



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

Apply for funding: £1m Anti-knife crime community fund – 18 May 2018

Bidding opens for the second round of for voluntary and community sector projects to reduce knife crime and have a positive impact on young people at risk of carrying a knife and committing crime. The Home Office is inviting bids for projects of up to £30,000, but will consider bids for greater funding where there is collaboration between partner agencies. Closing date for bids is 15 June 2018.

Local funding awarded for suicide prevention schemes – 16 May 2018

The Department of Health, Public Health England and NHS England announce additional funding in 8 sustainability and transformation partnership areas for targeted suicide prevention and reduction activity. The areas include Kent and Medway, Lancashire and South Cumbria, Norfolk and Waveney, South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly, Coventry and Warwickshire, Durham, Darlington, Teesside, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby.

Ministry of Justice Education and Employment Strategy 2018 – 24 May 2018

Ministry of Justice Strategy published which focuses on incentivising and improving employment opportunities for ex-offenders as a central component to their rehabilitation and desistance from crime. This includes:-

- A sentencing plan for each prisoner that sets direction and provides something positive to aim for
- An Offender Management system that gives each prisoner a key worker to encourage/hold them to account
- Tough enforcement when prisoners engage in violence / disruption, affecting their and other's future
- Proportionate rewards and opportunities for those making choices that will prepare them for crime-free lives
- Rigorous assessment of each prisoner's education level at the beginning and at key points of their sentence
- Education and training which is responsive to individuals' needs, and properly integrated into prison regimes
- Prison work, provided by employers with easy access to prisons, and work placements on day release
- Links with local and national employers ready to offer ex-prisoners jobs on release
- Effective supervision and support when ex-offenders leave prison

The government will set out in more detail how incentives and punishments for all prisoners in custody can be strengthened, including how ringleaders of trouble and violence are separated from others and the role of the Incentives and Earned Privileges (IEP) system in punishing bad behaviour and rewarding good. The department will set out its approach to managing and rehabilitating female offenders, including how best to support women into employment when they leave custody.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 28 May 2018

Government response to the Internet Safety Green Paper – 22 May 2018

Government announces intention to publish a White Paper during 2018 to set out more definitive steps on online harms and safety. The paper will draw together a number of different aspects of Government work and set out plans for legislation. Potential areas for legislation include the social media code of practice, transparency reporting and online advertising. The Government will also consider new policy areas identified as part of the consultation which include age verification to help companies enforce terms and conditions, policies to improve children and young people's mental health and activity to tackle issues relating to live-streaming.

New Police and CPS package of measures on Stalking and Harassment – 23 May 2018

CPS / NPCC launch a package of measures to improve response to stalking and harassment, which includes:-

- New joint protocol making clear that Police Information Notices (PINs) are not appropriate in stalking cases
- Improved direction for police and prosecutors about how to distinguish between stalking and harassment
- Refreshed CPS stalking and harassment training to be undertaken by all prosecutors over coming months
- Improving guidance on restraining orders to ensure they are used appropriately, and victims are consulted
- Strengthening the SPOC system so that police and CPS leads fully understand the role requirements
- Improved process for monitoring and reviewing how prosecutors deal with stalking and harassment cases
- Updated advice from the College of Policing and a new checklist for police referrals to the CPS.

New Fire Standards Board (FSB) announced – 23 May 2018

Minister for Policing and the Fire Service announces plans to create a Fire Standards Board to improve national consistency in professional standards across fire and rescue services. The board will be independent from government and supported by the NFCC's central programme office.

Keeping Children Safe in Education statutory guidance – Published 17 May 2018

Revised guidance provides additional advice to school and college staff on dealing with allegations of child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment to come into effect for schools and colleges 3 September 2018

Youth Justice Board for England and Wales Strategic Plan 2018–21 – Published 17 May 2018

Strategic Plan setting out the YJB's vision, values and aims to reduce the number of children entering the youth justice system, reduce reoffending and improve safety, wellbeing and outcomes for children in the system.

CPS 2020 inclusion and community engagement strategy – Published 14 May 2018

Three-year strategy setting out the CPS ambition to ensure that it continues to promote fairness, equality, diversity and inclusion across the criminal justice system

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force - 25 May 2018

Home Secretary speech to the Police Federation – 23 May 2018

Home Secretary sets out vision to reset the relationship between the government and the police and announces his intention to launch a Front Line Review

Justice Secretary speech at the Education and Employment Strategy Launch - 24 May 2018

'From the wings to the workplace: the route to reducing reoffending'

Victim's Commissioner speech at Victims' and Witnesses Conference – 23 May 2018

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Effect of police stop and search powers on BAME communities](#) (22 May), [Serious Violence Strategy](#) (21 May), [Housing and access to legal aid](#) (15 May), [Universal Credit: roll out](#) (15 May), [Youth unemployment statistics](#) (15 May)

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[The future of neighbourhood policing](#) – Final Report – 21 May 2018

The Police Foundation's future of neighbourhood policing project concludes that Neighbourhood policing has diversified considerably since 2008, particularly with the emergence of hybrid workforce models that combine neighbourhood policing with elements of reactive policing. The unpredictability of hybrid workloads can undermine local engagement and proactivity. Neighbourhood policing has seen a distinct shift in purpose towards vulnerability/harm prevention which provides a basis for a geographically differentiated neighbourhood policing offer and has led to the marginalisation of community-led priorities. Community engagement and harm prevention tend to be viewed as separate elements of neighbourhood policing. Although integrated partnership approaches are emerging in some places, public sector austerity has presented neighbourhood practitioners with the dilemma of 'stepping in' or 'pulling back', with both strategies being adopted. The project sets out a number of principles for delivering proactive preventative local policing, which include:-

- Everyone having access to information and opportunities for dialogue with the police where they live
- Forces structuring themselves to deliver evidence based 'proactive preventative' local policing
- Selective, targeted deployment of embedded, place-based practitioners to develop tailored interventions
- Locally embedded preventative proactivity should be delivered by functionally distinct teams and personnel
- Forces and local partnerships should seek to incrementally shift resources into local proactive prevention
- Multi-agency casework with individuals should be undertaken in addition to local problem-oriented proactivity
- Improve the status of neighbourhood policing/embedded local prevention as a field of practice

[Offender characteristics and the impact of short custodial sentences and court orders](#) – 17 May 2018

Research based on offender data from 2008 to 2011 from Offender Assessment System (OASys) assessments, probation and reoffending, and tax and benefits systems finds greater reductions in reoffending associated with the use of court orders as compared with short-term custody among people with larger numbers of previous offences, people aged 18–20 and over 50, and offenders with 'significant' psychiatric problems. Suspended sentence orders were associated with more benefit in reducing reoffending as age increased and less benefit as the number of previous offences increased.

[Reoffending impact of increased release of prisoners on temporary licence](#) – 24 May 2018

Study based on individuals released from prison in 2012 and 2013 indicates that increased use of ROTL overall was associated with reductions in rates of proven reoffending and frequency of reoffences. The effects became larger the closer individuals were to release. In the six-month period leading up to release, each additional Resettlement Day Release was associated with a 0.5% reduced odds of reoffending over a one-year follow-up period. Each additional Resettlement Overnight Release was associated with a 5% reduced odds of reoffending over a one-year follow-up period.

[Evaluation of prisoner learning: initial impacts and delivery](#) – 24 May 2018

Process and impact evaluation of prisoner education, looking specifically at the impacts on post-release reoffending, employment, benefit dependency and learning outcomes

[Whole system approach for integrating data and predicting risk](#) – 21 May 2018

Essex police is currently developing an innovative approach to the use of analytics as a means of understanding, predicting and subsequently reducing risk via the Essex Centre for Data Analytics (ECDA). The project is designed to create a 'whole system approach' for integrating data and predicting risk, factoring in the contribution that all partners can make in tackling the issue of vulnerability. A multi-agency data sharing platform is currently being developed that combines and links data sets.

[Face Off: The Lawless Growth of Facial Recognition in UK Policing](#) – 15 May 2018

Big Brother Watch report highlighting the high volume of false-positive hits in the use of facial recognition technology and raising concerns over discriminatory practice and risks to privacy and freedom of expression.

[Rape Monitoring Group - interactive data dashboard](#) – 24 May 2018

National Rape Monitoring Group (RMG) publishes a new interactive dashboard to enable a more thorough analysis of how rape is dealt with across local areas at each stage of the criminal justice system. The dashboard includes data from the Home Office/ONS, CPS and Ministry of Justice.

[Criminal Justice System statistics quarterly to December 2017](#) – Published 17 May 2018

The total number of individuals formally dealt with by the criminal justice system has reached the lowest level (1.64m) since comparable records began in 1970. The overall conviction ratio, meanwhile, has increased from 85% in 2016 to 86% in 2017, continuing the steady increase seen since 2013. The custody rate for indictable offences has been increasing since 2010, from 23.9% to 31.8%, with the average custodial sentence length having increased from 15.2 months to 20.0 months. Over a third (36%) of the offending population had a long criminal career, having increased from 28% since 2010. The proportion of first time offenders increased for the third year, having risen by 2 percentage points since 2010.

[Victims of Sextortion Gangs](#) – 24 May 2018

NCA release figures showing that the increasing trend in reported UK sextortion cases, with levels having risen from around 430 in 2015 to 1,304 in 2017. Sextortion involves organised crime groups using fake dating profiles to befriend victims and encourage them to live stream sex acts which recorded and later used for blackmail purposes. Sextortion is known to have a devastating impact on victims and has been linked to a number of suicides. Evidence suggests that sextortion is predominately committed by overseas criminal gangs, targeting young males aged 17-25, men over 60 and an increasing number of British Armed Forces personnel.

[National DNA Database statistics](#) – Published 22 May 2018

Number and breakdown of subject profiles held on the NDNAD by age, gender and ethnic appearance

[Family Justice Research Bulletin 7](#) – Published 17 May 2018

[Ministry of Justice: areas of research interest](#) – Published 17 May 2018

Document highlighting the Ministry of Justice's strategic, long term and cross cutting evidence gaps

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

[Updated police custody Expectations](#) – 29 April 2018

HMI Prisons and HMICFRS update 'Expectations for police custody' criteria and the data pack that forces are requested to complete at the beginning of an inspection

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 | |
| • HMICFRS: Police response to county lines (Thematic) | |

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

Modernising the Disclosure and Barring Service – Report published 25 May 2018

Public Accounts Committee report cites the modernisation of DBS as another example where the Home Office has failed to deliver a major project on account of a flawed contractual approach. The programme has not delivered the safeguarding benefits promised and has failed to deliver promised savings to customers while building up a £114 million surplus at their expense. The Committee recommends that the Home Office conducts an urgent lessons learnt exercise and set out how these lessons will be applied to its other major projects. The Department should also undertake a proper and robust forecast of user needs and demand before making changes to future public services.

Biometrics strategy and forensic services – Report published 25 May 2018

Science and Technology Committee report on the Forensic Science Strategy highlights a range of issues for the government to consider as part of its forthcoming Biometric Strategy. These include the need for Government to review its approach to the retention of images of unconvicted individuals. The Government should ensure that planned IT upgrades are delivered without delay to introduce a fully automatic image deletion system for those who are not convicted. The report also highlights concerns over the use and reliability of facial recognition software and suggests that Ministers and Parliament, rather than the police, take the final decision on its wider deployment. The Biometrics Strategy should include an undertaking that the House will be given an opportunity to debate and vote on the issue. On forensics, the report highlights concerns about the sustainability of the market, and the overarching focus in the police procurement on low price.

Inquiries

Transforming Courts and Tribunals inquiry – Launched 10 May 2018

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

Economic crime inquiry – Treasury Committee - Launched 29th March 2018

Accepting written submissions until 8th May 2018

Disclosure of evidence in criminal cases inquiry – Justice Committee - latest evidence 15 May 2018

Prison Population 2022: Planning for the Future – Justice Committee - latest evidence 15 May 2018

Digital currencies inquiry – Treasury Committee – latest evidence 1 May 2018

Policing for the future – Home Affairs Committee – latest evidence 1 May 2018

Transforming Rehabilitation – Justice Committee – latest evidence 17 April 2018

Hate crime and its violent consequences – HA Committee – latest evidence 24 April 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

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) - 13 independent investigations:

5. LEGISLATION

[Data Protection Act received Royal Assent – 23 May 2018](#)

[Commons Library Analysis](#)

Act 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 Act updates regimes for data processing by law enforcement agencies; introduces a new Digital Charter to ensure that the UK is “the safest place to be online”; makes 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; requires ‘explicit’ consent to be necessary for processing sensitive personal data; expands 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 have been created to deter organisations from intentionally or recklessly enabling someone to be identified from anonymised data [Government fact sheets](#)

[Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act received Royal Assent – 23 May 2018](#)

[Commons briefing](#)

Government Act 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. The Act makes amendments to a range of acts including: Immigration Act 1971; Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000; Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005; Serious Crime Act 2007; Crime and Courts Act 2013; Investigatory Powers Act 2016; and Policing and Crime Act 2017. [Further information](#)

[Courts and Tribunals \(Judiciary and Functions of Staff\) Bill – introduced 23 May 2018](#)

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 - such as issuing a summons, taking a plea - freeing up judges' time to focus on matters that need it most. The legislation aims to allow the judiciary to respond to the changing demands of a reformed courts and tribunals system and underpins the government's agenda to modernise courts and tribunals and deliver value for money

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Bill – Ping Pong stage – TBA](#) [Lords Amendments](#) [Reading list](#) [Lords briefing](#)

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

[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

[Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill – Commons 2nd reading – 23 November 2018](#)

[Lords briefing](#)

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

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

[Briefing](#)

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

[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.

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

[Lords briefing](#)

[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

[Draft 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, 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

[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

Police pursuits

Home Office consultation seeking views on [proposed changes](#) to legislation, guidance and training in relation to police pursuits, including: whether to revise the various exemptions from certain road traffic legislation to make them clearer and more consistent; amending the definitions in the offences of careless and dangerous driving to take account of the training and experience of police drivers and; making it clear that a suspect being pursued is responsible for their own decision to drive dangerously - blame should not be attached to the pursuing officer.

Open date: 22/05/2018

Close date: 13/08/2018

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