

Police and Crime Commissioner's Horizon Scanning Briefing

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To be included on our mailing list, please contact [Dan Howitt](#), Nottinghamshire OPCC

1. POLICY AND PRACTICE

[Prime Minister launches police recruitment drive](#) – 26 July 2019

Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, announces plans recruit 20,000 new police officers over the next three years, beginning in September 2019. The drive to deliver more frontline officers in neighbourhoods, 'protecting the public and cutting crime' has been welcomed by the [APCC](#) and [NPCC](#). The government also announced plans for a new national policing board which will be chaired by the Home Secretary and bring police leaders together to hold them to account for meeting this target. [Policing Insight analysis](#)

[Recipients of £750,000 Sexual Violence and Abuse funding announced](#) – 20 July 2019

Home Office announces recipients of the Support for Victims and Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse Funding (NAPAC, NSPCC and Safeline) and National Sexual Violence Support Funding (Rape Crisis, Survivors Trust, Survivors Manchester) to establish support lines, counselling services and specialist tailored support.

[Police transformation fund: investments in 2019 to 2020](#) – 17 July 2019

Home Office publishes details of projects supported by Phase 2 (2018-2020) Police Transformation funding which include Single Online Home, cyber security capability, back office ICT tools and forensics collaboration network. The Home Office has also made £5m available to West Midlands Police to further test the [National Data Analytics Solution](#) in using large volumes of police data to assess the risk of offending and victimisation. The system, which is subject to robust ethical oversight and designed to help inform (as opposed to replace) police officer decision making, is expected to be made more widely available to forces once fully tested.

[Government response: New public health duty to tackle serious violence](#) – 15 July 2019

Home Secretary [confirms](#) plans to introduce a new 'public health duty' on the police, local councils, local health bodies such as NHS Trusts, education representatives and youth offending services and amend the Crime and Disorder Act to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for CSPs. The new duty will aim ensure that relevant services work together to share data, intelligence and knowledge to understand and address the root causes of serious violence including knife crime and target their interventions to prevent violence. The duty will hold organisations to account as opposed to individual teachers, nurses or other frontline professionals. New guidance will also be published in due course to support the legislation.

[Terrorism threat level system revised to reflect threat from all forms of terrorism](#) – 23 July 2019

Home Office extends the scope of the national terrorism threat level monitoring system from 'international terrorism' to all forms of terrorism, irrespective of ideology. This includes extreme right and left-wing terrorism. The threat from Northern Ireland-related terrorism in Northern Ireland will remain separate.

[Plans for a police covenant announced](#) – 18 July 2019

Home Secretary announces plans to establish a police covenant to recognise the sacrifice made by those who are working, or have previously worked, in policing. The covenant will recognise police officers as holding the 'office of constable', which comes with a high level of personal accountability and responsibility for the protection of life and property. A consultation will be launched on the principle and scope of the police covenant. The Home Secretary also gave his backing to proposals for the Police Federation to extend their support to Special Constables - giving volunteers the option of the same protections as their colleagues.

[Revised PACE Codes C and H published](#) – 23 July 2019

Revised codes [laid before parliament](#) introducing a range of new requirements and safeguards to address issues identified by ICVA in September 2017. These include lack of sufficient sanitary protection, female detainees being frequently left without the assistance of female officers or staff; inadequate access to facilities for washing and changing and failure to ensure sufficient pixilation of CCTV to allow females to change sanitary protection. The revisions will come into operation on 21 August 2019.

[Draft statutory guidance to police on firearms licensing published](#) – 23 July 2019

The Home Office launches consultation on draft statutory guidance for police issuing firearms licences following HMICFRS findings of inconsistent police licensing practice across the country and evidence that medical information was not being shared for firearms applications. The draft guidance includes the requirement for police to check medical records of firearms applicants to assess whether they have a history of relevant mental or physical conditions which could affect their safe possession of guns. The Home Office has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the British Medical Association (BMA) to better enable GPs to provide information to the police and record a firearms flag on patient records to provide a more dynamic method of assessment. Consultation is open until 17 September 2019.

[Updated guidance on returning immigration offenders to their country of origin](#) – 18 July 2019

[Interim guidance for Independent Child Trafficking Guardians early adopter sites](#) – 22 July 2019

[National Partnership Agreement for employment and welfare of custody leavers](#) – 23 July 2019

MoJ and DWP [announce](#) a new joint approach to improve an offender's journey from custody to the community as part of wider efforts to drive rehabilitation and protect the public. The National Partnership Agreement sets out how the departments will jointly drive rehabilitation and reduce reoffending by ensuring prisoners have proper access to the right training and support during their time in custody, access to bank accounts and ID so they can apply for jobs more easily and streamlining the resettlement process.

[Home Secretary speech: Confronting extremism together](#) – 19 July 2019

[CJA: What Next for Probation? Outputs from Roundtable discussion](#) – 25 July 2019

[Revolving Doors: Joint sector statement on short sentences](#) – 18 July 2019

[Reform: Lost voices in the process of courts digitisation](#) – 16 July 2019

Recent Parliamentary briefings: [Managing Offenders: A New Model of Probation](#) (25 Jul), [Firearms](#) (25 Jul), [International child abduction](#) (24 Jul), [Enforcement officers / bailiffs](#) (24 Jul), [Role and sufficiency of youth services](#) (23 Jul), [Female Offender Strategy One Year On](#) (23 Jul), [Banking fraud](#) (22 Jul), [Women in the Criminal Justice System](#) (18 Jul), [PSHE in schools](#) (17 Jul)

Recent Parliamentary debates: [CPS: Rape and Sexual Offences](#) (23 Jul), [Immigration Detention: Victims of Modern Slavery](#) (18 Jul), [Police Surveillance of Journalists](#) (17 Jul), [Violent Crime: Young People](#) (15 Jul), [Economic Crime](#) (15 Jul), [Topical Questions](#) (15 Jul), [Universal Credit Fraud](#) (10 Jul)

2. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND STATISTICS

[Indicators of serious violence: Millennium Cohort and Longitudinal Twin Studies](#) – 23 July 2019

Home Office Research Report 110 explores findings from two UK surveys linked to serious violence and concludes that the factors most strongly associated with serious violence include:-

- Gender - with males being over three times more likely to carry/use a weapon than females
- Number of siblings - with those with no siblings or four or more siblings being at greater risk
- Victimization and vulnerability - including experience of maltreatment self-harm, bullying & feeling isolated
- Early puberty - 3 times more likely to carry weapon than those whose body hair growth had barely started
- Lack of self-control and experience of risk taking behaviour and gambling (fruit machines, private bets etc.)
- Frequency of truanting – with those truanting once a week being more likely to carry / use a weapon
- Having previously committed minor violence, theft, public disorder and/or cybercrime.

Factors not found to be generally significant included ethnicity, smoking, drinking and illegal drug use and self-reported academic/educational performance. While the report finds a correlation between school exclusion and weapon use/carrying, there is no clear evidence of a causal link. The analysis does confirm, however, that school exclusion does increase an individual's odds of being involved with weapons. The research demonstrates how using combinations of risk factors to target interventions can increase the likelihood of those interventions reaching those at most risk from around 3.5% to over 50%. This does, however, present a trade-off in that not all at risk individuals will be reached.

[Relationship violence education to promote awareness of rights & acceptable behaviour](#) – 16 July 2019

New systematic review added to the College of Policing's Crime Reduction Toolkit concludes that there is some evidence that educational interventions have reduced the risk of relationship violence among adolescents and young adults (11 to 26 years old), but overall the intervention has not had a statistically significant effect. The intervention may be more effective for 'high risk' participants and in particular settings. The method of implementing educational interventions can differ (videos, discussion groups, lectures, and role-playing) but there may be benefit to focusing on the development of relationship skills among adolescents as a manner of raising victim awareness and increasing self-esteem.

[Identity Matters intervention for group and gang related offenders: a process study](#) – 19 July 2019

MoJ publish findings from a small scale study of Identity Matters (IM) interventions for those offending in a group or gang-related environment. This preliminary evidence suggests that IM can be an effective intervention for gang affiliated offenders and consideration should be given to: using 1:1 sessions rather than group sessions; introducing and defining the concept of a gang; optimising the timing of delivery within an individual's sentence; continuing to use of pre and post programme measures to examine short and longer term change.

[Captive & Controlled: Domestic Abuse in Rural Areas](#) – 17 July 2019

National Rural Crime Network research report highlights the distinct characteristics of domestic abuse in rural localities and the disparity in police response and access to survivor support services access between rural and urban areas. The report makes recommendations for:-

- Commissioners (in all their forms) to collaborate more locally and provide simpler, more secure and longer-term funding. Support services for rural victims and survivors should also be improved
- Chief Constables to urgently assess and improve their service provision in rural areas
- Government to apply its 'rural proofing' policy to domestic abuse and place a new duty on commissioners and service providers to account for the specific needs of victims and survivors in rural communities
- Government, policing and service providers to collectively commit to redressing the 'urban bias'

[Ministry of Justice research publications – reducing reoffending](#) – 18 July 2019

[Ministry of Justice research publications - Commission for Countering Extremism](#) – 19 July 2019

[Crime in England and Wales to March 2019 – 18 July 2019](#)

ONS publish latest Crime Survey for England and Wales and police recorded crime statistics which show no significant change in overall crime over the previous year, despite increases in thefts of motor vehicles (+8%), robbery (+11%) and fraud (+17%). By contrast, computer misuse offences (-21%), burglaries (-3%) and homicide offences (-4%) are all estimated to have fallen. Police recorded crime data also indicates that some less frequent but high-harm types of violence have continued to increase over the previous year, including offences involving knives and sharp instruments (+8%) and firearms (+3%). These offences are generally concentrated in the metropolitan police force areas. Data available at [force](#) and [CSP](#) level. Statistical release includes publication of experimental [Crime Severity Score](#) data at police force and CSP level.

[Crime outcomes in England and Wales 2018 to 2019 – 18 July 2019](#)

The proportion of crimes resulting in a charge / summons fell from 9% to 8% in 2018/19, continuing the downward trend seen since March 2015 (15%). The number and proportion of offences resolved by out of court resolutions also fell from 4.4% to 3.7%. The proportion of offences that were closed as a result of 'evidential difficulties' increased from 29% to 32%, and is likely to reflect improved crime recording processes and a changing crime caseload. [Data available at force level](#)

[Police workforce England and Wales statistics – Published 18 July 2019](#)

Home Office statistics to 31 March 2019 show a marginal (+1%) increase in the police workforce in 2018/19 to 202,023, following reductions seen between 2010 and 2017. Increases were most pronounced among 'designated officers' (+12%) who have limited powers designated to them by a chief constable, and police staff (+2.5%). Although lower in volume, the number of Superintendents (1,208), and Chief Inspectors (1,666) rose by 2.4% and 4.3% respectively. The number of police constables (96,070) increased by 0.7%. 9,427 police officers joined the 43 police forces in England and Wales, accounting for 8% of officers. 8,727 police officers left the service in 2018/19, accounting for 7% of officers. There were 103,175 police officers employed in frontline policing roles, a fall of 662 officers (0.6%) compared to the previous year. 8,329 (7%) of officers identified as Black and Minority Ethnic (BME), marking the highest proportion since records began. BME groups remain under-represented, however, accounting for 14% of the E&W population. 30% of all officers are female (37,428), also marking the highest proportion on record. [Data available at force level](#)

[Police use of firearms statistics 2018/19 – Published 25 July 2019](#)

Home Office publish latest annual statistics highlighting a 7% increase in police firearms operations in 2018/19 to 20,186, and continuing the upward trend seen since 2016. Of these, there were 13 incidents in which police firearms were discharged compared, marking the highest level since comparable figures began (2010). 40% of all firearms operations were undertaken in the Metropolitan and West Midlands Police force areas. There were 6,653 armed officers in post as at March 2019 marking a 3% increase on the previous year and continuing the trend seen since 2016. [Data available at police force level.](#)

[Reported road casualties Great Britain: 2018 – Published 25 July 2019](#)

Latest DfT data shows that the level of reported road deaths in 2018 (1,782) has seen no significant change since 2012, following a period of substantial reduction in fatalities between 2006 and 2010. Total casualties (160,378), however, have fallen by 6% since 2017 to the lowest level on record.

[Prison performance ratings 2018 to 2019 - Published 25 July 2019](#)

Annual performance ratings of prison establishments in England and Wales shows that 63% of prisons were rated as having acceptable (50%) or exceptional (13%) performance - the highest rate since 2014/15. 14% were rated as having performance of serious concern, which is also the highest proportion since ratings began. Performance was generally strong in security measures but poor in violence and self-harm measures

[Proven reoffending statistics: July to September 2017 – Published 25 July 2019](#)

[Payment by Results statistics: October 2015 to September 2018 – Published 25 July 2019](#)

[Offender Management statistics quarterly: January to March 2019 – Published 25 July 2019](#)

[Safety in Custody quarterly: update to March 2019 – Published 25 July 2019](#)

3. AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS

[The Poor Relation: The police and CPS response to crimes against older people – 17 July 2019](#)

Joint HMICFRS and HMICPS inspection finds a lack of police and CPS focus on older victims of crime and clear opportunities to improve the quality and consistency of approaches across agencies. The report highlights that while the police are usually good in their initial dealings with older victims, they do not consistently assess victim needs and as such, safeguarding and support opportunities are often missed. Police and CPS often fail to deal with the complex needs of vulnerable older victims, consider different ways for victims to give their best evidence and the special measures and reasonable adjustments that may be required, such as hearing loops or registered intermediaries. Despite examples of good and effective practice by North Wales Police, crime allocation policies are generally not sophisticated enough to take account of the specific needs of victims and witnesses. The report calls for the NPCC to conduct a national survey to improve understanding of barriers and enablers to effective adult safeguarding and remind chief constables of the need to include a victim personal statement (or reason for its absence) with initial submissions to the CPS. The report recommends that:-

- Within 3 months, chief constables should conduct analysis of the current and future demand for adult safeguarding, including any gaps in knowledge that may exist. This analysis should be incorporated into force management statements (FMSs). Ensure that adult safeguarding referrals are always made when appropriate, with effective processes in place to make sure this happens.
- Within 6 months, chief constables should ensure that victim needs assessments are always completed as set out in the relevant codes of practice and work with PCCs and other relevant organisations to review whether victim support services can be provided in a better way.
- The National Police Chiefs' Council, CPS and College of Policing should agree a joint and simple definition of what constitutes an older victim, and take a co-ordinated approach in understanding and responding to these crimes. NPCC and the College of Policing should to produce guidance for officers / chief constables and develop a strategy for how the police service should respond to the problems faced by older people
- NPCC should: work with partners to review current allocation processes, and recommend systems that more easily help forces to allocate an appropriate investigative response; remind chief constables of the importance of considering whether victims would benefit from a registered intermediary; establish good ways for police forces to conduct victim needs assessments.
- CPS should review its guidance about special measures and work with the College of Policing and NPCC to ensure special measures meetings are offered when appropriate. CPS should remind prosecutors to record that a restraining order has been considered in all appropriate cases. College of Policing should, as a matter of urgency, develop guidance and training for officers involved in adult safeguarding arrangements

[HMICFRS Policing inspection programme and framework for 2019/20 – Published 24 July 2019](#)

Framework setting out thematic inspections in 2019/20 (senior leadership selection and development, counter-terrorism, older people in the criminal justice system, cyber-crime), rolling programme of inspections of child protection, YOTs and crime data integrity, and a follow up on use of the police national computer by non-police organisations (commissioned by Home Office). Thematic inspections relating to county lines and TACT (Terrorism Act custody suites) are underway. HMIVFRS will also continue to review and report on the police response to domestic abuse on an annual basis. Six new national child protection inspections are scheduled for 2019/20 in addition to re-inspections or re-visits of some forces and eight new joint targeted area inspections working alongside Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission and HM Inspectorate of Probation.

Upcoming inspection reports

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| • Joint Inspection of Domestic Abuse: Evidence-led prosecutions (Police / CSP) | Pending |
| • National Joint Targeted area inspections of Child Protection Thematic | Pending |
| • TACT Custody Suites | Pending |

4. REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

[Roads policing review announced](#) – 16 July 2019

Government announces plans for a 2 year review into roads policing and traffic enforcement as part of the Road Safety Statement 2019. The review, funded by the Department for Transport and Highways England, will aim to highlight best practice, identify gaps in service and pilot a programme of new initiatives beginning in 2020. The review will also look at how the police and different agencies work together, the information they share and how improvements may increase capability and capacity. A call for evidence will be launched in the autumn. Findings and recommendations will be ready in 2020.

[Evaluation of Independent Child Trafficking Guardians - early adopter sites: Final report](#) – 22 July 2019

Home Office report evaluating the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians service in the three early adopter sites from February 2017 to January 2019 finds that while 23% of children referred to the Service went missing at some point, mostly on a temporary basis, and around 34% of the children that went missing never had any engagement with an ICTG prior to going missing. Children missing on referral or long term were most likely to be Vietnamese nationals primarily exploited for their labour and were unlikely to have had any contact with an ICTG. For children who had been in the Service for over six months, the likelihood of going missing decreased initially but then started to rise again. The explanation behind this trend is uncertain. The ICTG service is currently only for those aged under 18 and reaching this age is the most common reason for children exiting the Service. Stakeholders and ICTGs expressed concerns about managing the transitions of young people into adult services, noting the absence of dedicated trafficking provisions for young people moving into adult services and concern over how the young people's needs would be met in the longer term.

[Police Remuneration Review Body Report: 2019 England and Wales](#) – 22 July 2019

Police Remuneration Review Body makes recommendations for 2019/20 (from 1 September 2019) for a one-year pay award for police officers in 2019/20; a consolidated increase of 2.5% to all police officer pay points for all ranks; no change to the current arrangements for apprentice progression; Dog Handlers' Allowance uprated by 2.5% and; an increase in the On-call Allowance from £15 to £20.

[Ministry of Justice Annual Report and Accounts 2018 to 2019](#) – Published 19 July 2019

[National Crime Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2018 to 2019](#) – Published 22 July 2019

[IOPC Annual Report 2018/19](#) – Published 24 July 2019

Inquiries

[Ageing prison population](#) – Justice Committee – Launched 25 July 2019

Accepting written evidence until 1 October 2019

[Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(IICSA\)](#) – Open

- [Government response to IICSA: interim report](#) – 22 July 2019
- [Government response – Sexual Abuse of Children in Custodial Institutions](#) – 23 July 2019
- [Preliminary hearing – Children in care of Lambeth Council](#) – 23 July 2019
- [Preliminary hearing – Child protection in religious organisations](#) – 23 July 2019
- [Preliminary hearing – Child sexual abuse in residential schools](#) – 25 July 2019
- [Report publication - Nottinghamshire Councils](#) – 31 July 2019

5. LEGISLATION

[Domestic Abuse Bill](#) introduced in the House of Commons – 16 July 2019 **NEW** [Briefing](#)

Government issues [response](#) to Joint Committee and [announces](#) the introduction of a new bill to:

- promote awareness - to put abuse at the top of everyone's agenda, legislate for a [statutory definition](#)
- protect and support victims, including by introducing a new [Domestic Abuse Protection Notice and Order](#)
- transform justice response - [helping victims](#) give their best evidence, prevent [cross-examination](#) by abusers
- improve performance - [Domestic Abuse Commissioner](#) to drive consistency and performance improvements
- [Secure tenancies](#) to support victims in social housing to leave their abusive situation and rebuild their lives
- HO and MoJ will also commence a three year pilot of mandatory [polygraph testing](#) for DA perpetrators

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

Private Members' Bill to make provision for the imposing of restrictions on assets owned by persons involved in supplying terrorist organisations in the United Kingdom with arms, for the purpose of securing compensation for citizens of the United Kingdom affected by the supply of such arms

[Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA [Briefing](#)

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

[Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill](#) – Commons 1st reading – TBA [Briefing](#)

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

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

[Anonymity \(Arrested Persons\) Bill](#) - Lords Committee stage – TBA

[Sentencing \(Pre-consolidation Amendments\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – TBA [Briefing](#)

[Victims of Crime \(Rights, Entitlements, Notification of CSA\) Bill](#) – Lords Committee stage – TBA

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

[Freedom of Information \(Extension\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Human Trafficking \(Child Protection\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Violent Crime \(Sentences\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Youth \(Services and Provisions\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

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

[Foreign Nationals \(Criminal Offender & Prisoner Removal\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Policing Resources 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 – TBA

[Parental Rights \(Rapists\) and Family Courts Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Police Officer Training \(Autism Awareness\) Bill](#) - Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Unauthorised Encampments Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Destitution Domestic Violence Concession \(Eligibility\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

[Crime \(Impact Statements\) Bill](#) – Commons 2nd reading – TBA

6. CONSULTATIONS

[Support for victims of domestic abuse in safe accommodation](#)

Ministry of Housing, CLG consultation seeks views of victims, survivors, service providers, local authorities, and PCCs on proposals to place a legal duty on local authorities to deliver support to meet the diverse needs of survivors of domestic abuse and their children in accommodation-based services.

Open date: 13/05/2019

Close date: 02/08/2019

[Proposals for revising the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime](#) **NEW**

MoJ consultation on initial proposals to strengthen and simplify the Code of Practice for Victims of crime by providing greater clarity around victims' rights; improve awareness that victims who do not report the crime or withdraw from the criminal justice process are entitled to the same support as those who do report it; create short, user-friendly guidance for victims and clearer guidance for criminal justice practitioners; revise categories for victims entitled to an enhanced service to make it simpler and better meet the needs of victims. This will pave the way for the forthcoming consultation on a Victims' Law as part of the government's Victims' Strategy to make sure support is consistent across the country.

Open date: 17/07/2019

Close date: 11/09/2019

[Transparency in supply chains](#)

Home Office consultation on proposed changes to section 54 (transparency in supply chains) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, designed to improve reporting and compliance with the Act and extend its scope. This includes extending the requirement to publish modern slavery statements to large public sector organisations.

Open date: 09/07/2019

Close date: 17/09/2019

[Sexual Harassment in the Workplace](#)

Government Equalities Office consultation on proposed reforms to the Equality Act 2010 to better protect employees, including interns and volunteers, from sexual harassment in the workplace. GEO is particularly keen to hear from people with direct or third party experience of harassment in the workplace.

Open date: 11/07/2019

Close date: 02/10/2019

[Statutory guidance to police on firearms licensing](#) **NEW**

The Home Office consultation on draft statutory guidance for police issuing firearms licences to ensure officers are consistently checking applicants' medical records in order to better protect the public. This comes following HMICFRS findings of inconsistent police licensing practice across the country.

Open date: 23/07/2019

Close date: 17/09/2019

[Strengthening probation, building confidence engagement events](#) – Ongoing

A [practitioner workshop](#) and series of [market engagement events](#) are scheduled throughout July and August