



Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

[£29 million funding boost to support unaccompanied asylum seeking children](#) - 16th January 2018

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government announces an additional £29m for councils to increase support to unaccompanied asylum seeking children. Funding comprises £9m for [specific projects](#) via the Controlling Migration Fund and £20m shared across all [local authorities](#) supporting more than 10 asylum seeking children. Further Controlling Migration Fund allocations will be announced in the coming months.

[Apply for funding: £500,000 cyber security academic startups programme](#) – 16th January 2018

Innovate UK in partnership with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) will invest up to £500,000 in grants of up to £16,000 for innovative academic cyber security research which have the best commercial potential. The competition opens on 22nd January 2018 and closes on 31st January 2018.

[New powers to tackle illegal waste and fly-tipping](#) – 15th January 2018

Environment Minister announces new powers for the Environment Agency to block access to problem waste sites and require operators to clear both legal and illegal waste at problem waste. The government is also consulting on proposals to tighten the requirements for EA waste permits, improve awareness of waste licensing among householders, and provide local authorities with the option of fining those whose waste ends up fly-tipped or illegally dumped. Guidance on how the fines should be applied will be issued to councils.

[Changes to domestic violence evidence requirements come into effect](#) – 8th January 2018

Changes to evidence requirements in private family law disputes come into effect following a review of requirements set out in the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012. This sees the five year time limit on abuse evidence being removed and the range of documents accepted as evidence of abuse being widened to include statements from domestic violence support agencies and housing support officers.

[Sales of acid: Voluntary commitments for retailers](#) – 7th January 2018

Home Office policy document sets out a voluntary set of commitments on the responsible sale of corrosive substances which the government is encouraging retailers to sign up to in advance of new legislation being brought before Parliament. The voluntary agreement commits retailers to not to sell products which contain levels of acid and other corrosive substances to those under 18 - applying Challenge 21/25 policies – and to promote awareness of the Poisons Act among staff. The agreement forms part of the Acid Attack Action Plan.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 22 January 2018

[Tackling modern slavery: a council guide](#) – 21st December 2017

Local Government Association Council Guide which aims to help increase awareness of modern slavery and provide clarity for councils on their role in confronting it.

[Prisons and Probation Ombudsman Learning lessons bulletin](#) – 17th January 2018

Bulletin focussing on complaints investigation of alleged discrimination in jails

[Surveillance Camera Commissioner: Annual Report 2017](#) – 8th January 2017

Commissioner reports on technological capabilities, cyber security risk and the call for Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) to be placed on a statutory footing by the government

[Independent Office for Police Conduct launches](#) – 8th January 2018

The IOPC replaces the Independent Police Complaints Commission with new leadership under a single executive head, director general Michael Lockwood. The reforms aim to strengthen accountability and streamline decision-making, while increased powers under Policing and Crime Act 2017 enable the IOPC to:

- Initiate its own investigations without relying on a force to record and refer a particular case for investigation
- reopen cases it has closed where there are compelling reasons, such as new evidence
- increase the IOPC's independence from the police by abolishing 'managed' and 'supervised' investigations
- investigate all disciplinary investigations against chief officers
- present cases against officers in the police disciplinary process when the force disagrees with IOPC findings

[New Ministerial appointments announced](#) – 9th January 2018

New appointments include Rt Hon David Gauke MP (Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice) and Caroline Nokes MP (Minister for Immigration)

[Youth Justice Board appointments](#) – 8th January 2018

Recent Commons briefings: [County lines exploitation in London](#) (15th Jan), [Mental health in prisons](#) (8th Jan)

Recent Parliamentary debates: [Domestic Abuse: Clare's Law](#) (11th Jan), [Women's Refuges](#) (11th Jan), [Frontline Police Officers](#) (8th Jan), [Police and Fire Service Collaboration](#) (8th Jan)

Statutory Instrument – Criminal Legal Aid Regulations 2017 – Comes into force 21st February 2018

- [SI 1319/2017](#) – reinstates legal aid for pre-tariff reviews for indeterminate sentence prisoners (ISPs). Parole Board [welcomes](#) the announcement and issues [Information for Victims](#) and briefing on [ISPs](#).

Statutory Instruments - Criminal Finances Act 2017 – Comes into force 31st January 2018

- [SI 1222/2017](#) - Amends Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 to include detained property and frozen funds investigations. Powers to forfeit funds in bank/building society accounts come into force on 31 Jan 2018.
- [SI 1223/2017](#) – Regulations on how a senior officer must give an account forfeiture notice under section 303Z9 of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002
- [SI 1226/2017](#) - Regulations on how a senior officer must give a cash forfeiture notice, or account forfeiture notice under Schedule 1 to the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001
- [SI 1280/2017](#) – Amends Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 to enable orders issued by criminal courts in one jurisdiction to be recognised and enforced in other jurisdictions of the UK.

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Understanding the costs of cyber crime](#) – 18th January 2018

Home Office research report outlines the activity of the Costs of Cyber Crime Working Group which, between Autumn 2014 and Spring 2016, worked to improve data quality in this area. Rather than attempt to arrive at an overall estimate of the cost of cyber crime, the report focuses on the development of an overarching framework for estimating costs, provides advice on the design of future research in this area and highlights key knowledge gaps, such as law enforcement costs of cyber crime. Findings from the working group also suggest that within the EU, Great Britain is placed the sixth most fearful of economic cyber crimes and the fourth most fearful of content cyber crimes. The burden of fear is greater for economic cyber crime than for content cyber crime. Victims, women, parents and the economically disadvantaged are significantly more likely to fear cyber crime.

[Untangling the concept of coercive control](#) – 8th January 2018

Criminology & Criminal Justice Journal paper published by Sylvia Walby and Jude Towers assesses three approaches to domestic violence alongside data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales to conclude that the concept of domestic violent crime is preferable to that of coercive control when seeking to explain variations in domestic violence. This is not to deny the existence of coercive control, but, since all violence is coercive and controlling, the phrase has little if anything to add other than confusion.

[Proven Re-offending Statistics – Payment by Results](#) – 17th January 2018 [Data available at CRC level](#)

Ministry of Justice publish collection of proven reoffending statistics for adult offenders being managed by Community Rehabilitation Companies and the National Probation Service to December 2016. Latest data for the October to December 2015 cohort of offenders being managed in the community by CRCs and the NPS indicates that 13 of the 21 CRCs have made statistically significant reductions in the binary reoffending rate when compared to the 2011 baseline. Two CRCs, South Yorkshire and Warwickshire & West Mercia produced a statistically significant increase in binary reoffending rates. It is not yet possible to determine what the final frequency rate of reoffending will be for this cohort as the year two contract waiting period has not yet concluded, however data currently indicates that 18 CRCs are currently in the deduction region and three CRCs (Dorset, Devon & Cornwall; Merseyside; and Northumbria) are currently in the payment region. Comparisons cannot be made between CRCs and NPS due the difference in the nature of offenders being managed.

[Youth Custody data to November 2017](#) – Ministry of Justice - Published 12th January 2018

Upcoming research:

[Motivations of offenders who carry and use acid in violent attacks](#)

Criminologists from the University of Leicester are undertaking research commissioned by the Home Office, into the motivations and decision-making processes of offenders who carry and use acid in violent attacks. This will include an examination of the characteristics of offenders and their relationships with their victims, as well as how the substances are purchased and transported.

[Gamification Testing with Body Worn Video Training](#)

The College of Policing, in collaboration with the MPS, are using Home Office Innovation Funding to create and evaluate a new gamified e-learning package to support officers in their use of Body Worn Video (BWV). Gamification is the concept of applying game elements to engage and motivate people to achieve their goal. The research will be published in Spring 2018 used to inform future e-learning across the police service.

Upcoming [Crime Reduction Systematic Reviews](#):

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| • <u>Red light enforcement cameras to reduce traffic violations and injuries</u> | February 2018 |
| • Police responses to people with mental health problems | March 2018 |
| • The impact of police pre-arrest diversion – systematic review | March 2018 |

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

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: National Child Protection Inspection (HMIC-led) examining police effectiveness in their interactions with children, from initial contact and early identification of children who are at risk, through to investigation | Ongoing |
| • HMICFRS: Hate Crime thematic inspection | 2017/18 |
| • HMICFRS: Counter Terrorism thematic inspection | 2017/18 |
| • HMICFRS: Independent study of police air support | |

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

[A Voice for the Voiceless – Review into the Provision of Registered Intermediaries](#) – 17th January 2018

Victims' Commissioner's review into the Provision of Registered Intermediaries (RIs) for Children and Vulnerable Victims finds that police officers often undertake interviews without RIs present, and are deterred from requesting their presence due to long waiting lists and a shortage of provision. The review also found a lack of awareness of the role among the police and the CPS and inconsistencies in the way Police and CPS assesses vulnerability - which leads to variations in requests for support across and within forces. The review concludes that while RIs provide an invaluable service, the Witness Intermediary Scheme (WIS) lacks the managerial and governance structure required to deliver effectively. Recommendations include:-

- Transferring the provision of RIs to vulnerable victims to a single centralised national service
- Introducing a fast track RI service for very young children to reduce delays in ABE statements / evidence
- Appointing a National Lead Registered Intermediary to inform policy and represent the interests of RIs
- Require the National Registered Intermediary Service / Lead to prepare an annual report
- HMICFRS and HMCPS should inspect CPS and police on their work with RIs as part of annual inspections
- HM Courts and Tribunals Service should ensure that trials involving a RI are prioritised where possible
- Raise awareness of the RI role among judges, magistrates, CPS and police – including mandatory training

[Harassment and intimidation near abortion clinics](#) – Home Affairs Committee

Consultation open until 19th February 2018

[Delivery of Brexit: policing and security cooperation inquiry](#) – Home Affairs Committee

Evidence session 23rd January 2018

[Government Contracts for CRCs](#) – Public Accounts Committee - [Evidence session](#) 17th January 2018

[Transforming Rehabilitation inquiry](#) – Justice Committee – [latest evidence](#) 10th January 2018

[Prison Population 2022: Planning for the Future](#) – Justice Committee – [latest evidence](#) 10th Jan 2018

[Policing for the future inquiry](#) – Home Affairs Committee – [last evidence session](#) 9th January 2018

[Hate crime and its violent consequences](#) – Home Affairs Committee – Open

[Emergency Services Network](#) – Public Accounts Committee - Open

[Offender-monitoring tags](#) – Public Accounts Committee - Open

[Mental Health in Prisons](#) - Public Accounts Committee Inquiry – Open

5. LEGISLATION

[Data Protection Bill](#) – Ping Pong Stage – TBC

[Lords briefing](#)

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](#)

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Bill](#) – Lords First Reading – TBC

[Commons briefing](#)

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

[Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Bill](#) – Lords Report Stage – 24th Jan 2018

[Lords 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](#)

[Assaults on Emergency Workers \(Offences\) Bill](#) - Commons Report Stage – 17th April 2018

[Briefing](#)

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

[Prisons \(Interf. with Wireless Telegraphy\) Bill](#) - Commons Committee Stage – TBC

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.

[Laser Misuse \(Vehicles\) Bill](#) - Lords Committee Stage – 23rd Jan 2018

[Lords briefing](#)

Government bill to make provision creating new offence of shining or directing a laser beam towards a vehicle

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee Stage – 24th Jan 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

[Secure Tenancies \(Victims of Domestic Abuse\) Bill](#) - Lords Committee – 24th Jan 2018

[Lords briefing](#)

Government bill to make provision about granting of old-style secure tenancies in cases of domestic abuse.

[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

[Mental Health Units \(Use of Force\) Bill](#) – Public Bill Committee - TBC

[Commons 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

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

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

[Emergency Response Drivers \(Protections\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 22nd February 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

Service Animals (Offences) Bill - Commons 2nd reading – 22nd February 2018

Private Members' Bill to make it an offence to attack service animals, including police dogs and horses; to make certain offences aggravated when perpetrated against such animals

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

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

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision for the removal of foreign national criminal offenders from UK

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision for creation of secure safe houses for children subject to trafficking

Policing Resources Bill - Lords 2nd reading - TBC

Private Members' Bill to make provision for ensuring that police forces 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.

Victims of Crime (Rights, Entitlements, Notification of CSA) Bill – Lords 2nd 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.

Criminal Records Bill - Lords 2nd 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 2nd 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 2nd 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 2nd 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 2nd reading – TBC

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

Bills Pending

- Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill
- Courts Bill
- Drone Bill

6. CONSULTATIONS

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

Modernisation of courts and tribunals

HM Courts & Tribunals Service Roadshow events seeking views from providers and legal professionals on the £1 billion modernisation programme which is due to be completed in 2022. First dates to be announced include:

29/01/2018 - Birmingham Institution of Engineering and Technology Centre

05/02/2018 - Winchester Combined Court

19/02/2018 - Leeds Magistrates' Court

Draft Animal Welfare (Sentencing and Recognition of Sentience) Bill 2017

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs consultation on draft government bill which would ensure animals are defined in UK law as sentient beings and increase the maximum penalty for animal welfare cruelty offences from 6 months to 5 years imprisonment

Open date: 12/12/2017

Close date: 31/01/2018

Changes to the teaching of Sex & Relationship Education and PSHE

Department for Education call for evidence to inform proposals to update the existing Sex and Relationship guidance which, was last updated in 2000, in order to support schools in delivering the new subjects of Relationships Education at primary and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) at secondary

Open date: 19/12/2017

Close date: 12/02/2018

A revised Fire and Rescue National Framework for England

Home Office consultation on revised Fire and Rescue National Framework to update the version last issued in 2012. The framework sets priorities and objectives for fire and rescue authorities in England and has been updated to take account of the fire reform programme and provisions in the Policing and Crime Act 2017.

Open date: 27/12/2017

Close date: 14/02/2018

Abortion Clinic Protest Review

Home Office is seeking evidence from policing partners, healthcare providers, local authorities and members of the public to help understand the scale and nature of alleged harassment and intimidating behaviour near abortion clinics as part of the review announced in November 2017. Responses can be provided via an [online questionnaire](#) or directly to ACPReview@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Open date: 17/01/2018

Close date: 19/02/2018

Proposed fire and rescue services inspection programme and framework 2018/19

HMICFRS consultation on proposed inspection framework to assess and report on the efficiency and effectiveness of the 45 fire and rescue services in England. We will use the consultation responses to develop a programme and framework, and methodology for our inspections.

Open date: 19/12/2017

Close date: 19/02/2018

[Green Paper: Transforming children and young people's mental health provision](#)

Departments for Health and Education green paper seeking views on proposed measures to improve mental health support for children and young people which include encouraging every school and college to have a 'designated senior mental health lead', give young people earlier access to services and pilot a 4-week waiting time for NHS children and young people's mental health services.

Open date: 04/12/2017

Close date: 02/03/2018

[Reducing crime at sites handling waste, and introducing fixed penalties for waste duty of care](#)

DEFRA consultation seeking views on proposed measures to enforce more appropriate competence standards for permitted waste site operators and make changes to waste exemptions to prevent them being used to hide illegal activity. Also seeks views on ways to improve householder awareness of their waste duty of care and proposals to introduce a fixed penalty for householders failing to pass their waste to authorised waste carriers.

Open date: 15/01/2018

Close date: 26/03/2018

[Fit for the future: transforming the court and tribunal estate](#)

Ministry of Justice consultation setting out the proposed future strategy for HM Courts & Tribunals Service in its approach to court and tribunal estate reform – focusing on ensuring access to justice, delivering value for money and enabling efficiency in the longer term.

Open date: 18/01/2018

Close date: 29/03/2018