



College of  
Policing

# Brief

[Amended firearms rules](#) →

[Pride month](#) →

[Police wellbeing service](#) →

[college.police.uk](http://college.police.uk)

ISSUE 05 | MAY/JUNE 2019

Updates in police law, operational policing practice and criminal justice, produced by the **Legal Services Department** at the College of Policing



[Offensive Weapons Act  
Royal Assent](#) →

[Criminal justice  
statistics](#) →

[LGBT+  
domestic abuse](#) →

[Celebrating women  
in the Met](#) →

The College of Policing Brief is a scanning publication intended to capture and consolidate key criminal justice issues, both current and future, impacting on all areas of policing.

During the production of the Brief, information is included from governmental bodies, criminal justice organisations and research bodies. As such, the Brief should prove an invaluable guide to those responsible for strategic decision making, operational planning and police training.

The College of Policing is also responsible for Authorised Professional Practice (APP). APP is the official and most up-to-date source of policing practice and covers a range of policing activities such as: police use of firearms, treatment of people in custody, investigation of child abuse and management of intelligence. APP is available online at [app.college.police.uk](http://app.college.police.uk)

Any enquiries regarding this publication or to request copies in accessible formats please contact us at [brief@college.pnn.police.uk](mailto:brief@college.pnn.police.uk)

© College of Policing Limited 2019

This publication is licensed under the terms of the Non-Commercial College Licence v1.1. except where otherwise stated. To view this licence visit [college.police.uk/Legal/Documents/Non-Commercial%20College%20Licence%20v1-1.pdf](http://college.police.uk/Legal/Documents/Non-Commercial%20College%20Licence%20v1-1.pdf)

Where we have identified any third-party copyright information, you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This publication is available for download at [college.police.uk](http://college.police.uk)

# Contents

ISSUE 05 | MAY/JUNE 2019

Editorial	5
Share with our community	6
College news	7
Mental health awareness week – body image	7
Launch of National Police Wellbeing Service	8
College staff attend Birmingham pride	9

## Legal updates

### **Statutory instruments** 10

SI 2019/908 - The Criminal Procedure (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	10
SI 2019/919 - The Electronic Communications (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	10
SI 2019/939 – The Communications Data Acquisition Regulations 2019	11

### **Bills** 11

Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill 2017-19	11
--	----

### **Acts** 11

Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019	11
Royal Assent for the Offensive Weapons Act 2019	12

## Before the court

Rendell, R v [2019] EWCA Crim 621	13
Far right terrorist receives life sentence	14

## Policing

### **News** 16

101 non-emergency calls to be made free of charge	16
Serious and organised crime strategy launched in Wales	17
New appointees to BTP Authority Board	17
Engagement protocols for PCCs	18

### **Operational** 18

005/2019: Firearms (Amendment) Rules 2019	18
Updates to recording rules	18

### **Our workforce** 19

Police service – 'Victims of their own dedication'	19
---	----

## Criminal justice news

New Solicitor General appointed	20
Call for evidence – review of drugs	20
NCA input into online child sexual abuse and exploitation public inquiry	20
Graham Mackrell – sentencing	21
Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation appointed	21

Security Minister visits Sri Lanka	22	<b>Reviews and reports</b>	<b>26</b>
Marie Collins Foundation awarded £635,000	22	Criminal Justice Statistics – 2018 annual bulletin	26
Government increases ePassport gates to include seven more countries	23	Facial recognition technology – ethics panel report	26
Sentencing Code moves closer to being implemented	23	Independent review of Modern Slavery Act published	27
New Release on Temporary Licence rules for offenders	24	<b>Diversity</b>	<b>29</b>
Independent chairs for modern slavery cases announced	25	Thanksgiving service to mark 100 years of women in the Met	29
		Minister for Equalities speaks to survivors of LGBT+ domestic abuse	29

# Editorial

---

Dear readers,

Welcome to the Brief, your monthly update of what's new in the criminal justice field, produced by the Legal Services team at the College of Policing.

This month's edition features articles on: improving the wellbeing of police officers and staff, LGBT+ domestic abuse, the scrapping of 101 call fees, and the Offensive Weapons Act 2019.

To find out more about the College and what we do, including initiatives such as our new wellbeing service, mental health awareness week, or the LGBT+ network, please visit the **College of Policing website**.

We hope that our publication supports our police officers and staff in their work. We are always looking for ways to get better at what we do, so if you have any feedback or ideas for future content, please **get in touch**.

Thank you for reading,

**The Legal Services Team**

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

For subscription requests, further information or to send us ideas about what you would like to see in upcoming editions, please email us at:

**[brief@college.pnn.police.uk](mailto:brief@college.pnn.police.uk)**

# Share with our community

---

There's lots of great work and innovation taking place across the police service, with some remarkable people working diligently to support and safeguard the communities they serve. The sharing of news can jump start collaboration and growth, so we want to hear from you.

We'd like to invite police officers and staff to contribute by including a monthly 'guest article' under one of the following categories:

**Pride:** Tell us something about your team or a project you're working on which has produced results that you're particularly proud of.

**Innovation:** New initiatives and projects, what worked and what didn't, and how you learnt from it.

**Collaboration:** Tell us about the relationships with other forces and external agencies which help your team.

**Your team, our community:** Diversity, equality, inclusion and key support mechanisms – that special team member whose hard work deserves recognition in the Brief.

Articles should be a maximum of 500 words. If you'd like to contribute, please email [brief@college.pnn.police.uk](mailto:brief@college.pnn.police.uk) and we'll provide you with the information you need.

We'd like to pick one article a month, and will ensure there is a wide variety of authors and forces. We will inform you in advance if your article has been chosen. We look forward to hearing from you.



College of Policing  
Membership

BetterProfessionals  
for Better Policing™

Become a member today! Visit [college.police.uk/membership](https://college.police.uk/membership) to sign up for free

Enjoy **exclusive membership benefits** including:

- **Your membership profile:** A secure place to record your training, CPD and experience
- **Development support:** Career support, CPD opportunities, mentoring service and easy access to College training
- **Jobs Board:** Access to the only place to find all policing vacancies nationwide
- **Policing news:** Direct to your inbox every fortnight to keep you informed
- **Knowledge sharing:** Networking opportunities across all forces and over 26,000 fellow members

C9110418

# College news

---

## **Mental health awareness week – body image**

Since 2001, for one week each May, the Mental Health Foundation (MHF) runs campaigns on a specific theme during mental health awareness week.

The College of Policing is committed to changing how we think and act about mental health in the workplace, to make sure that those working for the College and facing these problems feel supported.

Did you know?

- Overall, 50 per cent of mental health problems are established by age 14, with 75 per cent being established by age 24.
- One in six adults in the past week have experienced a common mental health problem such as anxiety or depression.
- Each year, 300,000 people leave the workplace because of mental health problems.
- Working people with mental health problems contribute £226m a year to the UK economy – that's 12.1 per cent of GDP.
- In 2017/18, mental health problems accounted for 15.4 million sick leave days in the UK.
- Depression affects around 22 per cent of men and 28 per cent of women aged 65 and over.

This week's campaign focuses on body image. Research conducted by MHF in 2018 revealed that 30 per cent of UK adults – almost one in three people – have felt so stressed about their body image and appearance that they felt overwhelmed or unable to cope.

During the course of this week, the MHF published their research on mental health and body image and how it affects people throughout their lives. They also spoke on how it affects different ages, genders, ethnicities and sexualities.

As well as joining the discussion about body image, we also raised awareness of other mental health and associated wellbeing issues, and published strategies to help support you as you go about your daily life, in and out of work.

Having people to talk to helps signpost us to support, and the College's mental health first aiders are an important part of the process. Having line managers with the skills and access to information that can help us is equally as important.

We also have resources available to help you with stress management and wellbeing. One of the easiest things we can all do as part of mental health awareness is take the time to talk. Ask how people are, have open conversations about the things affecting us or that have affected us, and make sure we know how to signpost colleagues to relevant support.

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### **Launch of National Police Wellbeing Service**

A ground-breaking National Police Wellbeing Service aimed at improving mental and physical health support for officers and staff was launched at the end of April.

The new service includes mental health outreach support for police officers and staff as well as training and toolkits to improve the provision in individual forces.

This service has been developed using a £7.5 million investment from the Home Office's Police Transformation Fund, and has been overseen by the College of Policing working closely with the National Policing Lead for Wellbeing Chief Constable Andy Rhodes (Lancashire).

The service is being introduced after research found that officers and staff, particularly those in frontline roles, did not have the time or consistent access to local support for their mental or physical wellbeing.

The National Police Wellbeing Service aims to:

- reduce stigma around seeking support or help
- improve knowledge, understanding of help and support available
- encourage people to support themselves and realise their own potential
- improve personal resilience and self-help skills
- improve morale and engagement – how people feel at work
- improve and build on the police service reputation as a good employer and a great place to work.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## **College staff attend Birmingham pride**

College staff from the newly formed LGBT+ network were out in force to join the Birmingham Pride parade on the 22 May.

With LGBT+ Pride month officially starting on 1 June, the College are planning on taking part in various pride events throughout the country. College staff joined officers and staff from West Midlands Police, a number of other forces, and the National Crime Agency, to enjoy the excitement and sunshine on the day.

College staff also attended York Pride on 8 June, a happy day which celebrated with joy, the diversity in our police service and the York community.

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

# Legal updates

---

## Statutory instruments

### **SI 2019/908 – The Criminal Procedure (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019**

These Regulations amend the Crown Court Rules (Northern Ireland) 1979, the Magistrates' Courts Rules (Northern Ireland) 1984 and the Criminal Procedure Rules 2015 (that apply respectively, in Northern Ireland, England and Wales).

They are made using powers in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and address deficiencies in the relevant legislation that arise from the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union, and amendments made by other instruments made under powers conferred by that Act. They remove from those procedure rules references to provisions that will be repealed, revoked or disappplied by the Act and by those other instruments.

Access the full Statutory Instrument [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### **SI 2019/919 – The Electronic Communications (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019**

This instrument is being made in order to address deficiencies arising from the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union in legislation relating to electronic communications, in a no-deal scenario.

In particular, the instrument makes technical amendments to legislation relating to the notification of personal data breaches by providers of electronic communications services, and revokes direct EU legislation which is redundant or otherwise inappropriate to retain on the UK's statute book after exit from the EU.

Access the full Statutory Instrument [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## **SI 2019/939 – The Communications Data Acquisition Regulations 2019**

The Statutory Instrument will ensure all public authorities that are able to acquire communications data under the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 (the IP Act), including police forces (but excluding local authorities), can continue to share designated senior officers (DSOs) to authorise communications data requests under sections 61 and 61A of the Act.

Access the full Statutory Instrument [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Bills

### **Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill 2017-19**

A Bill to make provision to end rights to free movement of persons under retained EU law and to repeal other retained EU law relating to immigration; to confer power to modify retained direct EU legislation relating to social security co-ordination.

The Bill is now due to have its report stage and third reading on a date to be announced. Amendments can be made to the Bill at Report Stage.

Access the full Bill [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Acts

### **Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019**

A Bill to amend the Mental Capacity Act 2005 in relation to procedures; in accordance with which a person may be deprived of liberty where the person lacks capacity to consent. Following agreement by both Houses on the text of the Bill, it received Royal Assent on 16 May 2019.

Access the full Act [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Royal Assent for the Offensive Weapons Act 2019

The Offensive Weapons Act received Royal Assent on 16 May 2019, bringing in stronger measures to improve the law enforcement's response to violent crime.

The Act makes it an offence to possess dangerous weapons in private, including knuckledusters, zombie knives and death star knives. In addition, the Act will criminalise the dispatching of bladed products sold online, without verifying the buyer is over 18.

Home Secretary, Sajid Javid, will also be providing additional support to the police through knife crime prevention orders. The orders will aim to act as a deterrent to those vulnerable to falling into knife crime.

The Act includes a number of other measures to tackle serious violence, including:

- A ban on the possession, manufacture and sale of rapid firing rifles and bump stocks, which increase a rifle's rate of fire. The ban on the manufacture and sale of these weapons has now come into force with immediate effect.
- A ban on selling bladed products to a residential address without age verification.
- Updating the definition of flick knives to reflect changing weapon designs and banning private possession of flick knives and gravity knives.
- Changing the legal definition for threatening someone with an offensive weapon, to make prosecutions easier.
- Banning the sale of corrosive products to under 18s.
- Making it an offence to possess a corrosive substance in a public place.

Access the article [here](#). Access the full Act [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

# Before the court

---

## **Rendell, R v [2019] EWCA Crim 621**

This is an appeal against sentence which the applicant, Michael Rendell, brings out of time following a guilty plea to wounding with intent (contrary to section 18 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861) and subsequent sentencing to an indeterminate term of imprisonment.

On 20 November 2011, Rendell stabbed Mr Stephen Walsh in the neck with broken glass which cut through the external carotid artery, into the internal jugular vein and transected his right facial nerve and hypoglossal nerve. Although Walsh survived, his injuries had long-term consequences: paralysis of the right side of his face, nerve damage and difficulty eating. Witnesses considered Rendell to be drunk at the time of the incident, but he later admitted to also having snorted cocaine and consumed a sizeable amount of alcohol before the incident.

Rendell was arrested and subsequently pleaded guilty. In March 2012, he was sentenced to an indeterminate term of imprisonment, with a minimum term of three years to be served before consideration of parole. He completed the minimum term in 2015.

During his sentencing hearing, it was made apparent that Rendell was a repeat offender with convictions from the age of 18 for: battery, assault occasioning bodily harm, assault against a constable, aggravated vehicle taking (and related offences), unlawful wounding and being drunk and disorderly. All offences were committed under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

Placed before the judge, was a detailed pre-sentence report from the probation service and assessment from Dr Lynda Meina, a consultant clinical and forensic psychologist, revealed a comprehensive account of Rendell's history, including his father's violence towards him during childhood, and the consumption of alcohol as a central feature of his life.

Rendell expressed concern that he could not control his own behaviour, citing high levels of anger as the reason for his offending. Psychiatric and medical records referred to several consultations with his general practitioner and subsequent referrals to mental health specialists between 2005 and 2006, but he was not diagnosed as being mentally ill.

By March 2015, there was a broad consensus among the medical professionals involved in Rendell's psychiatric treatment as a serving prisoner that he suffered from emotional instability and dissocial personality disorder. He was prescribed antipsychotics as well as antidepressants, and two other psychiatrists endorsed the recommendation of a transfer to hospital for intensive psychological treatment.

In 2017, following an interview with Rendell, Dr Sukhjeet Lally, a consultant forensic psychiatrist, wrote a report (containing the opinion of other medical professionals) suggesting that Rendell's personality disorder [mental disorder] necessitated hospital detention for specialised medical treatment.

Following subsequent transfer to hospital, Rendell successfully engaged with psychological therapy and continued to make good progress with his medications. He was moved to an open unit, which is the final stage of progress towards conditional discharge into the community.

The Court of Appeal did not oppose the application to adduce the aforementioned new evidence, since, if evidence of Rendell's personality pathology was available at the time of sentencing, the judge would have had the option of a mental health disposal available. Although the imposition of a sentence of imprisonment could not have been criticised given the seriousness of the offence (and absence of psychiatric medical reports), the Court of Appeal was satisfied, in light of the fresh evidence, that Rendell fulfilled the statutory criteria for detention under section 37 of the Mental Health Act 1983 (MHA).

The Court of Appeal did not dispute the need for treatment, hence a transfer under s 47 of the Mental Health Act. Treatment has led to significant improvement in Rendell's ability to control his behaviour, and he is frequently tested for drugs and alcohol.

With medical reports and a clear prognosis as to the future, the Court was satisfied that there were sound reasons for departing from the usual course of imposing a penal sentence and allowed the appeal, substituting the indeterminate sentence of imprisonment for orders under s 37 and 41 of the MHA respectively.

Access the full judgement [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## **Far right terrorist receives life sentence**

Last year, Jack Renshaw, a terrorist and far right extremist pleaded guilty to planning a terrorist act against Rosie Cooper, MP for West Lancashire. Renshaw had purchased a sword and planned to murder Rosie Cooper. In addition, he pleaded guilty to making threats to kill a police officer, who had been investigating him for an unrelated matter.

The CPS suggested that, in his warped mind, Renshaw saw the murder of Rosie Cooper as a protest against a 'Jewish-controlled state' that 'oppressed' the (majority) white community. Renshaw claimed he saw the MP as a 'traitor' who deserved to die, as she represented a false democracy.

Pre-sentencing, the judge heard how Renshaw was serving a three year prison term for encouraging racial hatred in two anti-Semitic speeches in 2016, as well as being sentenced to 16 months for child sex offences last year.

Evidence presented by the CPS included the purchase of a 19 inch sword and Renshaw's online searches about cutting the jugular artery and how long it would take for someone to die from the wound.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

↑ [Back to contents](#)

---

# Policing

---

## News

### **101 non-emergency calls to be made free of charge**

It has been announced by the Home Secretary that charges will be scrapped for all calls to the 101 police non-emergency number from April 2020.

The Home Office will invest £5 million a year to fund the service, which currently receives around 30 million calls annually. Callers on the 101 number are connected to their local police force, or a force of their choice, and charged 15p per call.

However, in order to restore the public's confidence in the police, whilst improving the convenience and accessibility of reporting non-emergency incidents, the Home Office arrived at the decision to scrap the charges.

Furthermore, the Home Office is funding various police forces to create new websites, which will allow the public to be able to contact the police and report crimes online.

The 101 service was launched at the end of 2011 in England and Wales to provide a memorable and accessible number for non-emergency contact with the police, for example when:

- your car has been stolen
- your property has been damaged
- you suspect drug use or dealing in your neighbourhood
- you wish to give the police information about crime in your area
- you wish to speak to the police about a general enquiry.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

↑ [Back to contents](#)

---

## Serious and organised crime strategy launched in Wales

On 9 May 2019 a new strategy was launched in Wales, aimed at protecting communities from the threat of serious and organised crime. The strategy will build upon successful collaboration between law enforcement, charities, and the Welsh and UK Governments.

Ben Wallace, UK Minister of State for Security and Economic Crime, is hosting the event in Newport alongside representatives from the Welsh Government and Welsh law enforcement. The event will discuss the level of threat for serious and organised crime and demonstrate how important early intervention work in Wales is, in order to divert young people away from being drawn into it.

According to research carried out by the National Crime Agency, there are around 4,600 serious and organised crime groups in the UK. Group members use violence and intimidation in local communities to prey on and manipulate the most vulnerable in society.

A large part of the new strategy revolves around a pilot programme to introduce community coordinators. These coordinators will work directly with local communities to improve their resilience to this type of crime through early intervention work with young people, and support for schools, parents, and guardians.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## New appointees to BTP Authority Board

The British Transport Police Authority Board was established in 2004 to improve public accountability of the BTP. The Board sets objectives, strategic direction and performance standards. Four new members have now been appointed: Sir Craig Mackey (previously Deputy Commissioner of the MPS), Andy Cooper (Managing Director of Cross Country Trains), Graham Evans (former MP) and Kenna Kintrea (former member of the Civil Nuclear Police Authority).

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Engagement protocols for PCCs

The Home Office has published guidance on how Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) can collaborate to improve the effectiveness of the criminal justice system and also how the government intends to engage with PCCs in the development of policy. Collaborative working across the criminal justice system has been encouraged to focus on shared responsibilities whilst still respecting independent roles and responsibilities.

Find further information [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Operational

### 005/2019: Firearms (Amendment) Rules 2019

The circular makes changes to the Firearms Rules 1998. The Secretary of State is empowered to make rules prescribing certification in relation to firearms under section 53 of the Firearms Act 1968. Forms 116 and 116A are the prescribed forms for registration as a dealer and for dealers to notify the police of an additional place of business. The 2019 Amendment Rules make changes to these forms.

Full details of the changes can be found [here](#). Police are advised to include information about these changes on their websites.

Changes will take effect as of 10 June 2019.

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### Updates to recording rules

The Home Office has recently published updates to:

- Crime recording general rules
- Counting rules for reported incidents.

Both documents can be accessed [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Our workforce

### Police service – ‘Victims of their own dedication’

In light of national mental health awareness week, the Police Superintendents’ Association (PSA) have published an article on the police service and the issues they face in relation to wellbeing.

A recent study into the mental health of police officers showed that 1 in 5 are currently suffering from a form of PTSD, due to the effect of dealing with despair, distress, fear, and grief on the frontline.

A survey carried out by the PSA in 2016 on superintendents showed that:

- 50 percent had signs of suffering with anxiety
- 27 percent experienced symptoms of depression
- 75 percent were working more than 50 hours per week

The PSA have just completed an up to date survey of their members, but remain unconfident that improvements will be found. The PSA want their members, and the wider policing community, to be able to perform to the best of their abilities in the workplace. Consequently, they have undertaken a range of initiatives to improve wellbeing, such as: ensuring the hours worked by members are regularly and accurately recorded, that training is provided, and support and opportunities are available, such as regular health screenings.

However, this has to be a service-wide focus. Officer and staff wellbeing is starting to get the attention it deserves and the PSA are proud to be part of the development of the National Police Wellbeing Service which launched last month.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

# Criminal justice news

## **New Solicitor General appointed**

Lucy Frazer QC MP has been appointed Solicitor General by the Prime Minister. Alongside the Attorney General, Frazer will oversee the work of the Law Officers Departments, including the CPS, Serious Fraud Office, Government Legal Department, and HM CPS Inspectorate.

In addition, Frazer will carry out a number of functions in relation to public interest, such as considering unduly lenient sentences, and taking action when there has been contempt of court.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## **Call for evidence – review of drugs**

The government's call for evidence on the review of drugs is open until 7 June 2019. This call for evidence forms part of the information gathering phase of the review, encouraging interested parties to share their insights and experiences in order to increase the government's understanding of both drug use and drug supply.

Access the full consultation [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## **NCA input into online child sexual abuse and exploitation public inquiry**

The NCA have told the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) that barriers to prevent child sexual offences on the open web are so “shockingly low as to be virtually non-existent”.

Director Rob Jones, on behalf of the NCA told the inquiry panel that the minimal barriers to preventing online offending should be the gravest concern of all, especially to those technology companies running the platforms.

Urgent action needs to be taken by the technology industry to match the efforts of law enforcement to tackle this crisis.

Figures show that UK related industry referrals of child sexual abuse material have largely increased in recent years - from 43,072 in 2016 to 82,109 in 2017 and 113,948 in 2018. Globally, the numbers of referrals received by the US National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) jumped from 110,000 in 2004 to 18.4 million in 2018, the inquiry heard.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### **Graham Mackrell – sentencing**

The former Sheffield Wednesday club secretary, Graham Mackrell, has been sentenced with a fine of £6,500 for his involvement in the Hillsborough disaster 30 years ago. This follows his conviction last April for failing to discharge his duty under the Health and Safety at Work Act.

Mackrell has been accused of failing to take reasonable care to ensure the turnstile allocation and ticketing arrangements for a section of the Hillsborough stadium did not result in a large crowd build up.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### **Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation appointed**

The Home Secretary has announced that Jonathan Hall QC has been appointed as the government's new Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation. Hall has been a QC for five years, and during this time, he has been involved in complex and high profile cases, including fraud, law enforcement, and national security.

As part of his role, Hall will be required to provide an annual report on his findings, which the government must lay before Parliament and publish. He will begin his tenure on Thursday 23 May.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Security Minister visits Sri Lanka

Ben Wallace, the UK Minister of State for Security and Economic Crime, is returning from Sri Lanka after a two day visit. The visit was to reiterate the UK's condolences following the attack on Easter Sunday, which killed at least 250 people.

During the visit, Wallace met His Excellency President Sirisena, Prime Minister Wickremesinghe, other government ministers and officials, military and religious leaders, as well as leading figures from the Sri Lankan tourism sector.

The impact on Sri Lanka was discussed, as well as addressing future potential security threats, and what further support the UK can provide.

Anyone who has been affected by the attack, including witnesses and families of victims, can find further information and support [here](#).

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Marie Collins Foundation awarded £635,000

The Global Fund to End Violence Against Children has awarded the Marie Collins Foundation (MCF) £635,000 to support its work in helping children who have been sexually abused online.

MCF has developed the Global Protection Online Network (GPON), a programme to help different countries take appropriate steps to respond to the threat of online child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA).

GPON will help train safeguarding professionals on how to best intervene and tackle CSEA cases. This will include the potential introduction of new guidelines and legislative measures. This will be carried out alongside ongoing targeted interventions, such as training and consultancy from MCF for professionals who work with young people.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Government increases ePassport gates to include seven more countries

From 20 May 2019, visitors arriving from Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, and the United States will be able to use the ePassport gates at ports across the UK. This has been decided in a move designed to speed up border control for, what the government has deemed to be, 'low-risk' countries.

The ePassport gates have been available to British and EU nationals since 2008. Following the UK's departure from the EU, EU nationals will remain eligible to continue using the gates. The gates use facial recognition technology to compare the passenger's face to the digital image recorded in their passport. They are monitored by Border Force officers and anyone rejected at the gates will be sent to a manned passport check to have their identity and passport verified.

In addition, the government is removing the need for all non-EEA travellers to fill in landing cards upon arriving in the UK, in a further attempt to make entry into the UK more straightforward.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Sentencing Code moves closer to being implemented

The new Sentencing Code which will aim to simplify and consolidate the country's sentencing laws, has moved one step further as the government has introduced a Bill in Parliament.

As judges currently have to sift their way through over 1,300 pages of convoluted law on sentencing, it can sometimes be difficult to ensure the law is being applied consistently, and unnecessary delays are not being caused to the criminal justice system.

The Sentencing Code aims to create clarity around sentencing laws, reduce the number of errors made during sentence hearings, and to make the whole sentencing procedure more efficient. The Sentencing (Pre-consolidation Amendments) Bill presented to Parliament on 23 May, aims to make crucial amendments and remove antiquated sections of legislation, in order to pave the way for the Sentencing Code's implementation.

It must be noted that the pre-consolidation amendments and the Code, do not introduce new substantive law, or alter the sentencing penalties available to be given for offences.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

↑ [Back to contents](#)

---

## **New Release on Temporary Licence rules for offenders**

A change in rules to allow prison governors greater freedom to grant Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) to offenders, was announced on 28 May. The release, that will grant offenders more freedom to work and train with employers, whilst serving their sentence, will increase the chance of offenders securing an immediate job on their release.

**Research** from the Ministry of Justice shows that offenders who spend time working in the community pre-release, are less likely to reoffend, than those who do not. In light of this, a drive to reduce reoffending through rehabilitation and creating opportunities for offenders has worked alongside large investments to improve stability in prisons.

The Justice Secretary has recently announced a crucial reform of the probation system to ensure that ex-offenders receive support for rehabilitation, work, treatment, and housing when they leave prison. In addition, the probation changes will place security and rehabilitation as the main focuses of community sentences, as opposed to them being short prison sentences.

Furthermore, within the wider efforts to improve rehabilitation, the Education and Employment Strategy, launched in May 2018, contains a number of measures aimed at improving prisoners' skills whilst in custody and increasing their chances of securing work on release. One year after the release of this Strategy:

- More than 230 businesses have registered to work with prisons and set offenders on a path to employment. This is further to the 300 businesses around the UK already seeing the benefits of employing ex-offenders.
- Prison Governors have been given greater autonomy to grant Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) to offenders following a thorough risk assessment.
- The New Futures Network was launched in October 2018 as a new specialist part of the Prison Service, to build partnerships between prisons and employers. This is designed to fill local skills gaps in

companies by providing job opportunities for men and women on release from custody. The Network will have an employment broker in every geographical prison group by July 2019.

- A new £250,000 construction academy opened at HMP Leeds last week – to equip offenders in Yorkshire with valuable skills ahead of release.
- Jails now have access to the Prison Education Dynamic Purchasing System – giving Governors power to commission services from a wide variety of educational providers, charities and businesses. So far more than 230 suppliers have successfully been added to the system and 30 contracts have been awarded by Governors.
- Suppliers will aim to drive more offenders into the classroom with nearly 88 percent of prisoners achieving a recognised award from educational bodies in the 2017/18 academic year.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### **Independent chairs for modern slavery cases announced**

New changes made to the national referral mechanism (NRM), will permit an independent group of professionals to review certain modern slavery cases, to determine if the right decision has been made.

Cases referred to the NRM that receive a negative ‘conclusive grounds’ decision, will automatically have their decision reviewed by a Multi-Agency Assurance Panel. Following this review, the multi-agency panel, if necessary, can require the Home Office to reconsider any case, if they believe an incorrect decision has been made.

Those appointed as independent chairs are: Allan Doherty, Mike Taylor, Joy Shakespeare, Mary Cunneen, Vincent Dean, Sharon Squires, Andrew Leonard, Russ Middleton, John Clements, and Alison Towns.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Reviews and reports

### Criminal Justice Statistics – 2018 annual bulletin

The Ministry of Justice have released their latest quarterly report on key statistics in the criminal justice system (CJS) for England and Wales in 2018.

To summarise the main points from the annual report, which applies to the year of 2018:

- **1.59 million individuals were dealt with by the CJS.** The total number of individuals formally dealt with by the CJS has been declining since 2015, and fell 3 percent in 2018, to the lowest recorded figure since 1970.
- **1.38 million defendants were prosecuted.** This is a 2 percent decrease since 2017. Decreases were seen in every offence group, except possession of weapons (4 percent increase) and summary motoring offences (up 3 percent).
- **Overall, the conviction ration remained stable at 87 percent.** Increases were seen in some offence groups, including: sexual offences, possession of weapons, and fraud offences. Decreases were observed in robbery and theft offences.
- **Proportion of defendants remanded on bail has continued to fall.** The number of defendants remanded on bail decreased by 24 percent. The number remanded in custody decreased to 7 percent.
- **The custody rate was 7 percent and the average custodial sentence length was 17.3 months.** The custody rate has remained stable over the last decade, however the number sentenced to immediate custody has decreased since 2011.
- **Offenders with long ‘criminal careers’ account for almost two-fifths of the offending population.** Since 2010, the proportion of offenders with long ‘criminal careers’ (more than 15 previous convictions or cautions) has increased.

Access the full bulletin [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### Facial recognition technology – ethics panel report

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) have welcomed the report published by the London Policing Ethics Panel, regarding the force’s trial of live facial recognition technology (LFR).

Since 2016, the MPS have carried out ten trials of LFR technology across London. In the final LFR trials, the MPS state that the watch-list only contained images of individuals wanted by the MPS for violent related offences, which led to a number of successful arrests.

The MPS report that all deployments of the technology were used overtly. Members of the public were provided with: leaflets, posters, and information from officers.

The Ethics Panel report comes after an extensive review of the MPS' use of the new technology during the trial period. The report concludes that further use of the technology would be supported, if the below criteria are met:

- 1) The overall benefits to public safety must outweigh any potential public distrust in the technology
- 2) It can be evidenced that the use of the technology will not generate any gender or racial bias in policing operations
- 3) Each deployment of technology must be assessed and authorised, to ensure it is both necessary and proportionate
- 4) Operators receive training to understand the risks associated with the use of software and to be made aware that they are accountable
- 5) Both the MPS and Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime develop strict guidelines to ensure all deployments balance the benefits of the technology with the potential intrusion on the public.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### **Independent review of Modern Slavery Act published**

In July 2018, the government commissioned an independent review of the Modern Slavery Act. The review focused on 4 key areas:

- i) The Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner
  - A recommendation was made to increase the independence of the Commissioner after concerns raised by stakeholders that the current post was too constricted by the government.
  - A more transparent recruitment process, appointment to not be made by the Home Secretary and to include a pre-appointment hearing with a Parliamentary Select Committee.

- Creation of a statutory oversight board.
- A memorandum drafted to help clarify the budget setting process.

ii) Transparency in supply chains

- The legislation was commented on as being light in detail on what organisations should be reporting. The review noted that organisations approached obligations as a ‘tick box exercise’ with an estimated 40 percent of companies not responding at all.
- The review recommended that companies should not be able to state that they have taken no steps to combat modern slavery.
- The six areas of reporting outlined by the government should be made mandatory and sanctions for non-compliance should be strengthened.

iii) Independent Child Trafficking Advocates (ICTA)

- The review encouraged assessing a child’s needs on a case by case basis and a more flexible ICTA system centred on the best needs of the child.
- The ICTA service should be extended to young people between 18 and 25 where it was deemed that support would be necessary.
- A national protocol should be developed for the ICTA and ICTAs should have access to high quality training.

iv) The legal application of the Act (the definition of exploitation, reparation orders, the statutory defence)

- Since the Act was introduced there has been increasing recognition of other forms of exploitation which fall beyond the slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour and human trafficking first identified in the Act. For example, orphanage trafficking and county lines. The review considered that the Act’s current definition of ‘exploitation’ was sufficient to encompass new and emerging forms of slavery. However, the review deemed guidance to assist in the interpretation the Act to be necessary.
- It is recommended that the Act is amended to reflect more clearly that a child is not able to consent to any element of their trafficking or slavery.
- Ongoing review should be taken of prosecution outcomes to ensure that the Act is not being interpreted narrowly.
- Financial investigation into every modern slavery case should be prioritised.
- Ongoing review should be taken of whether victims had access to legal aid.

- Further clarity required between the National Referral Mechanism and the criminal justice process.
- Greater training for the Judicial College to ensure that judges understand the statutory defence (a defence if the perpetrator was compelled to carry out the offence as a result of exploitation) fully and that it should always be considered at pre-trial hearings for cases relating to children.

Access the full review [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

## Diversity

### **Thanksgiving service to mark 100 years of women in the Met**

Thousands of serving and retired police officers, police staff, and their friends and families gathered on 17 May, at Westminster Abbey for a thanksgiving service to mark 100 years of police officers in the Met.

The event echoes the service held 100 years ago, to honour the fallen police officers of the First World War, where female Met officers were permitted to wear their uniforms in public for the first time.

During the event, of which roughly 2000 people attended, testimonies and readings were given by female officers of varying ranks and departments, including a recollection of the 1919 service written after it took place by Lilian Wyles, the Met's first woman in CID.

Access the full article [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

### **Minister for Equalities speaks to survivors of LGBT+ domestic abuse**

Baroness Williams spoke at the 'Recognise & Respond' conference held by Galop, an LGBT+ anti-violence charity. The conference's focus was to provide a platform to explore the barriers experienced by LGBT+ survivors who need to access services. Baroness Williams shared some of the results from the Government Equalities Office's LGBT survey including:

- 14 percent of those surveyed had been a victim of verbal harassment, insults or hurtful comments.

- 14 percent reported that someone had disclosed their sexual orientation without their consent.
- 9 percent reported controlling or coercive behaviour.

The survey indicated the value that LGBT+ survivors place on dedicated support services which meets their unique needs.

Greater Manchester Police were distinguished in the speech for being one of the first police forces to record LGBT+ cases of domestic abuse separately.

Access a transcript of the speech [here](#).

---

[↑ Back to contents](#)

---

---

## About the College

We're the professional body for everyone who works for the police service in England and Wales. Our purpose is to provide those working in policing with the skills and knowledge necessary to prevent crime, protect the public and secure public trust.

[college.police.uk](https://college.police.uk)



Follow us  
**@CollegeofPolice**