

Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

[£13m Trusted Relationships Fund launched to help protect children at risk of CSE](#) – 1st March 2018

Home Office launches fund for local authorities to improve the way frontline professionals, including social workers, youth workers, police and voluntary sector practitioners, form close, protective relationships with young people aged 10-17 that are at risk of sexual exploitation, county lines gang crime or relationship abuse. Projects could include frontline workers establishing a safe space for young people to share their concerns with professionals, the provision of specialist counselling services, delivering positive activities for young people and working with children who repeatedly go missing. Proposals must demonstrate how they will improve wellbeing, self-esteem, self-efficacy, resilience and critical thinking skills in vulnerable young people and reduce the risk of vulnerable children going missing, being exploited and abused and entering the criminal justice system. Expressions of interest are welcome until 13th April 2018, with applicants being informed as to whether they have been successful in progressing to full application stage by week commencing 7 May 2018.

[£7m announced to improve road safety and encourage cycling](#) – 17th February 2018

Government announces opportunities for the cities of Bristol, Leeds, Cambridge, Birmingham, Norwich, Manchester, Newcastle and Oxford to bid for an additional £6.5 million of funding to trial new schemes which improve road safety and help to create more bike-friendly areas as part of the Department for Transport's cycle safety review. A further £0.5m will be used to support Cycling UK's 'Big bike revival'.

[£5m announced for projects to support for care leavers](#) – 27th February 2018

Children and Families Minister announces investment of up to £5m for new Social Impact Bond projects in Bristol, Sheffield and Lewisham to support for care leavers into education, employment or training as part of the government's Children's Social Care Innovation Programme.

[Spotlight on Violence Against Women and Girls](#) - 27th February 2018

Revolving Doors Agency publishes emerging good practice among PCCs in tackling Violence Against Women and Girls. The report highlights that PCCs are increasingly adopting approaches that recognise the underlying causes, specifically; gender inequality, racial and ethnic discrimination and social exclusion. Examples include multi-agency approaches to providing targeted support for those at risk of becoming victims or perpetrators of VAWG crimes (Bedfordshire), support and diversion activity for children and young people at risk of committing domestic violence (North Yorkshire) and working in partnership with communities at risk of FGM, forced marriage or 'honour-based' violence (Surrey). The report notes, however, that while almost all Police and Crime Plans identify VAWG as a key vulnerability or local need, only a third translate this into a strategic priority.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 05 March 2018

[New guideline on the sentencing domestic abuse](#) – 22nd February 2018

Sentencing Council publishes a definitive guideline on the overarching principles of sentencing domestic abuse which will come into effect on 24 May 2018. The guideline outlines how the seriousness of offences should be assessed, the factors that should be taken into account and, for the first time, includes reference to abuse which is perpetrated through the use of technology. The Council is now working on a guideline for sentencing offences of controlling and coercive behaviour, which is due to be published in the summer.

[New guideline on the sentencing of bladed articles and offensive weapons](#) – 1st March 2018

Sentencing Council publishes a definitive sentencing guideline on the sentencing of bladed articles and offensive weapons offences which will come into effect on 1 June 2018. The guideline takes into account changes to the law and court judgments to ensure that those convicted of offences involving knives or particularly dangerous weapons, as well as those who repeatedly offend, receive the highest sentences.

[Homelessness code of guidance for local authorities](#) – 22nd February 2018

New government guidance outlining how councils and public bodies must support the homeless or those at risk of losing their home under provisions within the [Homelessness Reduction Act](#) coming into force in April 2018. The guidance confirms prisons, youth offender institutions, youth offending teams, probation services including CRCs, Jobcentres and NHS Trusts as organisations that must comply with the duty. As part of the Act, councils will be required to intervene at an earlier stage to prevent homelessness and ensure the advice and information they provide is designed to meet the needs of particular at risk groups such as care leavers, people leaving prison, survivors of domestic abuse and those suffering from a mental illness.

[Chiefs to pursue options for probationers to carry Taser](#) – 20th February 2018

The National Police Chiefs' Council supports proposals for selected probationers to be able to carry Taser after completing a rigorous application, training and assessment process and are in discussions with the Home Office and College of Policing to consider next steps. Under the new system an officer's suitability to carry Taser would be determined by their ability rather than their time served as an officer.

[Workforce Transformation in the Police Service](#) – 27th February 2018

College of Policing report on activities being undertaken to progress workforce transformation in policing and achieve the goals of the Policing Vision 2025. The document is intended to assist forces in planning and considering the interdependencies between workforce initiatives, their sequencing and prioritisation.

[Emergency Services Network achieves its first successful live demonstration](#) – 22nd February 2018

[Attorney General speech at the CPS Modern Slavery Summit](#) – 22nd February 2018

[Parole Board chair speech on transparency of the parole system](#) – 28th February 2018

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Misogyny as a hate crime](#) (1st Mar), [Rough Sleepers and Anti-Social Behaviour](#) (27th Feb), [Statutory Homelessness](#) (26th Feb), [Press regulation after Leveson - unfinished business?](#) (22nd Feb), [Contracting out of probation services](#) (22nd Feb)

Recent Parliamentary debates: [Police and Crime Commissioners](#) (1st Mar), [Police Efficiency](#) (26th Feb), [Topical Questions](#) (26th Feb), [Moped Crime](#) (26th Feb), [Regional Organised Crime Units](#) (26th Feb), [Alcohol abuse](#) (26th Feb), [Waste Enforcement Regulations 2018](#) (26th Feb), [Child-to-Parent Violence](#) (21st Feb)

Statutory Instruments

[Criminal Legal Aid Regulations 2017](#) – Came 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](#).

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Livestock Worrying – Findings from a five-force Police Working Group](#) – 20th February 2018

NPCC publishes final report highlighting the scale of dog attacks on livestock and the challenges faced by police forces in supporting farmers to deal with the issue. The report, based on findings from five participating police force areas (North Yorkshire, Devon and Cornwall, Hertfordshire, North Wales and Sussex), found that these areas collectively recorded 1,705 incidents of livestock worrying / attacks over the last four years. 1,928 livestock were recorded as being killed and 1,614 injured. The total loss incurred as a result of killed and injured livestock is estimated to have exceeded £250,000 across the five forces over the four year period. The British Horse Society also reported a total of 643 incidents of horse worrying between 2013 and 2017 of which 39% were reported to the Police. Of these, police took action in 38% of cases. 35% of incidents caused physical injury to the horse and once case resulted in death of the horse. 30% of cases involved the rider falling from their mount with one rider sadly dying from their injuries. As forces are not formally required to record livestock attacks, these findings are unlikely to reflect the true extent of the problem.

[Helping police make custody decisions using artificial intelligence](#) – 26th February 2018

University of Cambridge article on police use of AI systems to assist front line officers in making risk-based decisions in custody. Researchers Dr Geoffrey Barnes and Professor Lawrence Sherman discuss the Harm Assessment Risk Tool (HART) trialled by Durham Constabulary to help assess the likelihood an offender committing a new serious offence, a non-serious offence or no offence at all over the next two years.

[A call to action: The Cyber Aware perception gap](#) – 1st March 2018

Home Office publishes a report on the growing gap between the nature of the threat from cyber-crime, and public perceptions, highlighting the extent to which a large proportion of the public and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) underestimate the risk and feel powerless to protect themselves against it.

[Pulling fraud out of the shadows](#) – 22nd February 2018

PwC's 2018 Global Economic Crime and Fraud Survey highlights that 49% of global organisations report having experienced economic crime in the past two years. The report questions to what extent the remaining 51% have avoided falling victim – or simply don't know they have been victimised. The report notes makes clear that every organisation is vulnerable to blind spots, which usually become apparent only after an incident.

[Red light enforcement cameras](#) – 21st February 2018

Latest publication as part of the College of Policing's What Works: Systematic Review series concludes, on the basis of 38 identified studies, that red light cameras are effective in reducing red-light violations and most types of road traffic crashes, with the exception of rear-end crashes. Red-light camera programmes were associated with a 61% reduction in red-light violations and 20% reduction in road traffic crashes resulting in injuries. They also, however, led to a 19% increase in rear-end crashes. Many of the studies in the review highlighted that public knowledge of the implementation of a red light camera intervention was essential for its success. An early cost benefit analysis identified that most areas are able to achieve a net benefit within one year.

[Child sexual exploitation perpetrator research](#) – 22nd February 2018

Centre of Expertise on child sexual abuse publishes a range of exploratory studies is to increase understanding of CSE perpetration and perpetrators and identify the strengths and limitations of research approaches.

[Child sex offence statistics](#) – 20th February 2018

NSPCC publishes data obtained via a Freedom of Information request which shows the number of police recorded child sex offences has increased by 15% in the year to 2016/17 to 64,667. The proportion flagged as having an online element increased by 59% to represent 10% of all offences. Factors thought to have contributed to the rise include improvements in crime recording practices, increased confidence to disclose abuse and the growing reach of online grooming.

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

[Independent Police Complaints Commission annual report: 2016 to 2017](#) - 28th February 2018

Overview of the work of the IPCC during 2016/17 summary of accounts

Upcoming reports and inspection activity

- Ofsted: Joint targeted [Child Protection Inspection](#) Overview report Pending
- Ofsted: Joint Targeted Area Inspection thematic overview report Pending
- [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

[Government response to Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance](#) – 20th February 2018

Government response to changes to statutory guidance on new duties for police, health and local authority to make arrangements locally to safeguard and promote the welfare of children – following the Children and Social Work 2017. As a result of the consultation, the government will consider giving greater emphasis to the role of schools, providing greater clarity on the appropriate level of seniority and expertise for safeguarding partner representatives and the independent scrutiny of safeguarding arrangements, and extend the 'grace period' for child death overview panels to complete any outstanding child death reviews to four months.

[Second planned stage of 'Police and press' element of Leveson inquiry cancelled](#) – 1st March 2018

The planned second stage of the inquiry probing the relationship between police officers and journalists has been closed in view of the changing media landscape and growing crisis of local newspaper closures. The government is also seeking to repeal Section 40 of the Crime and Courts Act, which would have imposed financial penalties on publishers that declined to join a state-recognised press regulator.

[Young victims of financial crime inquiry](#) – Launched 21st February 2018

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Financial Crime and Scamming is seeking views and best practice from law enforcement, industry, the education and voluntary sector, and government on the scale of financial crime involving young people how that can be best protected. Cifas estimates indicate that misuse of bank accounts involving 18 to 24 year olds increased by 75% during the first nine months of 2017, with the most common example being young people allowing their bank account to be used to facilitate the movement of criminal funds. Other research shows that young people are less likely to be cautious online compared to older generations and more likely to share common security information such as their mother's maiden name.

Commissioner's e-Briefing: 05 March 2018

[Disclosure of evidence in criminal cases inquiry](#) – Launched 22nd February 2018

Justice Committee inquiry to investigate disclosure procedures to ensure they are fit for purpose and proposed steps to address existing issues are sufficient. Findings will inform the Attorney General's ongoing review. Accepting written submissions until 21st March 2018.

[Digital currencies inquiry](#) - Launched 22nd February 2018

Treasury Committee inquiry into digital currencies and distributed ledger technology will explore the opportunities and risks of digital currencies to consumers, businesses, and the Government, including risks relating to volatility, money laundering, and cyber-crime. Accepting written submissions until 13th April 2018.

[Business rates retention](#) - CLG Committee - Oral evidence session 5th March 2018

[Hate crime and its violent consequences](#) – HA Committee – Oral evidence session 6th March 2018

[Harassment and intimidation near abortion clinics](#) – Home Affairs Com – Oral evidence session TBA

[Transforming Rehabilitation](#) – Justice Committee – latest evidence 27th February 2018

APCC criminal justice portfolio lead, [David Lloyd](#) calls for PCCs to 'have the same powers over the criminal justice system that they currently have over police – set the plan, the budget, appoint a chief and hold to account'. The APCC wants to see unring-fenced funding provided to PCCs so that the money can be invested in the part of the system which would have the greatest impact on reducing reoffending in their local area.

[Prison Population 2022: Planning for the Future](#) – Justice Committee – latest evidence 27th Feb 2018

[Emergency Services Network](#) – Public Accounts Committee – [Evidence session](#) held 26th February 2018
Committee examines the Emergency Services Network: progress review inquiry

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

Evidence session involving the Home Office, National Crime Agency, and Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner following the NAO report which found administrative problems, complex referrals processes, inconsistent data quality and weak understanding of how much victim support services would cost.

[Brexit: policing & security cooperation inquiry](#) – Home Affairs Committee - [latest evidence](#) 23rd Jan 18

[Government Contracts for CRCs](#) – Public Accounts Committee – [latest evidence](#) 17th Jan 2018

[Counter-terrorism](#) - Home Affairs Committee - one-off [evidence session](#) held on 30th January 2018

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

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

5. LEGISLATION

[Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Bill](#) – Commons Committee stage – 1st March [Commons briefing](#)

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

[European Union \(Withdrawal\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – 5th March 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 – 5th March 2018 [Commons Library Analysis](#)

The Bill to modernise and make data protection laws fit for the digital age by empowering people to take control of their data; supporting UK businesses and organisations through change and ensuring that the UK is prepared for the future after leaving the EU. [Government fact sheets](#)

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

[Laser Misuse \(Vehicles\) Bill](#) - Lords 3rd reading – 6th March 2018 [Lords briefing](#)

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

[Secure Tenancies \(Victims of Domestic Abuse\) Bill](#) - Lords Report Stage – 6th March 2018 [Lords briefing](#)

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

[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.

[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

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

[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

[Emergency Response Drivers \(Protections\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – 16th March 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 – 16th March 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. Prompted by the attack of Hertfordshire Police Dog Finn and his handler, in which the only serious charge available for the attack on Finn was criminal damage. The bill is in line with legislation passes in other countries including, Canada, Australia and the USA

[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

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

[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; 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

[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

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- [Draft Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill](#) to ensure victims have the confidence to come forward
 - [Draft Courts Bill](#) to modernise and improve the efficiency and accessibility of the courts system
 - [Draft Drone Bill](#) to require drone users to sit safety awareness tests and register their drone
 - [Draft Animal Welfare \(Sentencing and Recognition of Sentience\) Bill](#) [Commons Briefing](#)

6. CONSULTATIONS

[Call for evidence: Home Office treatment of vulnerable adults](#)

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration call for evidence on how effectively, efficiently and consistently the Borders, Immigration and Citizenship System (BICS) treats vulnerable adults. Evidence will be used to inform an inspection of Home Office policies, guidance, training and practice in this area.

Open date: 01/03/2017

Close date: 23/03/2018

[Professionals Breaking the Silence](#)

NSPCC is seeking feedback from professionals on their experiences of listening to children and receiving disclosures of abuse and neglect. Responses will be used to inform the development of a practical resource to support professionals working with children and improve children's experiences of the disclosure process.

Open date: 09/02/2017

Close date: 25/03/2018

[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 illegal activity.

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

[Data-sharing MoU between NHS Digital and Home Office](#)

Public Health England call for evidence on the public health impact of the [MoU on data sharing](#) between NHS Digital, the Home Office and the Department of Health

Open date: 15/02/2018

Close date: 30/03/2018

[Draft guideline on preventing suicide in community and custodial settings](#)

NICE consultation seeking feedback from stakeholders on draft guideline and supporting evidence on preventing suicide in community and custodial settings

Open date: 27/02/2018

Close date: 12/04/2018

[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.

Open date: 30/01/2018

Close date: 24/04/2018

[Local government ethical standards](#)

Open date: 29/01/2018

Close date: 18/05/2018

[Parole process review](#)

Close date: N/A