

Capsticks Emergency Services Roundup

14 June 2018 – 27 June 2018

Welcome to Capsticks' bi-weekly roundup of insights and news stories affecting emergency services. We hope that you will find this useful and if you have any queries about the issues raised then please don't hesitate to get in touch

Best wishes,
Hugh



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GENERAL NEWS

Collaborations and takeovers

[Police Federation supports Lancashire police and fire collaboration](#)

Lancaster and Morecambe Citizen; 27 June 2018

Lancashire Police Federation has said that proposed collaboration between **Lancashire Constabulary** and **Lancashire Fire and Rescue** could be beneficial to police officers and the public. Business plans will be developed over June and July, with a public consultation into proposals due to be launched in August.

[Firefighters 'to carry out burglary prevention patrols'](#)

Police Oracle; 27 June 2018

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner has announced that **Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service** has agreed to "burglary patrols" in a neighbourhood considered to be at high risk from arson.


[No need for vote at fire service table, says police and crime commissioner](#)

Ipswich Star; 20 June 2018

Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner has revealed that he has no intention of intervening in fire service business. Proposals to bring the police and **Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service** together under one administration were dropped in September 2017 after a report found no clear benefits of doing so

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[Police and crime commissioner to decide on whether to consult on fire service future within the next month](#)

East Anglian Daily Times; 19 June 2018

Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner is poised to decide whether to press forward with a possible takeover of **Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service**.

[North Yorkshire police commissioner to run fire service](#)

BBC News; 13 June 2018

North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Julia Mulligan will take over governance of **North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service** after the plan was approved by the Home Office. Ms Mulligan believes her new role will allow the local police force and fire service to make joint savings of at least £6.6m through efficiencies in sharing buildings and back office support functions.

[Public safety fears sparked Northamptonshire fire service move](#)

BBC News; 13 June 2018

A report by the National Fire Chiefs Council has said that public safety could have been at risk had **Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service** not moved from the local council's control to the **Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner**.

AMBULANCE

[Ambulance trust bosses fork out £7 million in exit pay offs in just six years](#)

News and Star; 22 June 2018

New figures revealed by the GMB union show that **North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust** spent more than £7.1m on exit packages since the 2010/11 financial year - more than any other trust in the country. This figure has been disputed by the Trust, which claimed it actually amounted to £3.65m.

[Ambulance staff warn restrictions on annual leave are the 'final straw'](#)

East Anglian Daily Times; 20 June 2018

East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust staff are facing new restrictions on annual leave, which many fear will prevent them taking the downtime needed to avoid burnout and provide safe patient care. The new measures reportedly reduce by up to 50 per cent the number of staff who can take leave at the same time during the winter period. The Trust said that the change in policy was needed to reflect the increasing winter pressures on health services and insisted that staff would be able to take their annual leave within the new limits. It also highlighted its investment to recruit 330 frontline staff and 160 new vehicles, which will help staff in the long term.

[North West Ambulance Service paramedics strike in pay row](#)

BBC News; 18 June 2018

North West Ambulance Service NHS Trust staff who are members of the GMB union are holding two-hour strikes at the start of shifts. The Union said that it was the "last resort" after they had "waited patiently" for more than 12 years for the outcome of a job re-evaluation.

[Ambulance service says it needs £12m to hit performance targets](#)

Bristol Post; 13 June 2018

South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust has said that it needs to 'plug' a £12m funding gap in order to reach national performance standards.

FIRE

[Fire service close to 'decimation' as funding 'purge' continues one year after no confidence motion](#)

Surrey Live; 25 June 2018

The Fire Brigades Union has claimed that **Surrey Fire and Rescue Service** has the lowest number of fire service staff per head count of population.

[Fire service aims to stop attending false alarms in bid to save £900,000 a year](#)

Nottinghamshire Live; 22 June 2018

Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service will no longer be automatically sent to fire alarms, but will now call ahead to check it is a genuine alarm. It said that more than 3,000 call outs last year were the result of faulty equipment and fire alarms set off for 'non-fire reasons', costing the service approximately £900,000 to attend these incidents.

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[Developing the fire and rescue service inspections](#)

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services; 15 June 2018

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services has published a report which brings together what it learned from its pilot inspections in **Staffordshire, Suffolk** and **West Yorkshire fire and rescue services** between March and May 2018.

POLICE

General news

[Force launches mini cyber police pilot](#)

Police Professional; 26 June 2018

The **City of London Police** has become the latest force to announce the launch of a mini police programme, aimed at teaching children between the ages of eight and ten about policing principles and community engagement, but also about cyber-crime prevention. Similar schemes are being run in a number of other police forces including **Durham, Thames Valley**, and **Lincolnshire**.

Legal news

[Officer admits thefts from force](#)

Police Professional; 26 June 2018

A **South Wales Police** officer could face jail after being found guilty of stealing tens of thousands of pounds from his Force's sports clubs.

[Police face legal action over use of facial recognition cameras](#)

Guardian; 14 June 2018

Two legal challenges have been launched against the **Metropolitan Police** and **South Wales Police** over their use of automated facial recognition technology on the grounds that the surveillance is unregulated and violates privacy. The claims are backed by the human rights organisations Liberty and Big Brother Watch following complaints about biometric checks at the Notting Hill carnival, on Remembrance Sunday, at demonstrations and in high streets.

Collaborations

[Tri-force merger 'rejected entirely'](#)

Police Oracle; 21 June 2018

Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Kathryn Holloway has said that a tri-force merger between **Bedfordshire, Essex** and **Hertfordshire** police forces was discussed during a two-day conference of PCCs and chief constables to discuss the future of the three forces. However, she said that the possibility was "rejected entirely" by all three PCCs and all three chief constables.

[PCC won't support force merger unless it is in 'the best interests' of local people](#)

Police Professional; 19 June 2018

Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner Alison Hernandez has said that the planned merger between **Devon and Cornwall Police** and **Dorset Police** will depend on public opinion. Concerns had been raised about the plans' potential impact on council tax precepts, as the average band D household in Dorset currently pays £18 more than residents in Devon and Cornwall, an issue that led to force mergers across the country being abandoned in 2006.

Employment issues and appointments


[New positive action scheme introduced at the Met](#)

Police Oracle; 21 June 2018

The **Metropolitan Police** is giving extra financial support to women and ethnic minority candidates applying to become constables. The Force is reportedly covering the entire cost of pre-join qualification training for female, black and Asian candidates; however, white men are being given only half the cost of their Certificate of Knowledge in Policing.

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[ACC 'preferred candidate' to replace outgoing chief](#)

Police Professional; 20 June 2018

Northamptonshire's Police and Crime Commissioner has revealed that **Staffordshire Police's** Assistant Chief Constable Nick Adderley "will be the right leader" to take over from Chief Constable Simon Edens following his retirement later this year.

[Sussex ACC takes up new role with the MPS](#)

Police Professional; 18 June 2018

Laurence Taylor, currently an Assistant Chief Constable with **Sussex Police**, has been appointed at the **Metropolitan Police Service**. He is due to take up his new role on 2 July.

[Lincolnshire Police appoints new ACC](#)

Police Professional; 15 June 2018

Kerrin Wilson, the former director of training with the Iraqi Police, will move from **Durham Constabulary**, where she leads the Special Operations Unit that also serves **Cleveland Police**, is to take on the role of Assistant Chief Constable at **Lincolnshire Police**.

[New force deputy chosen from 'talented pool'](#)

Police Professional; 13 June 2018

Tony Blaker, a senior officer at **Sussex Police**, is **Kent Police's** new Deputy Chief Constable

Misconduct

[Officer dismissed following assault on woman](#)

Police Professional; 21 June 2018

A **Humberside Police** officer who was convicted of assault after placing a woman in an arm lock has been sacked.

[Police complaints systems in the UK](#)

House of Commons Library; 14 June 2018

This Briefing Paper gives basic factual information about the police complaints system in England and Wales. The full Paper is [here](#).

[Gross misconduct hearing to continue after chief constable declines judicial review](#)

Police Professional; 13 June 2018

Simon Byrne, Chief Constable at **Cheshire Constabulary**, who was accused of bullying will still face a gross misconduct hearing after deciding not to lodge an application for a judicial review.

[Officer 'stripped of the privilege of wearing police uniform' over abuse of position](#)

Police Professional; 13 June 2018

A **Metropolitan Police Service** officer has been sacked after making undocumented visits to a vulnerable woman's home.

Inquests and investigations

[Proper procedures followed in fatal pursuit](#)

Police Professional; 22 June 2018

An Independent Office for Police Conduct investigation has found that a **Derbyshire Constabulary** officer acted correctly in launching a pursuit prior to a fatal collision.

[Investigation launched over police detention death](#)

Police Professional; 22 June 2018

Staffordshire Police is being investigated by the Independent Office for Police Conduct over its contact with a man it detained who later died in hospital. Full details are [here](#) (IOPC).

[Chief constable apologises for 'distress caused' by legacy of force investigations over Gosport hospital deaths](#)

Police Professional; 22 June 2018

Hampshire Constabulary has agreed to "step back" from leading any future inquiry into the deaths of more than 450 patients at Gosport hospital, after admitting losing the confidence of the grieving families.

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[Rashan Charles inquest: 'Justified' restraint death accidental](#)

Police Professional; 20 June 2018

An Inquest has concluded that the death of 20-year-old Rashan Charles, who was restrained by a **Metropolitan Police** officer after swallowing drugs, was accidental.

[IOPC investigating police response before suspected murder](#)

Police Professional; 20 June 2018

The Independent Office for Police Conduct is looking into the actions of **Kent Police** control room staff who responded to four emergency calls prior to a man's murder.

[Police officers will not be disciplined over Jordon Begley death](#)

Guardian; 15 June 2018

No officers from **Greater Manchester Police** will face disciplinary action over the death of Jordon Begley after he was shot with a stun gun. In a statement, the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) concluded that one officer "may have breached professional standards of behaviour in relation to their use of force", but that they had since left the police.

[IOPC backs firearms officers in attempted 'death by cop' incident](#)

Police Professional; 15 June 2018

The Independent Office for Police Conduct has concluded that a **Derbyshire Constabulary** officer who shot an armed man acted reasonably in "difficult circumstances".

Finance and funding

[Police cuts hit London harder than other parts of UK, says Sadiq Khan](#)

Guardian; 26 June 2018

London Mayor Sadiq Khan has claimed that London has been hit harder than any other part of the country by cuts to its police force. He claims that in 2010, London had 4.1 officers per 1,000 Londoners, but by 2016/17 that had dropped to 3.3 officers per 1,000 Londoners.

Performance

[Inspection report identifies 'significant improvements' in custody provision](#)

Police Professional; 21 June 2018

Thames Valley Police has been praised in a report by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services and HM Inspectorate of Prisons for its strong leadership and "clear grip on performance" in custody provision, although inspectors said that there is still work to be done around safety and strip searches. Full details are [here](#) (HMCFRS)

Policy and regulation

[Revising PACE codes C, H, E and F](#)

Home Office; 18 June 2018

A [Home Office publication](#) summarises the response to its consultation on the revision of PACE codes C (detention), H (detention - terrorism), E (audio recording of suspect interviews) and F (visual recording of suspect interviews). It highlights concerns that: the police were not adequately trained to recognise when a suspect needed an appropriate adult; the proposal to raise the threshold for determining whether a suspect was vulnerable from "suspicion" to "belief" would exclude many who needed help; and additional safeguards for voluntary interviews were unlikely to be effective if the interviews place elsewhere than at police station and without effective supervision.

Crime

[Forces ask public if sexual harassment should be treated as a hate crime](#)

Police Professional; 26 June 2018

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Police forces in Wales are making a renewed appeal for the public and other organisations to join a nationwide debate on how to tackle sexual harassment – and to determine if it should be treated as a hate crime.

[UK will be locked out of Europe's policing and security databases after Brexit, EU's chief negotiator says](#)

Independent; 19 June 2018

Michel Barnier, the EU's chief negotiator, has confirmed that Britain will be locked out of EU policing and security databases after Brexit. The UK would also lose access to the European arrest warrant and that UK representatives would no longer have a role in managing agencies such as Europol and Eurojust.

[MPS to host anti-gang social media team](#)

Police Professional; 18 June 2018

The **Metropolitan Police Service** will create a 20-strong team of officers and staff tasked with flagging illegal content for social media companies to remove. The Force claims that this unit will “prevent violence on our streets” by removing gang-related messages that glamorise violence and may tempt young people towards a life of crime.

[Sunday Times crime map: Beat bobbies dazzle in Durham](#)

Sunday Times; 17 June 2018

According to independent analysis carried out for the *Sunday Times*, **Durham Constabulary** is the best performing force in England and Wales when it came to solving crime. It solves 18 per cent of all crimes in the City. Further details are [here](#) (Daily Mail).

[95% of UK burglaries and robberies not solved, data suggests](#)

Guardian; 17 June 2018

The **Metropolitan Police** has said that it is doing all it can to bring thieves to justice after figures suggested that 95 per cent of burglaries and robberies across the UK are not being solved.

[Rising crime is symptom of inequality, says senior Met chief](#)

Guardian; 14 June 2018

The **Metropolitan Police's** Assistant Commissioner Patricia Gallan has said that social inequality is a cause that needs tackling and that those arrested and jailed tend to be people with less money and opportunity.

NEW LEGISLATION

[The Police Super-complaints \(Designation and Procedure\) Regulations 2018](#)

In force: 1 November 2018

These Regulations designate bodies under section 29B of the *Police Reform Act 2002* that are able to make super-complaints under section 29A about systemic issues in policing which are significantly harming the interests of the public.

[Police and service dogs and horses receive protection by law](#)

Guardian; 15 June 2018

The [*Animal Welfare \(Service Animals\) Bill*](#) – a private members' bill – which makes it a specific offence to attack police or prison officer dogs or police horses is set to become law after the Government decided to back the measure. The Second Reading is on 6 July 2018.

For more information please contact [Hugh Giles](#), [Andrew Rowland](#) or [Alessandra Gettins](#).



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