



## Welcome to the Commissioner's weekly horizon scanning brief:

1. **Legislation** (Legislation, Home Office, APCC, press comments, reports and campaigns relating to strategy, policy and programmes)
2. **Strategic policing and crime news** (relevant crime and criminal justice information and partners' policy/reports/campaigns)
3. **Developments and reports** (covering research across political, economic, social, technological, environmental and organisations)
4. **Consultations** (police and crime bulletins, research, consultations and press releases)
5. **Reviews and Inspections** (covering various reviews, inspections and audits across policing)

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## 1. Legislation

[Missing persons law comes into force](#)

[Data Retention & Investigatory Powers Act 2014](#)

[Immigration Act 2014 has received Royal Assent.](#)

[Care Act 2014 has received Royal Assent.](#)

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 overarching documents](#)

[Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014](#)

[Modern Slavery Bill](#)

[Serious Crime Bill](#)

[The Criminal Justice Act 1988 \(Reviews of Sentencing\) \(Amendment\) Order 2014](#)

[SI 2014/1798 Immigration Act 2014 \(Specified Anti-fraud Organisation\) Order 2014](#)

This Order came into force on 2 August 2014.

[SI 2014/1787 Criminal Justice Act 2003 \(Alcohol Abstinence and Monitoring Requirement\) \(Prescription of Arrangement for Monitoring\) Order 2014](#)

## 2. Strategic policing and crime news

### Home Secretary launches Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme

All police forces in England and Wales have signed up the voluntary scheme.

### ONS data – crime data survey

Crime Survey data does not always include rapes, murders and crimes against children, **also** does not include up to 3.8million credit and bank card frauds. ONS interviewed 40,000 people about their experiences with crime.

### Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham (1997-2013)

Publication of Professor Alexis Jay's report reveals that the true scale of child sexual exploitation in Rotherham over the years is a conservative estimate at 1,400 girls abused by sex gangs, and cites social workers and police feared racism claims. Report covers a 16 year period, children as young as 11 were sexually exploited by gangs of men in Rotherham.

### 'The new drum beat of terror has changed'

Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe called for the return of anti-terror control order regime because the terror threat has increased since 2010. Norway's Minister of Children and Equality, said the government will 'turn over every stone' to prevent citizens becoming radicalised.

### Background paper on local government finance: issues and options

This paper, prepared by the Commons Library, examines the debate on local government finance in England, in the run-up to the General Election in 2015.

### **Home Office Announces Bramshill Sale**

The Home Office has announced it will sell its police training site at Bramshill to City & Country. Bramshill, which consists of a Grade I-listed Jacobean building and Grade II\*-listed park of medieval origin, was originally bought by the Home Office in 1953 and developed into a national police training college. In 2012, the Home Secretary took the decision to sell Bramshill, saving the taxpayer £5m a year. Contracts have now been exchanged with City & Country, which intends to develop the site for residential use.

### West Mids Chief welcomes new PCC

West Midlands Police Chief Constable Chris Sims has welcomed the region's new Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson, following a record-low electoral turn-out.

### South Yorkshire PCC should resign, says Home Secretary

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright is being told that he should resign, following recent revelations about widespread child sexual abuse in Rotherham.

## 3. Developments and reports

### Addressing stigma towards recovering drug users and their families

A coalition of organisations from the substance misuse sector are seeking details about experiences of stigma in the daily lives of drug users and their families.

### Campaign launched to warn of risks of 'legal' highs

A national campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of new psychoactive substances

(NPS) to called 'legal' highs among teenagers and young adults has been launched by the Home Office.

## **NSPCC helpline**

Funded by the Home Office, the NSPCC is providing a 24-hour helpline to help parents, carers and any other adult worried about a child or young person at risk from gang-related activity. A range of publicity material has been produced.

## **Troubled Families programme expanded to help younger children**

The Government has announced an expansion of the Troubled Families programme to help vulnerable young children from struggling homes to get a better start in life. Work will begin this year in 51 of the best performing areas ahead of a national 5 year programme from 2015.

## **Department for Education**

NEET statistics: quarterly brief - April to June 2014.

## **Centre for Social Justice**

Ambitious for Recovery

## **Demos**

On speaking terms - Making ESOL policy work better for migrants and wider society....

## **Department for Communities and Local Government**

Tenants leading change - How council and housing associations can get involved in making their neighbourhood a better place to live.

## **Home Office**

Annual Report on the Home Office Forensic Early Warning System (FEWS) - A system to identify New Psychoactive Substances in the UK

## **Institute of Public Policy Research**

In Safe Hands? Rethinking employment pathways for ESA claimants with mental health problems

## **Mental Health Policy Group**

A manifesto for better mental health

## **Policy Exchange**

The Estate We're In: Lessons from the Front line

## **Nominations open for the first UK Social Investment Awards**

The Social Investment Awards, supported by Cabinet Office and RBS, will celebrate UK businesses and people who are solving social problems.

## **Fire and rescue authorities: operational statistics bulletin for England 2013 to 2014**

Annual statistics about fire and rescue authorities' staff, numbers of injuries to firefighters, fire safety audits of buildings and community fire safety.

## **Ban junk mail companies from accessing electoral role – LGA**

Council leaders are calling on the government to scrap a law which forces local authorities to hand over personal details of voters to junk mail companies.

## **Council chiefs welcome new commissioning responsibilities for young children**

Plans for local authorities to take over the responsibility of commissioning public health services for children aged 0-5 have been welcomed by council chiefs. The government has said that, from 15 October 2015, it will be 'mandating to local authorities' five universal elements of the Healthy Child Programme for 18 months.

## **Seven councils accused of Publicity Code breach**

Seven local authorities have been accused of breaching publicity rules designed to protect the free press through the publication of their newssheets. The DCLG has asked Enfield, Hillingdon, Lambeth, Luton, Medway, Mid Devon and North Somerset councils to explain, within the next fortnight, what they now plan to do to ensure compliance under the Publicity Code.

## **Number of children in council care up 12%**

The number of children in council care in England has risen by 12% in the last four years, with overall costs calculated at £3.4bn, according to new research by the Audit Commission.

## **First wave of projects to build 200,000 new homes revealed**

The first wave of projects to benefit from the government's £1bn large infrastructure fund, which is aimed at unlocking or accelerating the provision of more than 200,000 new homes across the country, has been announced.

## **Most councils have no system to collect child neglect data**

Approximately 60% of English councils do not know how many children in their area are likely to suffer from neglect, according to new Action for Children research. Based on a freedom of information request to 80 local authorities – just under 50% of the total number of councils in England – the majority (48) had no data collection systems in place to determine the number of children experiencing neglect in their area, other than collecting statistics on the number of children already receiving help from social services.

## **Councils funding school meals shortfall – LGA**

Councils and schools have had to divert funds from their budgets to help deliver the government's free school meal policy, despite promises it would be fully-funded, a new study has revealed. Local authorities had been given £150m from central government to fund essential capital work – such as building new kitchens – for schools to provide free meals to all pupils aged seven and under from September.

## **The proactive approach to homelessness**

While some organisations are trying to deter rough sleepers, Wigan Council are undergoing actions to provide support services.

## **Banbridge council waste trial heralded a success**

Banbridge District Council has announced it will move around 60 per cent of households to a four-weekly collection service for residual waste following a successful trial in the area

## **Mobile working for Manchester council staff**

A pilot scheme to test mobile working for staff across two departments at Manchester City Council has identified potential savings of almost £1m.

## 4. Consultations

### [Revised PACE code A](#)

The consultation runs until Monday 20 October 2014. The changes in this draft have been made in order to implement the government's commitment as set out in the consultation on stop and search.

### [Strengthening the law on domestic violence](#)

This consultation seeks views on whether the current law on domestic abuse needs to be strengthened to offer better protection to victims. It is specifically focused on whether we should create a specific offence that captures patterns of coercive and controlling behaviour in intimate relationships, inline with the government's non-statutory definition of domestic abuse. Closing date 15 October 2014.

### [Ketamine rescheduling consultation](#)

The Home Office is seeking views on the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) recommendation to reschedule ketamine to Schedule 2 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulation (as amended) (the 2001 Regulations). The consultation runs until 3rd November 2014.

### [Consultation on NICE quality standards](#)

The Health and Social Care Quality Programme and teams across NICE have worked together to update the quality standards process guide. The main elements of the process guide that have been updated are the review and update of quality standards and the inclusion of developmental statements. Closes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

### [Framework regulation integrating business statistics \(FRIBS\)](#)

Close date: 07/10/2014

### [Consultation on the renewal of the EU Internal Security Strategy](#)

Close date: 03/10/2014

### [Restricting non-residents' entitlement to the UK personal allowance](#)

Close date: 09/10/2014

### [College of Policing's consultation on management of sexual and violent offenders](#)

A consultation by the College of Policing on new guidance on the management of sexual and violent offenders was launched on 11 July. The closing date is 5 September.

### [College of Policing consults on investigation of rape and sexual offences](#)

The College of Policing has published consultation on the investigation of rape and sexual offences. It closes on 22 September.

### [5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 Consultation launched on the management of dangerous offenders](#)

### [Changes to Mental Health Act \(1983\) Code of Practice](#)

Seeks comments on proposed changes to legislation governing the treatment of people with mental health problems. Close date: 12/09/2014.

## [Have your say on the National Minimum Wage](#)

Consultation closes on the 29 September 2014.

## [Recovery of public sector exit payments](#)

This consultation seeks views on the government's plans to legislate for the recovery of exit payments when high earners return to the same part of the public sector within twelve months of leaving. Consultation closes on the 17/09/2014.

## [Integrated inspections to assess the contribution of all professionals to the help, care and protection of children and young people](#)

The consultation launch of the targeted programme of integrated inspections. This marks a major step forward in the way that the contribution of local agencies is assessed with regards to the help, care and protection of children, young people and families. Closes on 12 September 2014.

## [NICE quality standards – the process guide](#)

The second update to the process guide for developing NICE quality standards is now available for comment in draft form. Note that the process guide is provisional and may change after consultation. **Consultation dates: Tuesday 10 June - Wednesday 3 September 2014**

## [Data policy for a Public Data Corporation](#)

Views wanted on how to provide accessible public sector information. The consultation will close on 27 October 2014.

## 5. Reviews and Inspections

### [HMIC provides assurance that chief constables are having regard to the Strategic Policing Requirement – but finds that more needs to be done](#)

#### [HMIC Programme](#)

HMIC sets out its inspection programme and resources for the year ahead.

#### **Thematic Inspections already Committed to in 2014/15:**

- Making Best Use of Police Time
- Valuing the Police Programme – Phase 4
- Undercover Policing (Home Secretary Commission)
- Domestic Abuse (Home Secretary Commission)
- Crime Data Integrity – July 2014
- Child Protection – July 2014

#### **Thematic Inspections Commencing in 2014/15**

- Valuing the Police Programme – Phase 5
- Strategic Policing Requirement
- Police Integrity and Leadership (Police Integrity and Corruption)
- Follow up to Mistakes Were Made Report

- Revisit of Stop and Search
- Protecting Vulnerable People Programme: Missing Children
- Police Management of Information
- Police National Database (PND) Audit
- Use of the Police National Computer (PNC) by Non-Police Organisations

## **Proposed Topics for New Thematic Inspections in 2014/15**

- Modern Slavery
- So-Called Honour Based Violence (HBV)
- Cyber Crime.