

Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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

To be included on our mailing list, please contact daniel.howitt13452@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

Police financial reserves March 2011 to March 2017 – Published 31st January 2018

Home Office publishes details of the amount of financial reserves held by Police and Crime Commissioners for each year financial year between March 2011 and March 2017, in order to increase transparency. PCCs collectively held over £1.6 billion in usable resource reserves in 2017, which compares to £1.4 billion in 2011. The Minister for Policing and the Fire Service, Nick Hurd, is also writing to PCCs, setting out new guidance which asks them to publish reserves strategies on their websites, making clear the level of funding earmarked for planned expenditure and specific projects and level being held as a general contingency.

Joint National Disclosure Improvement Plan – 26th January 2018

NPCC, CPS and College of Policing publish plan to improve the disclosure of evidence within the criminal justice system in order to meet requirements under the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act and address recommendations from HMCPSI / HMICFRS and Mouncher Investigation reports. Actions include:-

- Capacity: Develop a joint protocol for the examination of digital media, develop best practice from current CPS serious casework, improve digital evidence, develop cadre of specialist and experienced disclosure experts in every force, establish a joint technology working group
- Capability: Deliver mandatory disclosure training to all prosecutors, review current provision of training within the College of Policing, deliver regional awareness workshops, review whether there should be a requirement for officers to hold a Licence to Practice in respect of disclosure
- Leadership: Appoint CSP disclosure champions in each area, develop a joint CPS/police disclosure improvement plan for each force/CPS area, appoint a nominated disclosure champion at chief officer level and tactical disclosure lead at chief/superintendent level in each force
- Partnership: Establish a police and prosecution-led national partnership disclosure forum to focus on practical areas of improvement, establish joint local CSP/police disclosure forums to discuss and agree themes and joint solutions, repeat the disclosure seminar with senior CJS figures on a bi-annual basis
- Governance: Include disclosure monitoring as part of the performance framework of every force, introduce the revised disclosure assurance process, use local police/prosecution team performance meetings to review progress against local action plans and review case-specific failures to ensure lessons are learned

Office for Professional Body Anti-Money Laundering Supervision launched – 23rd January 2018

New anti-money laundering watchdog, OPBAS, will directly oversee the 22 accountancy and legal professional body (AML) supervisors in the UK and work with law enforcement to strengthen cooperation.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 5 February 2018

[Further terror-related offences added to Unduly Lenient Sentence scheme](#) – 29th January 2018

Nine further terror-related offences added to the Unduly Lenient Sentence scheme which allows the public to challenge sentences handed out by the courts. Offences now include failure to disclose information on 'terrorist property', tipping off a terrorist or any person of a terrorist investigation, failure to comply with a Terrorism Prevention and Investigation Measure and failure to comply with Temporary Exclusion Orders.

[Security of Network and Information Systems Directive](#) – 28th January 2018

Government confirms plans to introduce fines of up to £17m for critical organisations that fail to implement effective cyber security measures, and to appoint sector-specific regulators to protect essential services, such as energy, transport, water and health, following a public consultation. The National Cyber Security Centre has also published [detailed guidance](#) on security measures to help organisations comply with the directive.

[The What Works Network: Five Years On](#) – 28th January 2018

Government report on the progress of the network created in 2013 to ensure that the best available evidence is available to public service decision makers. The College of Policing's What Works Centre for Crime Reduction is among 10 independent What Works Centres within the network. The report highlights progress in developing the evidence base for body worn cameras, launching the Crime Reduction Toolkit, requiring effective evaluation as part of Innovation and Police Transformation Funding arrangements and applying evidence-based policing principles to the new PC Degree Apprenticeship and Neighbourhood Policing Guidelines.

[Spotlight on Young Adults in contact with criminal justice services](#) – 30th January 2018

Revolving Doors Agency and Transition to Adulthood Alliance report showcases emerging good practice across PCC areas on young adults (18 to 24) in contact with criminal justice services. Case studies include:-

- Diversion from the Criminal Justice System: e.g. exploring opportunities to better tailor out of court disposals for first time offences and ensure mental health liaison and diversion services respond to their specific needs
- Targeted support throughout the transition to adulthood: e.g. Leicestershire introducing a dedicated young adults project; Gloucestershire and South Yorkshire commissioning young-adult specific support services
- Extending existing youth services: including exploring how the principles of the youth offending team model can be applied to young adults, and developing opportunities to link young adults back into these teams
- Engaging with young adults to harness the power of lived experience when developing strategies, including experience of offending as demonstrated by Leicestershire's Young Adults Project (YAP!) Shadow Board.

[Forensic Science Regulator's Annual Report 2016/17](#) – 19th January 2018

[Guidance: GDPR Guide and Focus on Data Protection Impact Assessments](#) – 25th January 2018

[Police grants in England and Wales: 2018 to 2019 – Final allocations](#) – 31st January 2018

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Rough sleeping in England](#) (31st Jan), [Strengthening families](#) (30th Jan), [Taxi and private hire vehicle licensing](#) (30th Jan), [Treatment of adults with autism by the criminal justice system](#) (26th Jan), [Local Authority Homelessness Statistics](#) (26th Jan), [Public spending: New debates in the House](#) (24th Jan), [Refugees and human rights](#) (24th Jan), [Asylum Statistics](#) (23rd Jan), [The Barnett formula](#) (23rd Jan)

Recent Parliamentary debates: [Police Commissioners](#) (22nd Jan), [Scooter and Moped Gangs](#) (23rd Jan), [Police Funding](#) (31st 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 – 31st January 2018

[Guidance issued](#)

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Evidence-based models of policing to protect children from CSE – 25th January 2018](#)

Research published by the University of Bedfordshire examines current police operating models in response to CSE and makes recommendations for improvements in police and CPS practice and information management.

[Perspectives on policing: a 'sexting' surge or a conceptual muddle? – 31st January 2018](#)

Police Foundation paper considers the challenges of analogue law in a digital era and the risks of inconsistency in the way police forces structure crime records. The paper concludes that it is difficult to understand the nature of 'sexting' offence statistics without critical examination, and a full explanation of their limitations, caveats and context. It notes that different crime recording practices, including around the use of 'victim' and 'suspect' labels, may result in data that are not comparable across forces. Consequently, this presents important difficulties for those tasked with addressing 'sexting', whether through criminal justice processes or other means, and underlines the importance of non-police and criminal justice sources of data and insight to inform policy. Overall, the emphasis should be on identifying and taking action in the case of any abuse, coercion, duress or exploitation by third parties, while also equipping children with the right information and skills to navigate their social worlds without endangering themselves or others.

[Police workforce statistics: 30 September 2017 – Published 26th January 2018](#)

Home Office statistics show a small (0.1%) increase in the police workforce in the England and Wales in the year to September 2017. This was largely driven by increases in police staff (+2.0% to 62,031). The number of police officers meanwhile, saw a further reduction (-0.8%) to 121,929, reaching the lowest level since comparable records began in 1996. The number of PCSOs (10,056) and Special Constables (12,601 headcount) fell by 4.7% and 15.2% respectively, while the number of designated officers increased by 9.3%. The publication also profiles the 42,604 cases assessed by police following a public complaint or misconduct allegation in 2016/17. Of these, 3,243 were investigated as misconduct and 1,663 led to proceedings.

[Data available at police force level](#)

[Crime in England and Wales to September 2017 – published 25th January 2018](#)

Latest estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales show further reductions in crime against adults of between 6% (excluding fraud and computer misuse) and 10% (including fraud and computer misuse) over the last year. Theft offences (-4%) account for the largest volume of crime reduction, however violence fell by 11% over this period. Victim-based crime recorded by the police, meanwhile, rose by 14% over the same period, marking the largest annual rise in a decade. Improvements in crime recording practices since 2010 remain the most significant driver of increases in recorded crime, however, genuine increases in some crime types are also likely. This includes, for example, rises in burglary (+8%), robbery (+29%), vehicle crime (+18%) and deaths or serious injuries caused by illegal driving (+5%). Police recorded knife crime and firearms offences have increased by 21% and 20% respectively, continuing the trend seen over the last 3 years. The crime survey also highlighted reductions in experience of fraud (-10%) and computer misuse offences (-24%) over the last year largely driven mainly by decreases in consumer and retail fraud. Estimates of bank and credit account fraud remained at levels similar to the previous year. [Data available at police force and CSP level](#)

[Crime Outcomes to September 2017 – published 25th January 2018](#)

Police forces closed 47% of offences with no suspect being identified in the year to September 2017, however this varies by crime type with 72% of theft offences and 6% of rape offence being closed with no suspect identified. 9.5% of offences resulted in a charge or summons, marking a 2.3% point reduction compared to the previous year. In 13% of offences the victim did not support police action despite a suspect being identified, and around 26% of offences did not progress on account of evidential difficulties. [Data available at force level](#).

[NPS and CRC Performance to September 2017 – Ministry of Justice - Published 25th January 2018](#)

Offender Management Statistics to September 2017 – Published 25th January 2018

The prison population has been relatively stable for the past six years while the number of offenders on probation has seen a marginal (+1%) increase. The number of admissions (-2%), first receptions (-2%) and offenders recalled to prison (-1%) has continued to fall.

Proven reoffending statistics to March 2016 – Published 25th January 2018

The overall proven reoffending rate (29.6%) and adult reoffending rate (28.7%) have seen marginal reductions of 1-2% since 2005. Juvenile reoffending rates (42.3%) have increased by 4-5% points since 2005, however, the size of this cohort has reduced by around 80% over this period. The proven reoffending rate for adults released from custody (37.4%) has fallen by 4-5% points since 2005.

Youth Justice annual statistics: 2016 to 2017 – 25th January 2018

Ministry of Justice statistics showing ongoing reductions in the number of young people in the YJS. The last year has seen further reductions in the number of children and young people arrested (-14%), cautioned or convicted (-14%) and sentenced to custody (-7%), including reductions in the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system (-11%). The reoffending rate for children and young people, however, increased has increased by 4% points over the last decade to 42%, and remains markedly higher than that of adults (28%). The report also notes that although absolute numbers are deteriorating, young people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds continue to represent an increasing proportion of the custodial population (45%).

[Data available at individual YOT level](#)

Safety in Custody Statistics to September 2017 – Published 25th January 2018

Ministry of Justice Statistics show reductions in deaths (-17%) in prison custody over the last year, but a continued rise in incidents of self-harm (+12%), assaults (+12%) and assaults on prison staff (+22%), with incident levels reaching record highs.

Response times to fires attended by FRS: England 2016/17 – Published 25th January 2018

Home Office publication highlights gradual increases in response times to fires over the past 20 years, despite reductions in response times to primary (-3 seconds) and secondary (-5 seconds) fires in the last year.

Detailed analysis of non-fire incidents: England 2016/17 – Published 25th January 2018

Home Office publication highlights a reversal of the long term downward trend in non-fire incident attendances by FRSs since 2014/15. Non-fire incident attendances increased by 14% increase in in in the last year, largely due to a rise in medical incidents attended. Fatalities in non-fire incidents increased by 64% in 2016/17, largely due to a rise in medical incidents attended. FRSs undertook 5,697 extrications from road traffic collisions in 2016/17, marking a 9% decrease on the previous year.

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

Policing inspection programme and framework 2018/19 – 22nd January 2018

HMICFRS consult on proposed inspection programme and framework for policing in 2018/19, which includes proposed thematic inspections of counter-terrorism, fraud and cyber-fraud, older people in the criminal justice system, cyber-crime, child protection and crime data integrity. HMICFRS also propose to take a more sophisticated approach to incorporating risk in the PEEL assessments and make greater use of information from monitoring and force management statements.

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

[Police Now Cohort 1 - Final Evaluation Report](#) – 22nd January 2018

MOPAC impact evaluation of the first cohort of the Police Now Graduate Leadership Development Programme found generally high levels of satisfaction with delivery of the programme among participants. A comparative analysis showed the Police Now cohort to hold more favourable views toward serving the public, and be less likely to want to spend their whole career in the MPS than with other police officers. Police Now participants appeared to have a good understanding of evidence based policing (EBP), although there is a need to better support officers in practically embedding EBP within their roles. On average, wards where the Police Now programme was implemented showed no change in public perceptions of 'how good a job' the police are doing and no change in crime trends compared to a matched set of wards. After a few months on the job, around half (54%) of Police Now participants reported a stigma associated with being part of the programme – which is lower than previous graduate programmes within the MPS (e.g. 73% for the MPS 2013 Graduate Entry Programme). While only 36% and 43% of those completing their training felt 'confident' and 'prepared' to begin their roles in policing respectively, this is similar to those that joined via the traditional MPS entry route. Other issues that were not unique to the Police Now cohort included reports that they were not given the resources needed to do their job and were not achieving a good work-life balance, and reductions in job satisfaction with their role after a few months on the job. The majority, however, reported being motivated at work and overall, Police Now participants expressed more positive attitudes toward the MPS than all MPS staff combined.

Inquiries

[Hate crime and its violent consequences](#) – Home Affairs Committee – Evidence session - 6th Feb 2018

Oral evidence session taking evidence from academics from the University of Leicester, Nottingham Trent University, University of Sussex, London School of Economics and Political Science, Queen Mary University of London and King's College London

[Reducing Modern Slavery](#) – Public Accounts Committee – Evidence session - 21st February 2018

The Committee will take evidence from the Home Office, the National Crime Agency, and the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner following the National Audit Office report published in December 2017 which found administrative problems, a complex referrals process, inconsistent data quality and weak understanding of how much victim support services would cost in the response to modern slavery.

[Emergency Services Network](#) – Public Accounts Committee – Evidence session – 26th February 2018

Committee will examine the Emergency Services Network: progress review inquiry

[Offender-monitoring tags](#) – Public Accounts Committee – Report published – 24th January 2018

Report concludes that offender-monitoring tags can be a cost-effective alternative to custodial sentences, but the Ministry of Justice's delivery of the new generation electronic monitoring programme has been fundamentally flawed, overly ambitious, overly complicated and poorly delivered. The report considers the programme so far as 'a catastrophic waste of public money which has failed to deliver the intended benefits...many of the lessons the Ministry claims to have learned are simply common sense and should not have resulted in such a shambolic delivery of an important programme'.

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

The Committee held a one-off evidence session on [30th January 2018](#) to consider oversight of the police and MI5's internal reviews into the 2017 terrorist attacks in London and Manchester.

[Government Contracts for CRCs](#) – Public Accounts Committee - Open

Committee session held on [17th January 2018](#) took evidence from Richard Heaton, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Michael Spurr, Chief Executive, HM Prison & Probation Service

5. LEGISLATION

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – 21st Feb 2018

[Lords briefing](#)

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

[Data Protection Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 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](#)

[Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – 20th Feb 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](#)

[Asset Freezing \(Compensation\) Bill](#) – Lords Third Reading – 07th February 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

[Laser Misuse \(Vehicles\) Bill](#) - Lords Report Stage – 27rd February 2018

[Lords briefing](#)

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

[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

[Secure Tenancies \(Victims of Domestic Abuse\) Bill](#) - Lords Report Stage – TBC

[Lords briefing](#)

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

[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.

[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

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

[APCC response](#)

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

[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

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision about the exercise of taxi and private hire vehicle licensing functions in relation to persons about whom there are safeguarding or road safety concerns

[LGA article](#)

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 5 February 2018

[Emergency Response Drivers \(Protections\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 22nd Feb 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 Feb 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 in England and Wales have sufficient resources to deliver police services.

[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

[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

[A revised Fire and Rescue National Framework for England](#)

Open date: 27/12/2017

Close date: 14/02/2018

[Abortion Clinic Protest Review](#)

Open date: 17/01/2018

Close date: 19/02/2018

[Proposed policing inspection programme and framework 2018/19](#)

HMICFRS consultation on 2018/19 inspection programme and framework, setting out proposed thematic inspections and approach. Respondents are invited to provide feedback on what they consider the greatest opportunities, risks and difficulties as the inspectorate move towards an integrated PEEL assessment.

Open date: 22/01/2018

Close date: 19/02/2018

[Proposed fire and rescue services inspection programme and framework 2018/19](#)

Open date: 19/12/2017

Close date: 19/02/2018

[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. Dates announced include:

19/02/2018 - Leeds Magistrates' Court

08/03/2018 – Sheffield Magistrates' Court

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

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](#)

Open date: 15/01/2018

Close date: 26/03/2018

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

Open date: 18/01/2018

Close date: 29/03/2018

[New ways to report road accidents to the police](#)

Department for Transport consultation on proposals to allow police forces to offer drivers the option of submitting accident reports by other methods, including online. Currently, under Section 170 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, road traffic accidents should be reported in person at a police station or to a police constable.

Open date: 30/01/2018

Close date: 24/04/2018

[Local government ethical standards](#)

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

Open date: 29/01/2018

Close date: 18/05/2018