



## 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, reviews, inspections and audits across policing and crime)
4. **Consultations** (police and crime bulletins, research, consultations and press releases)

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## 1. Legislation

### [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill - Commons Library Research Paper](#)

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill will receive its second reading in House of Commons on 10 June 2013.

### [Riot Damages Act to be Reviewed](#)

It has been announced by the Government that the Riot Damages Act 1886 is to be reviewed to ensure that it protects the vulnerable and provides value for money. The review will examine the existing criteria relating to compensation that is payable, and will also include key issues such as the definition of a riot, who should be liable and what level of compensation is suitable. The review should conclude by September 2013 and a public consultation will follow.

### [Offender Rehabilitation Bill](#)

The Bill makes a number of changes to the release arrangements set out in the Criminal Justice Act 2003 Act for offenders serving custodial sentences of less than 12 months and those serving sentences of between 12 months and 2 years. The Bill is designed to ensure that all adult offenders serving custodial sentences can be supervised on release for a period of at least 12 months.

### **SI 2013/1200 The Police Act 1997 (Criminal Record Certificates: Relevant Matters) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Order 2013**

In force 29 May 2013 and extends to England and Wales only. This Order amends the definition of "relevant matter" in the Police Act 1997. The definition of "relevant matter" sets out what is disclosed by the Disclosure and Barring Service in response to an application for a criminal record certificate or an enhanced criminal record certificate.

### **SI 2013/1196 The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 (Consequential Amendments) No.2 Order 2013**

In force **17 June 2013**. This Order amends the Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Fees) Order 2004, which specifies functions which the Secretary of State may recover the costs of

when setting fees for issuing criminal record certificates and enhanced criminal record certificates, to update references to provisions in the Police Act 1997.

## **SI 2013/1194 The Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Amendment) Regulations 2013**

In force 17 June 2013. These Regulations amend the Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) Regulations 2002 to substitute new prescribed purposes for which an enhanced criminal record certificate may be required in accordance with a statement made by a registered person under section 113B(2)(b) of the Police Act 1997.

## **SI 2013/1012 The Road Safety Act 2006 (Commencement No. 10) Order 2013**

This Order brings into force section 13 of the Road Safety Act 2006 on 1 June 2013. Section 13 amends section 88 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 which sets out exceptions to the general requirement for anyone wishing to drive a motor vehicle on a road to have an appropriate driving licence.

### **Fixed Penalty Levels for Motoring Offences**

The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport (Stephen Hammond): In June 2012 the Government consulted on increasing the fixed penalty levels for most motoring offences and making careless driving a fixed penalty offence. The Government has this week published its response to this consultation.

### **Regulation of CCTV and other Surveillance Camera Technology**

The Government favours the use of CCTV and automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) systems as a crime fighting and public protection tool. It supports the use of overt surveillance in a public place when it is in pursuit of a legitimate aim; necessary to meet a pressing need; and proportionate, effective, and compliant with any relevant legal obligations.

### **Surveillance Camera Code of Practice**

This code of practice is issued by the Secretary of State under Section 30 of the 2012 Act. It provides guidance on the appropriate and effective use of surveillance camera systems by relevant authorities (as defined by section 33 of the 2012 Act) in England and Wales who must have regard to the code when exercising any functions to which the code relates.

### **Surveillance Camera Code of Practice**

Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 – Government response to statutory consultation over the Surveillance Camera Code of Practice.

## **2. Policing and crime key developments**

### **David Cameron statement on Woolwich**

The prime minister has launched a task force to tackle radicalisation in the UK, in the wake of the fatal stabbing of Drummer Lee Rigby in Woolwich. In a statement to MPs, David Cameron paid tribute to Drummer Rigby, and set out his plans to "learn the lessons" from the tragedy. The Intelligence and Security Committee, chaired by Sir Malcolm Rifkind, will look into the case and report back by the end of 2013. Mr Cameron has also chaired the first meeting of a new task force, looking at extremism and radicalisation.

## [Historic police training centre at Hendon set to be transformed through major regeneration plan](#)

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has invited developers to submit plans to regenerate 22 hectares at the site of the historic Metropolitan Police Peel Centre training headquarters at Hendon, creating a thriving new neighbourhood with more than 1,650 new homes and releasing capital to plough back into the development of a brand new training facility fit for modern day policing.

## [Speed cameras 'increase risk of serious or fatal crashes': New RAC investigation raises doubts over their usefulness](#)

Speed cameras are increasing the risk of a fatal or serious accident in some areas, a study suggests. It highlights a number of sites where collision rates have risen 'markedly' since cameras were put in place. The study raises new doubts about the usefulness of speed cameras

## [European Commission to present 112 eCall facility for cars](#)

On 13 June the European Commission will propose to fit new passenger cars and light vehicles from 2015 with the eCall system, which will become mandatory in order to obtain EU-wide type approval. The "eCall" system automatically connects car occupants to emergency services after a severe accident and speeds up the arrival of emergency teams by giving the location of the vehicle. To ensure the interoperability and continuity of the EU-wide eCall service, the Commission also proposes infrastructure for the proper handling of eCalls in national emergency response centres. Once fully operational eCall is expected to save hundreds of lives each year.

## **New THINK! road safety resources for teachers and parents**

A new online resource to help teachers plan road safety lessons for schoolchildren has been launched (29 May 2013) by Road Safety Minister Stephen Hammond. The [THINK! resource centre](#) brings together a wide range of road safety materials for children and teenagers in one place. It will allow teachers, road safety officers and anyone teaching road safety to plan lessons easily and effectively.

## [Drink drive and lose your car](#)

Two thirds of UK drivers would be devastated if they lost their car according to figures published, as Road Safety Minister Stephen Hammond launched a new THINK! drink-drive campaign to raise awareness of the consequences of a conviction. The survey, commissioned by the AA and conducted by Populus, also shows that:

- 31% of motorists are at their happiest behind the wheel
- 32% say they rely on their car to maintain friendships
- without a car 76% of 18 to 24 year olds would find it difficult to see friends and do the things they love – 88% would be devastated if they could not drive
- 16% rate having a car as the best thing in their lives with the figure rising to 27% among 18 to 24 year olds.

The latest campaign will see radio adverts, pub posters and an eye-catching short online film drilling the message home that motorists face heavy costs if they drink and drive.

## [BIBA welcomes tougher penalties for uninsured drivers](#)

The British Insurance Brokers' Association (BIBA) has welcomed the announcement (5 June 2013) that motorists caught driving without valid insurance will face tougher penalties.

## [Charity welcomes fixed penalty for careless driving, but calls for higher fines](#)

The road safety charity Brake has welcomed a government announcement that it is bringing in on-the-spot fixed penalty notices for 'careless driving' offences, but called for higher fines to deter risky law-breaking. The changes announced today include:

- New police powers to issue on-the-spot fixed penalty fines for less serious careless driving offences
- Existing fixed penalty fines for most driving offences, including mobile phone use and not wearing a seat belt, will rise from £60 to £100.

## [New penalties to tackle tailgating and middle lane hogging](#)

The changes will give the police powers to issue fixed penalty notices for careless driving, giving them greater flexibility in dealing with less serious careless driving offences - such as tailgating or middle lane hogging - and freeing them from resource-intensive court processes. The fixed penalty will also enable the police to offer educational training as an alternative to endorsement. Drivers will still be able to appeal any decision in court. In addition, existing fixed penalty levels for most motoring offences - including using a mobile phone at the wheel and not wearing a seatbelt - will rise to £100 to bring them into line with the penalties for similar non-motoring fixed penalties.

## ['Flexible' approach to spending review](#)

The upcoming Spending Review will shift funding to projects that do the most to support economic growth, chief secretary to the Treasury, Danny Alexander, has announced. Speaking to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, he said the review will "show flexibility" but will stick to the overall plan of curbing total spending, and reduce the deficit through £11.5bn of cuts for 2015/16. All new cuts will come from Whitehall departments' budgets, not from welfare, he reiterated. Alexander said:

"We will stick to the path we are on. And we will continue to show flexibility wherever it is needed, and to shift resources wherever we can to support economic growth."

He added: "There are some signs of momentum starting to return to our economy.

"Last year we became a net exporter of cars for the first time since 1975. And British exports of goods to emerging economies have increased since 2010."

## [Cultural differences are no defence for committing sex crimes against young girls](#)

Cultural and religious differences cannot be used as a defence for men from ethnic minorities linked to sex crimes against young girls, Tory Damian Green has insisted. The Police Minister said he was not prepared to accept mitigation that some child abuse would be regarded as acceptable in other parts of the world. A new taskforce led by Mr Green to tackle organised grooming and child sex exploitation is considering a number of measures, including giving defence barristers special training in how to deal with young witnesses. It comes after high-profile court cases in Rochdale and Oxford, involving mainly Asian men targeting white girls.

## [Faster justice as unnecessary committal hearings are abolished](#)

Serious criminals will face justice as soon as possible with the abolition of committal hearings in all Crown Courts across the country. Committal hearings were abolished in local justice areas serving 33 Crown Court locations in November last year and have now been extended to the remaining 60 Crown Court locations across the country. This will mean around 60,000 fewer hearings will be needed each year.

## [National Twitter event highlights the demands on policing due to alcohol](#)

On 25th May forces across the country took part in a 'twitterthon' to raise awareness of alcohol related crime. 25 forces joined in to tweet about alcohol related incidents they face on a regular basis.

## [CEOP Publishes Annual Review for 2012-2013 and Centre Plan for 2013-2014](#)

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) has published its Annual Review for the year 2012-2013 and Centre Plan for the next year.

## **West Yorkshire Police Publishes Report on Operation Newgreen Concerning Jimmy Savile**

West Yorkshire Police has published an extensive force review, Operation Newgreen, into the late Jimmy Savile, his crimes and it's relationship with him. This follows the review conducted by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMIC) which assessed the allegations and intelligence material concerning Savile titled 'Mistakes were made'.

## [Lessons Learned - Inappropriate Communication case](#)

A case which involves the use of inappropriate communication by a police officer. The case concerned a man who was arrested for the abduction and sexual touching of a female who was 14 years old.

## ['NBOMe' and 'Benzofury' to be banned](#)

Two groups of so-called 'legal highs' are to be made illegal for 12 months while government experts assess whether they should be permanently controlled. Crime Prevention Minister Jeremy Browne today introduced a Temporary Class Drug Order (TCDO) on new psychoactive (NPS) substances known as 'NBOMe' and 'Benzofury'.

## [Annual Fraud Indicator](#)

In line with the Fighting Fraud Together strategy, the AFI covers fraud against all types of victims in the UK.

## [Preventing money laundering](#)

Money laundering is used by criminals to conceal money made through criminal activity. As a global financial centre the UK is often seen as an attractive destination for criminals to invest the proceeds of their crime.

## [CIPFA Counter Fraud Benchmarking Club 2013](#)

CIPFA are pleased to announce the launch of the 2013 Counter-Fraud Benchmarking Club. Drawing on the work of Better Governance Forum, the London Public Sector Counter Fraud Partnership and others, there will be capturing data that will help you to assess how your counter-fraud function compares to the wider public sector.

## [Unnecessary bureaucracy still a major problem, says HMIC](#)

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary has called for a streamlining of the criminal justice process, as well as an end to the 'unnecessary bureaucracy that has been a barrier to progress'.

## [ACPO: use of Tasers on children sometimes necessary](#)

The Association of Chief Police Officers has commented on the deployment of Taser in cases involving children following stories about their use over the weekend.



## [New Scottish single service sets out work programme](#)

A focus on the ICT provision for the new single police force kicked off the Justice sub-committee on policing's work programme having heard contributions from the Scottish Police Authority and Police Scotland.

## [Better communication vital for victims and witnesses, says Scots Justice Committee](#)

Communications between criminal justice organisations and victims and witnesses must be improved, according to the Scottish Justice Committee in its report on the Victims and Witnesses Bill.

## 3. Reports

### [Ministry of Justice](#)

Criminal Justice statistics quarterly update to September 2012. This report presents the key trends on the latest twelve months (to September 2012) of activity in the Criminal Justice System.

### [Centre for Mental Health](#)

*A need to belong – what leads girls to join gangs.* This report is the result of a comprehensive review of international literature on girls involved in gangs and an analysis of data collected for more than 8,000 young people from 37 newly developed youth point of arrest health screening initiatives in England. Screening was focused primarily on 10 to 18 year olds and took place between August 2011 and November 2012. Existing literature highlights a wide range of risk factors for females to become members of gangs. These include:

- severe childhood behavioural problems and mental ill health
- poor maternal mental health, exposure to violence in the home and experience of trauma
- low academic aspiration and disengagement with school
- association with antisocial or gang-involved peers and peer rejection or victimisation
- feeling unsafe or marginalised in their neighbourhood
- high income inequalities and social influences that devalue female roles.

Many studies identify a particular sensitivity on the part of girls to poor quality family attachments and social bonds as a driver for gang affiliation. Girls were more likely to describe experiences of membership in terms of providing an alternative and compensatory family structure. A history of sexual abuse was also identified in many studies of females involved in violence or with gang connections.

### [EMCDDA](#)

*European Drug Report 2013.* The *Trends and developments* report presents a top-level overview of the drug phenomenon in Europe, covering drug supply, use and public health problems as well as drug policy and responses. Together with the online *Statistical bulletin*, *Country overviews* and *Perspectives on drugs*, it makes up the 2013 European Drug Report package.

### [IARS](#)

*Race in Probation: Achieving better outcomes for black minority users of probation services.* In a changing equality landscape where race is often put at the bottom of policy and funding agendas, this timely book asks how service outcomes can be improved for black and

minority ethnic users of probation services. London was the locus of investigation and the London Probation Trust the nexus of the book's research. Issues around community engagement, restorative justice, mental health, substance abuse, foreign nationals, victims and resettlement are analysed, and recommendations are posited. The book identifies new paths to race equality that seize the international and national momentum of institutional and policy restructures.

## [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#)

*Poverty, Participation and Choice*. This report revisits and extends Peter Townsend's idea that poverty is less about shortage of income and more about the inability of people on low incomes to participate actively in society. The research draws on original analysis of three large-scale UK datasets: *Understanding Society*, the *Family Spending Survey* and the *Millennium Cohort Study*.

## [Ministry of Justice](#)

*Victims' Services Commissioning Framework*. Victims' Services Commissioning Framework - information and advice for commissioners of services for victims of crime. The development of the commissioning framework forms part of the commitment the Government made last year in the consultation *Getting it right for victims and witnesses* to provide a systematic framework for commissioners of victims' services. Although not mandatory, the framework has a number of purposes: to help provide clarity about securing outcomes for victims; to establish performance monitoring so that commissioners can be held to account by the public for the funding decisions they have made while service providers will be accountable to commissioners for the services they are providing; and overall to provide advice and information on commissioning to those involved with victims' services in one useful document.

## [Transform Justice](#)

*Managing Magistrates Courts: has central control reduced local accountability?* This briefing gives an overview of how and why the administration of magistrates' courts in England and Wales was centralised in 2003 and what implications that has had for local and other stakeholders.

## [Joint Committee on Human Rights Release Legislative Scrutiny Priorities 2013-2014](#)

The Joint Committee on Human Rights has released its legislative scrutiny priorities for 2013-2014. The Committee scrutinises every Government Bill and draft Bill for its compatibility with human rights law, and this includes consideration of whether the Bill presents an opportunity to enhance human rights in the UK. The Committee has provisionally identified four Bills which it considers are likely to raise significant human rights issues, namely:

- Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill;
- Care Bill;
- Immigration Bill;
- Offender Rehabilitation Bill.

## [Communities and Local Government Select Committee - Community Budgets](#)

On Monday 20th May, Laura Wilkes, LGiU Policy Manager gave oral evidence to the DCLG Select Committee Inquiry on Community Budgets, alongside Sir Merrick Cockell, Chairman and Paul Raynes, Head of Programmes, at the Local Government Association. The

Committee asked wide-ranging questions about the Whole Place and Neighbourhood Community Budgets, including:

- How to make Community Budgets work;
- The role of central government in the programmes;
- The role of local government in taking forward Community Budgets;
- The success of the pilot schemes and the evidence gathered to support this;
- Next steps for Community Budgets.

## [Justice Select Committee – Older prisoners](#)

In the third and final evidence session, the Justice Committee will take evidence from Government officials on its inquiry into Older Prisoners.

## [Sexual Offences Guideline: Consultation - Justice Committee](#)

The proposed Sexual Offences Guideline was consulted on by the Sentencing Council between 6 December 2012 and 14 March 2013, and will replace the existing Definitive Guideline published by the Sentencing Guidelines Council in April 2007.

## [Early release of prisoners in England and Wales - an overview - Commons Library Standard Note](#)

This note describes in brief the statutory framework governing the release of prisoners in England and Wales.

## [Lords call for UK to continue participating in Europol](#)

The House of Lords EU Committee has called for the UK Government to opt-in to the proposal for a Europol Regulation. In its report, *The UK opt-in to the Europol Regulation*, the Committee considers the proposal, including concerns raised by the Government regarding some of its provisions, and concludes that the Government should opt in to the Regulation so that it can play a full and constructive role in the negotiations.

## **New data from the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply shows that Britain's services sector is growing at its fastest rate since March 2012.**

The purchasing managers' index increased from 52.9 in April to 54.9 in May ([Telegraph](#); [Independent](#); [BBC Online](#)).

## **Universities are making “little or no progress” in admitting more students from working class backgrounds, according to a report released by the Office for Fair Access.**

The report finds that less than 15 per cent of students at Cambridge and Oxford are from families with household incomes of below £25,000 ([Telegraph](#); [Guardian](#); [BBC Online](#)).

## **The Health Secretary, Jeremy Hunt MP, has said that the pressure on Accident and Emergency services is a consequence of a lack of viable alternatives.**

Speaking on ITV's *Daybreak* yesterday, Mr Hunt said, “It is scandalous, the number of people who are using emergency services when actually, if they had a better alternative, they wouldn't” ([Telegraph](#)).

**The outgoing Chief Executive of NHS England, Sir David Nicholson, has announced that he plans to launch a strategy to “liberate” the NHS from political interference in his final months in the job.**



Sir David said the aim was to “create something which is long-lasting and not something which will shift every time you have either a new executive director or even a new government” ([BBC Online](#)).

## **[Government sets record straight on students and net migration](#)**

A written response to the Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) committee makes clear that immigration reforms are working as intended.

## **[MPs could be recalled for misconduct by 2015](#)**

A string of lobbying scandals over the weekend involving MPs and peers from a range of parties has pushed the Government to pledge reform. Although reforms such as a register of lobbyists and a right to recall, allowing voters to force a by-election, were included in the Coalition Agreement in 2010, there has been little progress to date – but deputy prime minister Nick Clegg has now promised action.

## **[Live tables on homelessness](#)**

The live tables provide the latest, most useful or most popular data, presented by type and other variables, including by geographical area or as a time series

## **4. Consultations**

### **[Action to tackle drug cutting agents](#)**

A consultation has been launched on whether powers to seize substances used by criminals to mix illegal drugs and maximise their profits should be strengthened. This consultation seeks views on the proposal to introduce new powers to allow law enforcement agencies to seize and detain chemical substances suspected of being used as drug cutting agents. The consultation will run for 6 weeks from 28 May 2013 until 7 July 2013.

### **[Central government annual reports and accounts: consultation on simplifying and streamlining the presentation of annual reports and accounts](#)**

HM Treasury is consulting on the need to simplify and streamline the presentation of all central government annual report and accounts. This refers to the statutory accounts which all entities within central government are required to produce and are laid before Parliament. This includes departmental accounts, the accounts of arms length bodies (for example agencies) and Whole of Government Accounts (WGA). These accounts are prepared using accrual accounting rules and are equivalent to private sector financial statements. We would invite views from all users and preparers of central government accounts, including:

- users of public services
- Parliament
- think tanks
- media agencies
- academics
- any interested private sector entities
- preparers of central government accounts and
- the wider accounting community

The consultation closes on the 30 August 2013.