



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. **Policing and crime key developments** (relevant crime and criminal justice information and partners' policy/reports/campaigns)
3. **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

[SI 2013 No. 2319 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 \(Transitional Provision\) Order 2013](#)

[Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill](#)

[Offender Rehabilitation Bill](#) - Report, together with formal minutes.

[Immigration Bill - amendments to be considered at remaining stages](#)

[The Police \(Amendment\) Regulations 2013](#) - These Regulations amend the Police Regulations 2003 to implement recommendations 3, 16, 17 and 18 of the Independent Review of Police Officer and Staff Remuneration and Conditions: Final Report.

2. Policing and crime key developments

[The immigration backlash: Germany and France join PM in call for crackdown on benefit tourism as Hungarian eurocrat brands UK the 'nasty country' of Europe](#)

- Tory MPs are calling for restrictions on Romanian and Bulgarian workers to stay in place after January 1, claiming Britain is 'full up'
- David Cameron has proposed changes to foreign workers' benefit rights
- Both Angela Merkel and Francois Hollande's governments are looking at introducing similar restrictions
- Brussels commissioner told to quit over his 'nasty' Britain remarks

The Prime Minister David Cameron will today announce new restrictions on access to benefits for new migrants. Mr Cameron will announce a series of measures, including limiting new migrants from receiving out-of-work benefits for the first three months and preventing new migrants from being able to claim housing benefit immediately ([F.T.](#); [Telegraph](#); [Times](#); [Guardian](#); [Independent](#); [Mail](#); [Sun](#); [Mirror](#); [Express](#); [BBC Online](#); [City A.M.](#)).

Official figures from Eurostat have shown that Britain hands out a quarter of all new EU citizenships. More than 177,000 immigrants became UK nationals in 2011, with the top three countries of origin being India, Pakistan and Nigeria. ([Express](#); Mail, print only).

Data released by the Office for National Statistics has shown that immigration to the UK fell in the year to June 2013, but the net immigrant total increased to 182,000 ([BBC Online](#)).

[Lords debate on Police: Public Trust - Nov 28](#)

The debate centred on issues that have undermined public trust and confidence in the police. Several members spoke of the ongoing issue of disproportionate stopping and searching, and how this has affected relations between the police and black and ethnic minority groups. The reputational damage caused by high profile cases of organisational failure and malpractice was also raised.

[Officer numbers 'may decline to 1980s levels'](#)

Concern is mounting that policing could “fall over” as officer numbers threaten to fall to levels not seen during the 1980s coupled with a mounting crisis in morale. Ian Pointon (pictured), Chairman of Kent Police Federation, told a branch open meeting that officers are already “breaking point” – and workloads were taking a grievous toll on them.

The [Public Administration Select Committee's](#) discussion on crime statistics.

[The Justice Select Committee](#) is undertaking an inquiry on prison planning and policies of this Parliament and the current Government's programme of reforms and efficiency savings. Written submissions can be made until 14th March 2014.

[Launch of Independent Police Commission Report by Lord Stevens](#)

There is a The Rt.Hon.Yvette Cooper MP, Shadow Home Secretary, set the task at a time when the police service in England and Wales faced unprecedented change, not least the severe cuts in budget and the Government's reform agenda. The review, led by former Metropolitan police commissioner Lord Stevens, calls for a register of chartered officers, with those found guilty of serious misconduct struck off. It focuses on a commitment to neighbourhood policing, including guaranteed response times to reported crimes.

[ACPO comment on Lord Steven's review of policing](#)

This is a wide ranging report offering views on many of the critical questions facing the police in a transforming society. It shows the increasing complexity of a service which must deliver neighbourhood policing, maintain public order, develop effective counter-terrorism structures, look after victims and adapt to new forms of crime, all with fewer resources.

Human Trafficking: UK responses - examines the UK responses to human trafficking, including the Government's strategy and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention Against Trafficking and a related EU Directive.

UK companies must do more to tackle cyber threat - The UK's top companies are not considering cyber risks in their decision making, a new survey has revealed.

Co-ordinating the policing response to domestic abuse – The College of Policing is launching the next phase of its ongoing work to join up the policing response to domestic abuse.

Children's Commissioner Inquiry:

A major two-year Inquiry, under the Children Act 2004 powers, launched today by the Office of the Children's Commissioner (OCC) will throw light on the scale, scope and extent of the sexual exploitation, victimisation and abuse that girls and boys are subjected to by street gangs and loosely formed groups in England.

Joint policing response to the Office of Children's Commissioner Inquiry.

Police forces reject G4S framework

An alliance of three police forces will not proceed with the outsourcing framework with G4S as a supplier, it has been decided. Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire forces were considering joining Lincolnshire's framework for outsourcing the forces' organisational support services, including human resources, ICT, finance, estates and facilities, fleet, procurement and resource management. The framework was awarded specifically for Lincolnshire's needs following a competitive process, with an option for named forces to join the contract without a new procurement process.

Determined, realistic and focused – local public service in the words of its leaders

Determined, realistic and focused provides analysis of the pressures, challenges and priorities on our local public services, Deloitte commissioned Ipsos MORI to capture the attitudes of the people who run them. Ipsos MORI interviewed executive leaders from across the spectrum of local public services, including council chief executives, directors of education and children's services, NHS chief executives, and police chief constables in every region, together with senior leaders in the devolved administrations. The results provide a fascinating snapshot of local services during a profound period of change.

Clare's law to become a national scheme

A scheme allowing police to disclose to individuals details of their partners' abusive pasts will be extended to police forces across England and Wales from March 2014, Home Secretary Theresa May has announced. It follows a successful 14-month pilot in four police force areas, which provided more than 100 people with potentially life-saving information.

Concordat agreed between the College of Policing and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary. Both organisations have complementary statutory purposes and different powers by which these purposes are achieved. This concordat specifies the common understanding and intended approach of each body in its relation with the other in respect of their roles and responsibilities.

Domestic abuse and coercive control

A joint seminar between AAFDA and CAADA included a seminar from Professor Evan Stark. This can be viewed online.

[Female Genital Mutilation](#)

West Midlands Police has launched a new, hard hitting poster campaign to encourage people to come forward with intelligence.

[New victims' funding for restorative justice](#)

This week the Government has announced £29m for Police and Crime Commissioners and charities to help deliver restorative justice for victims over the next three years.

[Sector bodies form working group to support VAWG and IPV services](#)

A new working group has been formed to strengthen the voice of Violence against Women and Girls sector. The group members are CAADA, Imkaan, Rape Crisis England and Wales, Respect and Women's Aid England.

[Drugs policy: new psychoactive substances](#)

This written ministerial statement was laid in the House of Commons by Norman Baker MP and in the House of Lords by Lord Taylor of Holbeach. The G8 meetings have developed a consensus to share more information on the emergence of new substances, their impact on public health and the supply routes. The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime has launched its global Early Warning Advisory to facilitate this exchange and the UK government will continue to work with partners to ensure it is used effectively.

[SHARP helmet rating scheme wins two awards](#)

An innovative scheme designed to help reduce the number of motorcycle deaths has scooped 2 prestigious awards recognising safety, Transport Minister Robert Goodwill has announced. The government's safety helmet assessment and rating programme, known as SHARP, has been given a Prince Michael International Road Safety Award and the International Motorcycling Federation's annual Road Safety Award.

[Parliamentary question - to ask the Secretary of State for Justice, which early intervention crime-prevention schemes have received reduced funding from his Department since May 2010.](#)

Funding streams provided by the Home Office to local areas for crime reduction and prevention have frequently been multi-purpose, with discretion given to local areas as to how to use funds to achieve desired outcomes. Alongside the main police grant, for 2013-14 a transitional Community Safety Fund of £90 million (which comprises some previously separate funding streams) has been established to assist Police and Crime Commissioners in funding local crime and policing projects. In addition, in 2013/14, £400,000 has been provided to fund Advocates for young people, and £700,000 provided to tackle knives, gangs and youth violence (neither of these schemes was running in May 2010).

The Ministry of Justice has revealed that specialist prison officers have been called in to almost half of prisons to deal with hostage-taking, violence and other serious incidents.

The specially trained team was sent to prisons in England and Wales 151 times in the first 8 months of this year, compared with 129 callouts for the whole of last year ([Guardian](#); [Mirror](#)).

[Plans to outlaw nuisance behaviour will have a "chilling effect on free speech", warns new campaign](#)

Government plans to outlaw annoying and nuisance behaviour will have a "chilling effect on free speech and expression", warns a new cross-party campaign.

[MPs call on Home Secretary to abandon Khat ban](#)

The House of Commons Home Affairs Committee today calls on the Home Secretary to abandon plans to control khat under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. The Committee recommends instead the introduction of a licensing scheme for importers of the plant.

Many organisations set to bid for rehabilitation work - embargoed

Thirty-five potential bidders want to go head-to-head next year to win a share of coveted rehabilitation contracts across England and Wales, Justice Secretary Chris Grayling has announced.

3. Reports

[Local public services in the words of leaders](#)

Determined, realistic and focused provides analysis of the pressures, challenges and priorities on our local public services, Deloitte commissioned Ipsos MORI to capture the attitudes of the people who run them.

[Councils amassing secret stockpiles of taxpayer money says Local Government Secretary](#)

Latest figures confirm councils have now amassed £19 billion in reserves.

Lord Neuberger, President of the Supreme Court, has said that short jail sentences risk interfering with the home lives of criminals. Lord Neuberger suggested that that sentences as short as two months were not enough to deter prisoners from continuing to commit criminal offences ([Times](#); [Mail](#)).

A survey conducted by the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) has found 65 per cent of employees on zero contract hours are happy with their work-life balance, compared to 58 per cent of those on regular contracts. The CIPD said that the findings showed that zero contract hours provided the necessary flexibility for workers and employers ([Guardian](#); [BBC Online](#); [City A.M.](#)).

Data released by Ernst and Young (EY) has found that approximately 60 multi-national companies are considering relocating either their global headquarters or a regional headquarters to the UK in the next 18 months. John Dixon, Head of Tax at EY, said that "The controlled foreign companies reforms; changes to the headline rate of corporation tax; and a patent box regime that encourages intellectual property ownership, are increasing the UK's ability to compete for inward investment" ([Telegraph](#); [City A.M.](#)).

The OECD has called the UK's pension reform programme one of the most comprehensive in the developed world.

The report has said the UK's programme has successfully raised pensioners' average incomes while other countries have focused on tackling the growing burden of future pensions costs by raising the state pension age or improving incentives for older people to stay in work ([Guardian](#)).

[Court of Protection judge calls for its hearings to be thrown open to scrutiny from the Press](#) - Mr Justice Charles told peers that open scrutiny of the controversial court's hearings would improve the behaviour of everyone taking part, including judges.

[I DO share your concerns on migration, declares Cameron days after Mail's explosive poll: PM unveils sweeping new restrictions on access to benefits](#)

France and [Germany](#) have joined Britain in unveiling plans to restrict benefits for [European Union](#) migrants, as [David Cameron](#) prepares for a clash with Brussels over the historic principle of free movement. Downing Street claimed there is a growing coalition of support for a [Europe](#)-wide debate on the issue before a summit in Lithuania on Thursday, where Cameron will urge fellow leaders to bring an end to "vast migrations" from poor to rich EU countries.

[Alcohol Focus Scotland](#)

Unrecognised and under-reported: The impact of alcohol and people other than the drinker in Scotland.

[Centre for Mental Health](#)

A place for parity - Health and wellbeing boards and mental health - a systematic review of 100 strategies and interviewed members of ten health and wellbeing boards to find out how far they have included mental health issues as a priority and what they have focused upon.

[Demos](#)

Sobering Up; Local partnerships are fundamental to tackling Britain's drinking culture. The report argues that each problem, in each community, is different and should be treated as such.

[Home Office](#)

Domestic Homicide Reviews - lessons learned.

[Institute of Public Policy Research](#)

No more NEETs: A plan for all young people to be learning or earning.

[Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

Force labour's business models and supply chains.

[LGIU](#)

Strong Foundations: Building better dialogue between tenants and landlords.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Restorative justice action plan - report on progress one year on.

[National Audit Office](#)

The Ministry of Justice's electronic monitoring contracts.

[New Economics Foundation](#)

Co-production in mental health: A literature review.

[University of Birmingham](#)

'Maybe we are hated' the experience and impact of anti-Muslim hate on British Muslim women.

[Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Affordable housing supply in England 2012-2013.

[Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Live tables on social housing sales.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Criminal justice statistics quarterly - June 2013.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Local adult reoffending - July 2012-June 2013.

[Ministry of Justice](#)

Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System 2012.

[More than 22,000 troubled families 'turned around' with intensive help](#)

England's troubled families are getting "back on track", the government has announced halfway through the programme. Over 62,000 families are being worked with, with more than 22,000 "turned around" so far. This success includes getting children back into school, reducing youth crime and antisocial behaviour, with 1,400 adults now in continuous work.

[Government publishes HS2 Hybrid Bill](#)

The Hybrid Bill for HS2 has now been published, giving the government the power to construct and operate the new railway. The DfT has also published the environmental statement for phase one of the scheme linking London Birmingham, with construction expected to begin in 2016/17.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne MP, has announced a cap on payday loan interest rates.

The Financial Conduct Authority currently has the ability to cap the cost of payday loans, and will be obligated to use this ability under these changes to the Banking Reform Bill ([FT](#); [Telegraph](#); [Guardian](#); [Independent](#)).

[Science centre partnerships to boost research](#)

Investment of £350m for 70 new centres for doctoral training has been announced to train over 3,500 postgraduates in engineering and science. The centres are funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and will involve a total of 1,000 partners, including universities, industry and business.

[Serco prison bid cancelled due to over-charging accusations](#)

The government has cancelled plans to privatise three prisons in South Yorkshire, as the leading bidder is accused of over-charging for electronically tagging criminals.

[Disability 'strongly related' to deprivation – ONS](#)

Disability in England and Wales varies significantly by local authority, [statistics](#) from the ONS suggest. Figures from the 2011 Census show that 12% of residents in Wales reported their day-to-day activities were 'limited a lot', compared to less than 9% in England. In England, the highest percentage of people living with a disability was in Knowsley, Merseyside, compared to just 5% in Elmbridge, Surrey. Merthyr Tydfil, in Wales, had the highest proportion, with 17% of men and 16.6% of women with limited daily activities. The ten local authorities with the lowest percentages were all clustered around an area to the south and west of London. The largest inequality was found at the ages of 65-74, and is strongly related to the level of deprivation experienced by residents in different areas.

[Skills Commission calls for one system for education and training](#)

Educational reforms have failed to provide a coherent system, the Skills Commission has warned. In a new report, [One System, Many Pathways](#), it calls for the DfE to undertake a full review of the available support for education and training.

[Conditional allowance should replace youth benefits – IPPR](#)

Young NEETs should be denied unemployment benefits unless they are involved in "purposeful" training, or an "intensive" search for a job, a new [report](#) has proposed. The Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) suggests that a new youth allowance of £56.80 a week should be introduced to replace existing benefits for 18-24 year olds not in education, employment or training. The allowance would be conditional on searching for a job and would be means-tested based on parental income.

Tim Kelsey, NHS Director for Patients and Information at NHS England, has said that a "TripAdvisor-style" review and feedback website for the NHS will be rolled out nationally next year. A three month trial of "Care Connect" has been in operation in London and the north-east, and Mr Kelsey said that some serious issues have already been tackled using the system ([Guardian](#)).

[Scotland's Future – Your Guide to an Independent Scotland](#)

This guide sets out the gains of independence for Scotland – whichever party is in government – and this Government's vision and priorities for action if we are the first government of an independent Scotland. It also explains the process by which Scotland will become independent following a Yes vote and how our newly independent Scotland will work. Scotland has many natural advantages. The foundations of our economy are strong. We have abundant natural resources.

4. Consultations

[Data sharing between public bodies](#)

The Law Commission has published a consultation paper on the subject of data sharing between public bodies. The consultation will run until 16th December 2013.

[Environment Agency Charges Consultation for 2014](#)

This consultation sets out our charging proposals for our Environmental Permitting, Abstraction and EU Emissions Trading Schemes. The consultation will run until 20 December 2013.

[Rents for social housing from 2015 to 2016](#)

The Government has launched a consultation into proposed changes to rent policy for social housing, to apply from April 2015 onwards. The consultation will run until 24th December 2013.

[Competition and Markets Authority: vision, values and strategy](#)

This consultation sets out the Competition and Market Authority (CMA's) proposed: Vision, strategy and values. This was opened on the 1 October and is due to take full effect by 1 April 2014

[Legislative Reform Order: Changes to entertainment licensing](#)

This consultation is about implementing reforms to entertainment licensing via a Legislative Reform Order. It sets out proposals to amend the [Licensing Act 2003](#) so that certain entertainment activities in defined circumstances no longer require a licence before they can take place. The consultation closes on 17 December 2013.

Government ministers have announced a public consultation to decide on pension scheme charges, expected to cap management fees charged by pension providers at around 0.75 per cent.

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Sajid Javid MP, said the plans would ensure "someone's saving will deliver the biggest possible returns and not be eaten away at by a variety of charges and fees" ([F.T.](#); [Telegraph](#); [Times](#); [Mail](#); [Mirror](#); [BBC Online](#); [City A.M.](#)).

[Ministry of Justice Consultation on Transforming Management of Young Offenders](#)

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has today launched a consultation into proposals on changes to the way young adult offenders are managed in custody and access support and services to reduce their reoffending. Consultation closes 13 December.

[Transforming management of young adults in custody](#) - The Government believes that the context in which young adults are managed in custody has changed and therefore is proposing a new approach to managing young adults that takes into account the challenges of this age group as well as ensuring they benefit from wider reforms. The consultation closes on 19th December.

[24th December 2013 - Rents for social housing](#)

[New statutory powers for the Forensic Science Regulator](#) - The Government has launched a consultation seeking views on whether new powers should be given to the Forensic Science Regulator. The consultation runs until 3rd January 2014.

[Consultation on out of court disposals](#)

The Government has launched a consultation that sets out the current OOC landscape and invites practitioners and the public to share their thoughts about how they should be reformed. The consultation runs until 9th January 2014.

[Review of UK and EU balance of competences: call for evidence on social and employment policy](#)

The government is carrying out a review of the balance of competences between the UK and the EU. The review will provide an analysis of what the EU does and how it affects the UK. The [Review of the balance of competencies detailed guide](#) provides full details of the review programme. Consultation closes 17 January 2014.

The Home Office have outlined plans to allow holidaymakers and business travellers to pay to skip passport queues when entering the UK. The proposal is part of a consultation paper which aims to cover the costs of the UK Border Force, using the income from passengers to help fund the UK's immigration system ([Telegraph](#); [Mail](#)).

5. Reviews and Inspections

[HMIC: Freeing Up Police Time](#)

Following a review of the progress made with the issues raised in HMIC's 2010 report [Stop the Drift](#)¹, HMIC intends to scope an inspection to identify what else might be done to reduce unnecessary burdens on forces. This will include (but not necessarily be limited to) an examination of how police efficiency and working practices should be improved through the use of modern technology. The on site inspection will take place on 2-5 December 2013.

[HMIC: Value for Money Profiles](#)

Profiles for forces and local policing bodies to assist in making budget decisions.

[HMIC Published: Working Together](#). A review of the arrangements for collaboration between the five East Midlands police forces, commissioned by the police and crime commissioners in the region has been published.

[Her Majesty's Inspector of Probation](#): Published Victim Contact: An inspection of the Victim Contact Arrangements in Probation Trusts.

[HMIC published findings from an inspection of South Yorkshire Police's response to child sexual exploitation](#). This inspection was commissioned by the PCC for South Yorkshire.

[Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's \(HMIC\) approach to monitoring forces – An overview for the public, forces and local policing bodies](#)

Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary (HMIs) routinely monitor the performance of all police forces to identify apparent issues for closer scrutiny, ensure emerging problems with efficiency and effectiveness are spotted quickly, and problems are resolved quickly with Chief Constables and local policing bodies.

[HMIC: Domestic Violence](#): On 9 September, the Home Secretary commissioned HMIC to look at the effectiveness of the police response to cases of domestic violence and abuse.

¹ In this joint review, HMIC and HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPSP) found that while significant effort has been made in recent years to improve efficiency in both the custody and criminal justice process, there are still a number of issues identified in past reports on this subject which continue to generate delays in processing cases.

Started for Nottinghamshire on the 4 November. This is a Home Secretary commissioned Thematic due to be completed by April 2014.

CJJI: Child Protection Arrangements. In June 2013, the HMIC Board agreed a series of child sexual exploitation related inspections to be conducted over the next three years.

HMIC: National Thematic Review – Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). The scope of the inspection is subject to further development but the focus is in the prevention of crime.

CJJI: National, Thematic Review: Road Traffic Offences Involving Fatalities

In the light of continuing concern about traffic offences involving fatalities, despite the introduction of new offences in 2008, the review will analyse and assess the quality of police/CPS investigation and prosecution of such cases, and the progress made by the CPS following HMCPSP's 2008 review, establish good practice and make recommendations for positive change. Inspection in 2013/14.

CJJI Inspection: Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

IOM provides an overarching framework for agencies to prioritise interventions with offenders of greatest concern in their locality. This inspection is intended to assist in assessing the impact of IOM and disseminating good practice.

HMCPSP Inspection: Statutory Charging

The previous joint report in 2008 highlighted a number of concerns over the efficiency of the operation of the statutory charging scheme (whereby the CPS took over the responsibility from the police for determining whether an alleged offender should be charged in the more serious or contested cases, by virtue of the Criminal Justice Act 2003). With changes in the landscape implemented in 2010–11 and 2012–13, this follow-up was postponed to 2013-14.

HMIC: Crime Data Integrity. This inspection will examine the effectiveness of the police in dealing with reports of crime by members of the public. The scope is subject to development but is likely to build on the findings of HMIC's previous inspections in this area. Scoping work will include consultation with the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee.

[IPCC investigation finds significant failures by Cambridgeshire Constabulary call handlers.](#)

[Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary](#)

Police Custody: Good practice examples .