities
- Including explicit reference to FM in immigration rules to make clear that it is unacceptable in the UK
- Updated multi-agency statutory guidance to ensure professionals understand FM and their responsibilities

### [Further Government action to tackle Modern Slavery](#) - 10 October 2018

[Prime Minister](#) and Minister for Crime, Safeguarding and Vulnerability announce further measures to tackle modern slavery which are due to take effect on 18<sup>th</sup> October - Anti-slavery Day. These include:-

- Launch of the second round of Modern Slavery Innovation Funding (£5m) for new approaches to improve the response to child victims of modern slavery
- Opening of the West Midlands Independent Child Trafficking Advocates scheme. The scheme will be further rolled out to the East Midlands from January 2019 and Croydon from April 2019.

# Commissioner's e-Briefing: 15 October 2018

## [World Health Organisation launches new 'SAFER' alcohol control strategy](#) – 28 September 2018

WHO launch the 'SAFER' initiative and technical package which outlines five high-impact strategies that can help governments to reduce the harmful use of alcohol and related social and economic consequences

## [New specialist financial crime unit to crack down on prison gangs](#) – 2 October 2018

Justice Secretary announces a new specialist unit to identify and freeze bank accounts linked to organised crime as part of a wider drive to tackle the supply and demand for drugs in prison. The unit, based in Peterborough, will be staffed by Police and Prison Service officers and become fully operational in October.

## [Government Counter Fraud Profession launched](#) – 9 October 2018

Government launches profession to bring together 10,000 counter fraud specialists to help members develop their skills, knowledge and experience to improve detection and prevention of fraud

## [NPCC Workforce Representation, Attraction, Progression and Retention Toolkit](#) – 12 October 2018

NPCC [launches](#) toolkit to help police forces attract and retain more people from underrepresented groups The toolkit includes recommendations for forces to:-

- Appoint chief officer leads, encourage them to approach increasing diversity with the same commitment as critical incidents and formally assess efforts to improve diversity within operational command
- Collect and analyse workforce data to understand how well the force is representing local demographics
- Adopt positive action measures such as proactively seeking out candidates from underrepresented groups
- Increase flexible working to take into account childcare commitments and religious or cultural events
- Review promotion and lateral progression policies, including considering removing the need for line manager approval to remove the risk of unconscious bias in decision-making.

## [Guidance: Safeguarding Body Worn Video \(BWV\) Data 2018](#) – Published 5 October 2018

## [IOPC Monthly round up: September 2018](#) – Published 4 October 2018

## [College of Policing's Legal Digest: September 2018](#) – Published 11 October 2018

**Recent Parliamentary briefings:** [Police service strength](#) (10 Oct), [Victims Strategy](#) (9 Oct), [Safeguarding in English schools](#) (5 Oct), [Tackling modern-day slavery](#) (4 Oct), [Investigation of business banking fraud](#) (3 Oct), [Council tax: local referendums](#) (3 Oct)

**Recent Parliamentary debates:** [Youth Violence](#) (10 Oct), [Court Experience for Victims and Witnesses](#) (9 Oct), [Business Banking Fraud](#) (9 Oct), [Sentences: Reoffending Reduction](#) (9 Oct)

## 2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

### [Victim Personal Statements 2017/18](#) – Published 10 October 2018

Victims' Commissioner's review fifth annual review of the offer and take up of Victim Personal Statements (VPS) based on findings from the Crime Survey for England and Wales finds that only 16% of victims said they were offered the chance to make a statement by police. Of those offered a VPS, however, 57% chose to make one, and of those that did, 68% felt that it has been taken into account. The report found a marked reduction in the proportion of crime victims being offered a VPS in the North East over the last year – having fallen from 16% to 8%. The likelihood of being offered a VPS was also notably lower among victims of vehicle-related theft (10%) and criminal damage (13%) and those that were aged 35 to 44 (13%), married or in a civil partnership (13%) or living in the East of England (10%). By contrast, young people aged 16 to 24 (25%) and victims that were single (20%) were more likely to be offered the opportunity to make a VPS.

## [The use of segregation in youth custody](#) – 10 October 2018

Children's Commissioner report finds that the number of episodes of segregation in youth custody in England and Wales has increased over the past 4 years, despite reductions in the overall number of children detained. The average length of periods of detention has risen from 8 to 16 days, with around 70% of episodes of segregation in Young Offender Institutions lasting more than a week.

## [Sentencing Young Adults: Making the Case for Sentencing Principles](#) – 1 October 2018

Howard League for Penal Reform paper argues that formal sentencing principles for young adults (18 to 25) would assist the courts and improve sentencing outcomes. Drawing on Howard League participation work with young adults, the report sets out how principled guidelines, similar to the Sentencing Council guidelines in place for children, would help judges and magistrates to understand young adults better and provide a legal framework to achieve better sentencing decisions.

## [Construction and the Modern Slavery Act](#) – 9 October 2018

Report from the Chartered Institute of Building examines the UK construction industry's response to the Modern Slavery Act

## [Crime and the pros and cons of the internet of things](#) – 10 October 2018

Police Foundation blog considers the Internet of Things as an aid to crime prevention and detection

### 3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

## [Joint inspection of the handling of cases involving disability hate crime](#) – 9 October 2018

HMICFRS and HMCPSI progress report on the 2013 inspection report Living in a Different World, and subsequent follow up in 2015. This highlights some significant improvements in the handling of cases involving disability hate crime alongside increases in the number of cases being identified correctly as hate crimes. There has also been an increase in the number of successful applications for sentence uplifts due to cases containing elements of disability hate crime. The report does, however, make recommendations for:-

- Improvements in the identification and investigation of cases involving disability hate crime
- Better coordination of work between the police and CPS
- Changes to better highlight and explain cases to the court and defence in order to improve sentencing
- More work to assess and support the needs of victims when attending court and giving evidence.

## [Prison and Probation Ombudsman Annual Report 2017/18](#) – 11 October 2018

Annual report for 2017-2018, raises concerns about the impact of synthetic 'psychoactive substances' (PS) and the absence of a strategy to deal with the rising number of elderly and infirm prisoners. The report highlights:-

- the significant number of drug-related deaths and the ease with which prisoners are able to obtain drugs in prison – including heroin, cocaine, illicitly traded prescription medications and psychoactive substances
- Failings in some establishments to prevent suicide and self-harm, often as a result of poor management procedures and information-sharing, gaps in training and a lack of joined up working
- A lack of suitably skilled healthcare professionals in prisons or the ability to transfer acutely mentally unwell prisoners to more appropriate clinical settings
- The need for a "properly resourced older prisoners' strategy" to address healthcare needs among the growing population of older prisoners.

## 4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

[Forensic Science Inquiry](#) – Science and technology Committee – oral evidence session 23 October

[Financial sustainability of police forces inquiry](#) – Public Accounts Committee – Open

[Modern Slavery](#) – Home Affairs Committee - Open

[Serious Violence Strategy](#) - Home Affairs Committee – Open

[Domestic Abuse](#) – Home Affairs Committee – latest evidence 4 September 2018

[Prison Population 2022: Planning for the Future](#) – Justice Committee - latest evidence 11 Sep 2018

[Digital currencies inquiry](#) – Treasury Committee – latest evidence 4 July 2018

[Economic crime inquiry](#) – Treasury Committee - latest evidence 4 July 2018

[Policing for the future](#) – Home Affairs Committee – latest evidence 19 June 2018

[Emergency Services Network](#) – Public Accounts Committee – latest evidence 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

[Pitchford Undercover Policing inquiry](#) - Open

[Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(IICSA\)](#) comprising 13 independent investigations: [Protection of children outside the UK](#), [Cambridge House, Knowl View and Rochdale](#), [Child Sexual Exploitation by Organised Networks](#), [Accountability and Reparations](#), [Children in Custodial Institutions](#), [the internet](#), [allegations involving the late Lord Janner](#), [Children in the Care of Nottinghamshire Councils](#), [Child Sexual Abuse in the Anglican Church](#), [Child Sexual Abuse in Residential Schools](#), [Allegations Linked to Westminster](#), [Children in the Care of Lambeth Council](#) and [Child Sexual Abuse in the Roman Catholic Church](#)

[Independent Review into child abuse allegations in football](#) - Open

## 5. LEGISLATION

### [Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – 29 October 2018 [Briefing](#)

Government Bill to close gaps in existing counter-terrorism legislation, including provisions to:- extend the [offence](#) of inviting support for a proscribed organisation to cover reckless expressions of support, update the [offence](#) of obtaining information likely to be useful to a terrorist to cover material that is just viewed or streamed over the internet, [increase the maximum penalty](#) for certain preparatory terrorism offences to 15 years'

### [Mental Health Units \(Use of Force\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – TBA [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

### [Voyeurism \(Offences\) Bill](#) – Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 23 October 2018 [Briefing](#)

Government Bill to insert a new offence under Section 67 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 to include instances of 'upskirting' where the purpose is to obtain sexual gratification or cause humiliation, distress or alarm. A summary conviction would carry a sentence of up to one year in prison and/or a fine. And a more serious offence, tried in the Crown Court, would carry a sentence of up to 2 years in prison, with those convicted being placed on the sex offenders register

### [Prisons \(Interf. with Wireless Telegraphy\) Bill](#) – Lords 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 26 October 2018 [Briefing](#)

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.

### [Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 26 October 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

### [Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#) – Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 23 November 2018 [Briefing](#)

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

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### [Offensive Weapons Bill](#) – Commons Report Stage – 15 October 2018 [Overarching documents](#) [Briefing](#)

Government 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

### [Courts and Tribunals \(Judiciary and Functions of Staff\) Bill](#) – Lords Report Stage – 16 Oct 2018 [Briefing](#)

Government Bill to increase efficiency by allowing greater flexibility to deploy the right judge to the right case. Appropriately qualified and experienced court and tribunal staff will also be able to deal with routine matters -

### [Stalking Protection Bill](#) - Commons Report Stage – 23 November 2018 [APCC response](#)

Private Members' Bill (with Government support) to make provision for protecting persons from risks associated with stalking, including the introduction of new civil Stalking Protection Orders (SPOs)

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

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

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

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

# Commissioner's e-Briefing: 15 October 2018

[Children Act 1989 \(Amendment\) \(FGM\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – TBA [Commons briefing](#)

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

[Freedom of Information \(Extension\) Bill](#) – Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 26 October 2018

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

[Emergency Response Drivers \(Protections\) Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 23 November 2018

Private Members' Bill to protect drivers of emergency vehicles responding to emergencies from civil liability and criminal prosecution in specified circumstances and related provision about criminal proceedings

[Violent Crime \(Sentences\) Bill](#) – Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 26 October 2018

Private Members' Bill to increase the minimum custodial sentence on conviction for possession of a knife or other offensive weapon for an offender aged 18 or over and to increase the minimum period of detention and training order for a person aged 16 or 17

[Youth \(Services and Provisions\) Bill](#) – Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 26 October 2018

[Criminal Fraud \(Private Prosecutions\) Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 26 October 2018

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

[Discarded Needles \(Offences\) Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – 23 November 2018

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

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

[Service Animals \(Offences\) Bill](#) - Commons 2<sup>nd</sup> reading – TBA

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

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

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

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

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

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- [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, 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 and [ratify the Istanbul Convention](#) to allow certain offences committed by British citizens anywhere in the world to be prosecuted in UK courts

## 6. CONSULTATIONS

### [British citizenship reform](#)

Home Secretary announces plans for citizenship reforms which would include tougher English language requirements for people applying for British citizenship changes to the Life in the UK test to give greater prominence to the British values and principles expected and powers to deprive individuals convicted of the most serious criminal offences of their British citizenship. A public consultation will be brought forward.

**Open date: Pending**

**Close date: TBC**

### [Police 'stop and search' powers](#)

Home Office consultation on proposals to extend the police power of reasonable grounds to 'stop and search' to carrying a corrosive substance in a public (Offensive Weapons Bill 2018), the misuse of laser pointers (Laser Misuse Act 2018) and misuse of drones to commit certain offences (Air Navigation Order 2016). It is anticipated that the proposed extension would enable officers to take better preventative action.

**Open date: 09/09/2018**

**Close date: 22/10/2018**

### [Crimes against older people policy guidance](#)

CPS public consultation on revised policy guidance for crimes against older people. The guidance has been developed with input from National Scrutiny Panels, which consists of members with experience and expertise from a community and academic perspective.

**Open date: 10/09/2018**

**Close date: 29/10/2018**

### [New cycling offences: causing death or serious injury when cycling](#)

Department for Transport consultation seeks views on government proposals to introduce new offences of causing death or serious injury while cycling and changes to the existing offences of dangerous and careless cycling. The consultation recognises the difficulties of trying to create general parity between cyclists and drivers in terms of licensing and insurance, for example, but seeks to more closely align penalties for offences that result in death or serious injury.

**Open date: 12/08/2018**

**Close date: 05/11/2018**

### [Establishing an Independent Public Advocate](#)

Ministry of Justice consultation setting out proposals for the role of the Independent Public Advocate to support bereaved families and enable them to fully understand and engage in the investigation following a disaster. Consultation seeks views on when the support should be available and who will be eligible for support.

**Open date: 10/09/2018**

**Close date: 03/12/2018**