

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

UK Statistics Authority, Meeting room 3, Drummond Gate, London, SW1V 2QQ

Wednesday 11 February 2015, 12:30 – 16:00

Attendees:

David Blunt	Home Office
Steve Bond	Home Office
Professor Allan J Brimicombe	University of East London
Philippa Brimicombe (Secretariat)	National Statistician's Office
Roma Chappell	Office for National Statistics
Steve Ellerd-Elliott	Ministry of Justice
John Flatley	Office for National Statistics
Junaid Gharda	Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire
Fiona Glen	Equality and Human Rights Commission
Glyn Jones	Welsh Government
Professor Chris G Lewis	University of Portsmouth
Patricia Mayhew	Independent Criminological consultant
Nicholas McLain	Staff Officer for Chief Constable of Gwent
Robin Laird	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary
Professor Stephen Shute (Chair)	University of Sussex
Tom Winsor	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary

Apologies:

Jeff Farrar	National Policing Lead for crime statistics
Michael Levi	Cardiff University
Diana Luchford	Home Office
John Pullinger	National Statistician

Agenda Item No.	Timings	Order of Business
1.	12:30 – 13:15	<i>Presentation by Deborah Collins , NatCen, - the development of the new questions on fraud and cyber-crime for inclusion in the Crime Survey for England and Wales.</i> <i>Deborah Collins leads NatCen's Questionnaire Development and Testing Hub and has over 20 years experience in survey research and methodology. She specialises in questionnaire design and the use of pretesting methods, such as cognitive interviewing, questionnaire appraisal, respondent debriefing and focus groups and has worked on a range of studies including development of questions for the 2001 Census (whilst at ONS), the Family Resources Survey, the National Travel Survey and European Social Survey.</i>
2.	13:15 – 13:30	<i>Response from the Chair</i>
Lunch 13:30 – 14:00		

3.	14:00 – 14:05		CSAC(15)01	<i>Announcements and matters arising from the meeting held on 6 October 2014.</i> Stephen Shute (Chair)
4.	14:05 – 14:10	For Discussion	CSAC(15)02	<i>Home Office Correspondence - CSAC Annual Report 2013/14</i> Stephen Shute (Chair)
5.	14:10 – 14:40		CSAC(15)03	<i>HMIC Crime Data Integrity Report – Recommendations and future inspections</i> Robin Laird, HMIC
6.	14:40 – 15:00		CSAC(15)04	<i>Re-designation Project for Police Recorded Crime – Progress Report</i> Roma Chappell, ONS
7.	15:00 – 15:15		CSAC(15)05	<i>Update on the coverage of fraud in official statistics</i> John Flatley, ONS
8.	15:15 – 15:30		CSAC(15)06	<i>Update from CSAC Awayday, 4 November 2014</i> Stephen Shute (Chair)
9.	15:30 – 15:40		CSAC(15)07	<i>Review of recommendations from past Crime Statistics Reports Task and Finish Group</i> Chris Lewis
10.	15:40 – 15:50		CSAC(15)08	<i>National Crime Registrar’s Report</i> Steve Bond, Home Office
11.	15:50 – 16:00		Any other business	

testing to prove the accuracy of the wording and context. A larger field test is now being planned. The results of this test will be shared with the Committee, with a paper being submitted to the next meeting in May 2015.

Action 1: ONS (John Flatley) to submit a paper to the CSAC meeting in May 2015. The paper will include results from the field testing of the new questions for the CSEW, along with an outline of the next steps.

2. Chair's announcements and matters arising - CSAC(15)01

2.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and made the following announcements:

- the Chair, and members, congratulated Pat Mayhew following a recent announcement that she is joint winner of this years' Stockholm prize for criminology.
- it was noted that following the retirement of Mike Hough the Committee has unfortunately been unable to appoint a successor. A further advertising campaign will be launched.
- the minutes from the last meeting have been approved and are now on the Committee's webpage.
- the Committee are still considering whether they will respond to the PASC report, noting there is no formal requirement to do so.

3. Home Office Correspondence - CSAC Annual Report 2013/14 - CSAC(15)02

3.1. The Chair drew members' attention to the response from the Minister for Crime Prevention to the CSAC Annual Report 2013/14. In summary the response welcomes the work of the Committee and the advice it gives to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the Home Office (HO). It recognises that the Committee has a fundamental role to play in the re-designation of the Police Recorded Crime statistics and the recommendations from the HMIC Crime Data Integrity Report.

4. HMIC Crime Data Integrity Report – Recommendations and future inspections - CSAC(15)03

4.1. Robin Laird introduced this paper which details the progress made against the 13 recommendations of the HMIC report – “Crime Recording – making the victim count”. The following points were raised in discussion:

- it was noted that good progress is being made in relation to the action plan associated with the recommendations;
- members acknowledged the additional work in response to some of the ‘findings’ in the report, noting that action plan has been drawn together as agreed in recommendation 13;

- it was noted that progress is being made by forces to improve their auditing processes which will lead to better accuracy of police recorded crime;
- the Committee welcomed this report and is encouraged to see that the results have instigated positive change;
- Tom Winsor thanked the Committee for their help with this work.

5. Re-designation Project for Police Recorded Crime – Progress Report - CSAC(15)04

5.1. Roma Chappell introduced this paper which details the good progress being made by the Re-designation Project Board against the 16 requirements set out in the UK Statistics Authority's Assessment report.

5.2. The Committee were asked to consider whether an application can be made for re-designation at this time in light of the HMIC report and other significant factors. The following points were raised in discussion:

- whilst good progress is being made by police forces following the HMIC recommendations, more evidence is required and this is unlikely to be available until HMIC publishes a progress report later in the year. It is crucial that the evidence is in place in order to maximise the chances of a successful application;
- it was suggested that HMIC could do some work to pull together a robust package of evidence to highlight the requirements that have been met to help with the application;
- Scotland is likely to be in a position to reapply for re-designation this year so consideration is needed as to how this impacts on England and Wales;
- key stakeholders need to be made aware if the application for redesignation is to be delayed;
- The Committee agreed in principle that the application for redesignation should be delayed and that a revised timetable will be developed.

Action 2: The Re-designation Project to establish a revised timetable and provide a further progress report at the next CSAC meeting in May 2015.

6. Update on the coverage of fraud in official statistics - CSAC(15)05

6.1. John Flately introduced this paper which provides an update on the feasibility of including administrative data on fraud collected by industry bodies in police recorded crime. The following points were raised in discussion:

- fraud administrative data from CIFAS and FFA are now included in ONS published administrative statistics as a table within the 'fraud' section of each quarterly statistical bulletin;
- following discussions with CIFAS about the quality of the data three areas which need further investigation have been identified: double counting analysis, external analysis, and the impact of growing membership. CIFAS are currently pursuing these issues;
- it is recognised that there is a gap in the recording of PSP fraud;
- as the quality of CIFAS data appears to be good, subject to the above issues being addressed, ONS propose to include these data in police recorded crime. The Committee agreed that they were content with this proposal.

7. Update from CSAC Awayday, 4 November 2014 - CSAC(15)06

7.1. The Chair provided an update of the actions arising from the awayday in November. Key points to note are:

- the Committee is looking at creating wider engagement networks such as victim support. A progress paper will be submitted for discussion at the next meeting in May;
- the Committee may benefit from engaging more with journalists, therefore it was suggested that the secretariat explore the possibility of inviting journalists to the next workshop;
- the Chair will encourage non-executive members to take the lead with specific topics. A good example of this is the work Allan Brimicombe is doing around Domestic Abuse Data;
- a clearer profile for members is required and this should include their roles within Task & Finish Groups and projects etc. The Committees' Code of Conduct will be reviewed and will be reported on at the next meeting in May;
- the next awayday will be scheduled for spring 2015.

Action 3: CSAC Secretariat to explore the possibility of inviting a journalist to attend the awayday in the spring 2015.

8. Review of recommendations from past Crime Statistics Reports Task and Finish Group - CSAC(15)07

8.1. This paper discusses the inaugural meeting of the above Task & Finish Group (TFG) which was held on 22 January 2015. It outlines the scope of the TFG, which reviews are included and the next steps. The following points were raised in discussion:

- recommendations made as a result of reviews will be captured and whether or not they have been implemented and/or were successful.

- if recommendations were not implemented it is important to investigate the reasons why and whether they are still relevant;
- written updates will be provided to the Committee, before providing a final report at the CSAC awayday in the spring 2015.

9. National Crime Registrar's Report - CSAC(15)08

9.1. Steve Bond introduced the National Crime Registrar's Report. Key points to note are:

- at the time of the meeting the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) is awaiting ministerial approval, details of which are being worked through. The new NCRS draws on the recommendations made by the HMIC Report;
- The Force Crime Registrar (FCR) training course is currently being developed and will be available in the spring 2015;
- The Home Secretary has endorsed the changes made to Domestic Abuse recordings; two "flags" will be introduced in April to identify recorded crimes where Domestic Abuse is a factor. This change will allow for the recording of 'repeat victimisation'. ONS and HO are currently discussing the publication of the new data.

10. Any other Business

10.1. It was noted that the future meeting dates for 2015 are as follows:

- Wednesday 20 May;
- Thursday 24 September.

**CSAC Secretariat
February 2015**

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**CSAC Annual Report 2013/14 – Correspondence from Minister of Crime Prevention****Purpose**

1. This paper provides members of the Committee with a copy of the letter sent from Minister of Crime Prevention to the Chair following the publication of the [CSAC Annual Report 2013/14](#).

Action

2. Crime Statistics Advisory Committee members are asked to note the correspondence in annex 1.

Background

3. The Chair wrote to the Home Secretary on 18 November 2014 to draw her attention to the recently published CSAC Annual Report 2013/14.
4. A letter was received by the Chair, on behalf of the Home Secretary, from the Rt Hon Lynne Featherstone, Minister for Crime Prevention in December 2014.
5. The letter welcomes the work of the Committee and draws reference to the advice given to both ONS and HMIC. The letter also acknowledges the role the Committee has to play in providing advice in the coming year relating to the recommendations from the HMIC report and the redesignation of Police Recorded Crime.

**CSAS Secretariat
February 2015**



Home Office

Rt Hon Lynne Featherstone MP
Minister for Crime Prevention

2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 4DF
www.gov.uk/home-office

Professor Stephen Shute
School of Law, Politics and Sociology
Friston Building
University of Sussex
Brighton BN1 9RH

15 DEC 2014

Dear Professor Shute,

Thank you for your letter of the 18th November 2014 enclosing a copy of the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee's annual report for 2013/14. I am replying on behalf of the Home Secretary as Minister for Crime Prevention.

Ministers continue to welcome the committee's advice on matters relating to crime statistics and we are also grateful for the work the committee has undertaken to advise the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) during the year.

As you know, earlier this year the UK Statistics Authority removed the 'National Statistics' designation from the police recorded crime figures. Subsequently, HMIC and the Public Administration Select Committee have published reports which have highlighted significant issues related to police crime recording practices and the resulting statistics.

The Home Secretary has been very clear that any mis-recording of crime is unacceptable. Accurate recorded crime figures are essential in helping to build the public's trust in the police, and people must be able to rely on statistics if they are effectively to hold their force to account. HMIC made a number of recommendations for each police force, and I expect Police and Crime Commissioners and chief constables to take action where appropriate. The latest crime statistics published by ONS suggest that forces are already taking action, with substantial improvements evident in the recording of, for example, violence.

HMIC also made some national recommendations, and officials will outline to the committee in the near future our plans to address those recommendations. Where, for example, changes are needed to clarify the Counting Rules, we will look to implement them as quickly as possible with the committee's support.

As you would expect, we wish to see the 'National Statistics' designation restored to police recorded crime at the earliest opportunity. Home Office officials are, I know, actively working towards this with colleagues from ONS and HMIC, and the committee has an important role to play in advising on that work. I trust that you and the other committee members share my desire to see that work progress at pace, and we look forward to receiving your advice in due course.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynne Featherstone', written in a cursive style.

Rt Hon Lynne Featherstone MP

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several sweeping, connected strokes.

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**Progress of the HMIC Crime Data Integrity Inspection Report Recommendations****Purpose**

1. This paper provides detail on the progress to-date relating to the 13 recommendations from the HMIC report “*Crime Recording: making the victim count*”

Action

2. Members of the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee are requested to:
 - note the progress made against the recommendations, detailed in annex 1;
 - consider and comment on recommendations 5,6 and 11, which require action at force level;
 - note the action plan in annex 2 which has been developed by the National Policing Lead for crime statistics as required in recommendation 13.

Background

3. The final report of HMIC’s inspection of Crime Data Integrity was published in November 2014 and contained 13 recommendations. Of these, 12 have a direct bearing on crime statistics with one (number 4) being concerned with procedures around out of court disposals.
4. The recommendations are detailed in annex 1, along with a commentary of the progress made to date. Members will wish to note that several recommendations (1, 2, 3, 10 and 12) have already been reviewed by the Committee and endorsed action has been taken by the Home Office. Members should also note that clear progress has been made with a number of other recommendations (7, 8, 9).
5. The Committee is asked to consider and comment on recommendations 5, 6 and 11 where action is required at force level.
6. Members will note that in relation to recommendation 13, the National Policing lead for Crime Statistics has developed an action plan in response to the findings, and not just the recommendations, of the report, A current draft of this action plan is included in annex 2.
7. It should be noted the National Policing lead for crime statistics can only facilitate or influence others to act. Chief Constables have operational independence and it not clear how this action plan (and recommendations 5, 6 and 11) will be implemented or monitored going forward.

Progress Update on the 13 HMIC Report Recommendations

Recommendation	Action being taken
<p>1: Within six months, the Home Office should revise the guidance in the NCRS and HOCR to clarify the circumstances in which a crime must be recorded when reported by a person other than the victim. In particular, the guidance should be amended to make clear that reports of crime by professionals such as doctors, teachers, health workers and social services, when acting in their professional capacities, should always be regarded as acting on behalf of the victim, and so reports of crimes made by such people should be recorded as crimes, and that this should be done irrespective of whether or not the victim confirms that a crime has been committed.</p>	<p>Amendments to the NCRS have been drafted and cleared by the National Crime Recording Strategic Steering Group and endorsed by CSAC at the end of January 2015. They are now waiting Ministerial clearance.</p>
<p>2: Within six months, the Home Office should revise the guidance in the HOCR in relation to the accountability and responsibility for the making of all no-crime decisions, so as to require that the authority to make a no-crime decision is vested in and confined to persons who are independent of investigations, properly trained for the role, and subject to direct oversight by the force crime registrar. In the case of rape, the HOCR should be amended to provide that only the FCR has the authority to make a no-crime decision.</p>	<p>Amendments to the NCRS have been drafted and cleared by the National Crime Recording Strategic Steering Group and endorsed by CSAC at the end of January 2015. They are now waiting Ministerial clearance.</p>
<p>3: Within three months, the Home Office should amend the HOCR guidance to require that in cases where a no-crime decision has been made, the victim must always be informed in a timely manner and a record to that effect should be made.</p>	<p>Amendments to the NCRS have been drafted and cleared by the National Crime Recording Strategic Steering Group and endorsed by CSAC at the end of January 2015. They are now waiting Ministerial clearance.</p>
<p>4: Within three months, all forces should ensure that:</p> <p>a) in cases of out-of-court disposals where there is a victim, they consult the victim before making the decision to issue or effect the disposal, and make a record that they have done so; and</p> <p>b) on every occasion when the making of an out-of-court disposal is under consideration, the previous offending history of the offender is checked to ensure the offender is eligible for the disposal in question, and make a record that this has been done.</p>	<p>Not directly related to police recorded crime statistics</p>

<p>5: Immediately, all forces should ensure their auditing procedures in respect of reports of serious sexual offences, including rapes, are sound.</p>	<p>It is noted that HMIC will be checking progress in forces against their own force recommendations and the national recommendations. It will be part of PEEL process in 2015.</p> <p>In addition the national policing lead for crime statistics will be requesting updates against his action plan, the first of which is planned for April 2015.</p>
<p>6: Within six months, all forces should ensure that they have in place effective supervisory oversight of the making of crime-recording decisions to ensure compliance with the HOCR, whether those decisions are made by personnel in force control rooms and call-handling centres, or by members of specialist teams or officers or staff with routine contact with the public.</p>	<p>As above.</p>
<p>7: Within six months, the College of Policing should establish standard training to be provided by each force and which will ensure that all officers and staff who are likely to record crimes or have supervision of crime-recording have a sound understanding of the relevant principles to be applied, and are periodically tested in that respect.</p>	<p>This will follow on from work being taken to address recommendation 9 (see below).</p>
<p>8: Within nine months, the College of Policing should take the steps necessary to require candidates for the highest ranks in policing to know how to establish in their forces sound levels of competence in the proper application of the crime-recording rules by their officers and staff.</p>	<p>The new version of the strategic command course includes a 2 week block on leadership and ethics. Students have to pass SCC to be eligible for ACC posts. This element will include various ethical questions for senior leaders, including ethical crime recording.</p> <p>It is anticipated that this will be rolled out from 2015?</p>
<p>9: Within nine months, the College of Policing should establish a regime of training and national accreditation for force crime registrars. The national accreditation should be time-limited and force crime registrars should be required to renew it periodically. As soon as practicable thereafter, all forces should ensure that their force crime registrars have been duly trained and have acquired the national accreditation in question.</p>	<p>The National Policing lead for crime recording has commissioned such work from the College of Policing, who are now developing a standard training course and accreditation system for Force Crime Registrars. The plan is for this to be ready in time for it to be rolled out from April 2015.</p> <p>Arrangements for renewing accreditation are currently being considered.</p>

<p>10: Within six months, forces should establish and begin operation of sound arrangements for the conferment upon force crime registrars of sufficient independence and authority, so as to ensure that high standards of adherence to the HOOCR and NCRS are attained and maintained. In particular, such arrangements should provide that force crime registrars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) report directly to the deputy chief constable; b) have direct access to the chief constable; and c) are required periodically to report to the chief constable on crime-recording in the force. 	<p>As part of the revisions referred to above, the Home Office have sought to strengthen the NCRS in response to this recommendation.</p> <p>In many forces, FCRs have excellent relationship with Chief Officers and are recognised as being key individuals in the force.</p>
<p>11: Immediately, forces should ensure that, in crime-recording:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the presumption that the victim should always be believed is institutionalised; b) all reports of crime are recorded as crimes at the earliest possible opportunity; c) decisions to record crime are not subject to undue operational or performance pressures; and d) practices such as investigate-to-record (where the recording of a crime is delayed until after an initial investigation of the complaint) are discontinued. 	<p>National lead has been clear in this regard. Many Chief Officers have reinforced this message internally. HMIC recognise that Forces are making considerable efforts to change the culture in which these practices prevailed. Many forces have already communicated the need for ethical crime recording and victim focus and begun to change the culture in their forces.</p>
<p>12: Within six months, the Home Office should amend the HOOCR so as to abolish the latitude available to forces of not recording a crime for up to 72 hours after the initial report or complaint.</p>	<p>Amendments to the NCRS have been drafted and cleared by the National Crime Recording Strategic Steering Group and endorsed by CSAC at the end of January 2015. They are now waiting Ministerial clearance.</p>
<p>13: Within three months, the national policing lead for crime statistics should draw up an action plan in respect of the findings of this report. The action plan should provide for the development of clear guidance, based on best practice, to facilitate the improvement by chief constables of the integrity of crime-recording in their forces.</p>	<p>Chief Constable Jeff Farrar has drafted a detailed Action Plan (see Annex 2) which draws out all the key findings in the HMIC report and sets out proposals to respond to them. This will be circulated to the National Chiefs Council to seek their endorsement.</p>

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Re-designation Project for Police Recorded Crime – Progress Report

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide an update of progress on the re-designation project for police recorded crime.

Action

2. Crime Statistics Advisory Committee members are asked to:
 - note the information provided in the paper and annex 1. Members are also welcome to provide comments.

Background

3. The re-designation project was established in February 2014 to address 16 requirements set out by the UK Statistics Authority assessment report on ONS statistics for Crime in England and Wales.
4. Good progress has been made towards the requirements, as set out in Annex 1. This is the latest published update report on this project.
5. The final work stream of the project, a phase of stakeholder engagement, began in November 2014. This engagement process is focused on building understanding of how the findings of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) inspections on Crime Data Integrity (CDI) have impacted on the use of police recorded crime data and the extent to which these figure meet users' needs. This phase of the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of March, after which it was anticipated that ONS will be in a position to request that the UK Statistics Authority carry out a follow-up assessment of ONS crime statistics.
6. However, in light of the outcome of the HMIC inspections, the action plan put in place to respond to HMICs recommendations, and early findings from the user-engagement exercise, the strategic board for the project has agreed that a review on the timescale for applying to the UK Statistics Authority for re-assessment of crime statistics should be undertaken.
7. The HMIC report made 13 recommendations to improve crime recording. While there are positive signs that forces are starting to make improvements, firmer evidence of this is unlikely to be available until HMIC report on progress made by forces to improve recording.

Conclusion

8. Good progress is being made by the joint work of ONS, the Home Office, College of Policing and HMIC in the re-designation project. However, in light of critical finding of the HMIC CDI inspections, we are currently reviewing the timescale for applying to the Authority for re-assessment.

Roma Chappell
Divisional Director, Public Policy Division
Social and Analysis Directorate
Office for National Statistics

Annex 1: Action plan to address requirements from UK Statistics Authority assessment – Progress update, January 2015.

Requirements	Action planned/undertaken
<p>1. Extend the published information about uses of crime statistics and users' needs in relation to the statistics.</p>	<p>Information about the uses of crime statistics has been published in the Quality and Methodology Information report alongside the quarterly crime statistics bulletin on 24 April 2014. This is reviewed every quarter and updated as ONS gathers more information from users about their needs (see 5c and 5d below).</p> <p>In November 2014, ONS launched a user engagement exercise to help expand our knowledge of users' needs in light of concerns raised about the quality of police recorded crime and findings of inspections carried out by HMIC. The results of this exercise are currently being analysed and will be published in due course.</p>
<p>2. Provide more information to users about the nature and extent of changes made to police records, and how to interpret changes in the published crime statistics from one reference period to another.</p>	<p>ONS has worked with the Home Office Statistics Unit to analyse the differences in the volume of offences for previously published periods following routine updates from police forces. A table giving details of updates to police recorded crime data has first been published alongside the quarterly crime statistics bulletin on 24 April 2014, within table QT1a in the Quarterly Data Tables. This was updated for the crime statistics bulletin published on 17 July 2014 to include information on the extent of the change and the number of forces where revisions were made during the most recent quarter. Information about police recorded crime revisions in the Quality and Methodology Information report has also been reviewed and updated.</p>
<p>3. Publish information about the roles and responsibilities of the departments involved in the production and publication of crime statistics.</p>	<p>Information about the roles and responsibilities of the departments involved in the production and publication of crime statistics has been published in the Quality and Methodology Information report alongside the quarterly crime statistics bulletin on 24 April 2014.</p>
<p>4. Explain more fully how all the administrative data sources are used to produce statistics about crime.</p>	<p>ONS have published further information on the homicide index and sources of fraud data in sections 5.1 and 5.4 respectively of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales, released alongside the quarterly crime statistics bulletin published on 17 July 2014.</p> <p>ONS is working with the Home Office Statistics Unit to provide further information on other sources.</p>

<p>5. a) Publish further detail about the processes used by police forces in updating and submitting data and by the Home Office in validating the data; b) collect information from the Home Office about the quality of the data received from police forces; c) consider the implications of this information for the production of statistics of a quality that meet users' needs; and d) reflect this within the published quality information for users.</p>	<p>ONS has worked with the Home Office Statistics Unit to publish further information on Home Office quality assurance and validation checks. This can be found in section 3.3 of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales, released alongside the quarterly crime statistics bulletin published on 17 July 2014. ONS have since extended this published information to include further detail on the submission of data from police crime recording systems to the Home Office, added in November 2014.</p> <p>In relation to points c) and d), in November 2014 ONS launched a user engagement exercise to help expand our knowledge of users' needs in light of concerns raised about the quality of police recorded crime and findings of inspections carried out by HMIC. The results of this exercise are currently being analysed and will be published in due course.</p>
<p>6. Improve, and make more accessible, information about all aspects of the quality of crime statistics and the impact on their use.</p>	<p>The crime statistics Quality and Methodology Information report was published on the 24 April 2014. This is reviewed every quarter and the most recent update was released alongside the quarterly crime bulletin published on 17 July 2014.</p>
<p>7. a) Keep users informed about the progress of the HMIC audit; b) review published quality information in the light of the findings of the audit; and c) consider whether statistics based on police recorded crime data can be produced to a level of quality that meets users' needs, taking into account information gathered in the course of meeting this report's Requirements.</p>	<p>ONS first included an update on the progress of HMIC inspections in the quarterly crime statistics release published on 24 April 2014 and this is being updated each quarter. The latest bulletin includes an update and a summary of the findings from the HMIC final report.</p> <p>In relation to points b) and c), in November 2014 ONS launched a user engagement exercise to help expand our knowledge of users' needs in light of concerns raised about the quality of police recorded crime and findings of inspections carried out by HMIC. The results of this exercise are currently being analysed and will be published in due course.</p>
<p>8. Publish, or clearly link to, information about the changes in the CSEW sample size and response rate over time and the impact of these changes on the quality of the statistics.</p>	<p>ONS have published further information on changes in the CSEW sample sizes in section 2.2 of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales. This was released alongside the quarterly crime statistics release published on 24 April 2014.</p>
<p>9. Work with the Home Office to publish information for users about police forces' progress in switching to use of the Data Hub, and the reason why this has taken so long.</p>	<p>The Home Office Statistics Unit will supply quarterly updates to ONS which will be published in section 3.1 of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales. The first update was released alongside the quarterly crime statistics release published on 24 April 2014.</p>
<p>10. Review the staffing profile of the crime statistics team with a view to providing assurance that it remains sufficiently resourced.</p>	<p>ONS has carried out a review of resources in the crime statistics team and allocated additional resource to respond to the Authority's requirements from mid-March 2014 onwards.</p>

<p>11. Review the content of statistical reports about crime, taking into account the information gathered in the course of addressing this report's recommendations. In doing this, consider: (a) whether the differences in recording practices across police forces are such that they have an impact on the suitability of presenting statistics at a national level for recorded crime; and (b) the extent of user demand for a measure of reported crime derived from police administrative systems.</p>	<p>ONS is reviewing the evidence from the HMIC Crime Data Integrity inspection which reported in November 2014. Following this, ONS launched a user engagement exercise to help expand our knowledge of users' needs in light of concerns raised about the quality of police recorded crime and findings of inspections carried out by HMIC. ONS has sought users' views on both points and expect to publish its findings by March 2015.</p>
<p>12. Publish more detailed contextual information to explain the impact on the published statistics of the full range of possible actions that can be taken by members of the public, police and other organisations following either being a victim of a crime, observing a crime or receiving a report of a crime.</p>	<p>ONS have published further information on the journey taken from a crime first coming to the attention of the police to it being included in police recorded crime statistics. This was published in section 3.2 of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales on 17 July 2014.</p> <p>More explanation of the crime recording process based on extracts from the HMIC interim report have also been published in section 3.2 of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales on 17 July 2014.</p>
<p>13. Improve the accessibility of the crime statistics on the ONS website and publish information about the relationship between the crime statistics and other related statistics produced across the criminal justice system.</p>	<p>ONS have improved the accessibility of the crime statistics on the ONS website, for example adding more signposting and links to key outputs on the Crime and Justice theme page.</p> <p>ONS has also produced the 'Guide to Finding Crime Statistics', a tool to help guide users through the range of crime and criminal justice statistics produced by ONS and other government departments. This was published in March 2014 on the ONS website.</p> <p>ONS will continue to monitor use of the website and have sought users' views on possible future enhancements through the user engagement exercise launched in November 2014.</p>
<p>14. Provide guidance about the uses and purposes of the various statistics available about crime based on police data, and explain the distinct purpose of ONS statistics based on police recorded crime data.</p>	<p>ONS have published further information on the published sources of police recorded crime in section 3.7 of the User Guide to Crime Statistics for England and Wales alongside the quarterly crime statistics release on 17 July 2014.</p>

<p>15. Ensure that pre-release access for Crime is only granted where absolutely necessary.</p>	<p>The ONS has carried out a corporate review to minimise pre-release access. As a result there has been a substantial reduction in the number of people granted pre-release access to ONS crime statistics with effect from the quarterly crime statistics bulletin published on 17 July 2014.</p>
<p>16. Add the Homicide Index dataset to the Statement of Administrative Sources and include in the Statement information about the arrangements for auditing the quality of all the administrative data used to produce statistics about crime.</p>	<p>ONS has made arrangements for the Homicide Index dataset to be added to the Statement of Administrative Sources. The update will take effect when the Statement of Administrative Sources is updated again in September 2014.</p> <p>The second part of the requirement will be addressed through work being carried out on requirement 4.</p>

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**Update on the coverage of fraud in official statistics****Purpose**

1. The paper provides an update on work undertaken by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to explore the feasibility of including administrative data on fraud collected by industry bodies in the police recorded crime series in published official statistics.

Action

2. Crime Statistics Advisory Committee members are asked to:
 - note the progress made and the proposed next steps for this work.

Background

3. In response to recommendations of the National Statistician, and guided by advice from CSAC, ONS have made a number of changes to the coverage and presentation of published administrative statistics on fraud.
4. One such change has been the inclusion of administrative data on fraud gathered by two industry bodies; CIFAS (a cross-sector, not-for-profit membership association aiming to prevent fraud) and from Financial Fraud Action UK (FFA UK - a body which co-ordinates activity on fraud prevention within UK financial services industry). Statistics provided by these industry bodies are not currently included in the police recorded crime data, but are presented separately as a table within the 'Fraud' section of each quarterly statistical bulletin (see Annex 1).
5. Data for both sources are collated by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB), a government-funded initiative run by the City of London Police. In that sense, fraud from both sources is reported to the police through the NFIB. The NFIB analyses the fraud offences they record to identify positive investigative opportunities (for example, where they identify a series of similar offences that are likely be linked). Where there is a viable investigative lead, they will either pursue this lead themselves or refer the case to local police forces and other investigative agencies to follow up.
6. Representations were made by one of the industry bodies supplying data requesting that ONS reviews the status of these figures in the published statistics, with a view to including them as part of the police recorded crime series. ONS have previously sought advice from the Committee on this question (see [paper CSAC\(14\)11](#) presented at the October 2014 meeting) and it was agreed that ONS would carry out work to explore the feasibility of changing the presentation of fraud data, and that the first stage of that work should include discussions with CIFAS over the quality of its data.

CIFAS data quality

7. Members of crime statistics teams in both ONS and the Home Office met with CIFAS to gather more information on the quality of their data. A list of areas to address (based on the UK Statistics Authority's [recent report](#) on Quality assurance and audit arrangements for administrative data) was drawn up in advance of the meeting. The areas covered included:
 - Scope and coverage of CIFAS fraud data
 - Methods of data collection
 - Communication with CIFAS members (as data suppliers)
 - Regular quality assurance processes
 - Risk of duplication / double counting across different data suppliers
 - CIFAS expertise in interpreting trends
 - Internal and external audit of CIFAS data
8. Overall, CIFAS were able to provide a good level of reassurance on the quality of their data, and the systems and processes in place for regular quality assurance. There were some specific areas where ONS have requested further information. Firstly, on the risk of double counting of fraud data (between CIFAS and Action Fraud, and between CIFAS and FFA UK). CIFAS acknowledge that there is likely to be some double-counting, but believe that it is limited. They are currently conducting work to explore the scale of double counting and have agreed to share this with ONS. The second area where some further information is required is the scope for detailed and regular external audit of CIFAS data. While CIFAS data are already subject to regular internal audit and are open to the suggestion of future external audit, the specific arrangements for are still to be discussed. Additionally, the impact on the statistics of changes CIFAS membership over time, both past and future, needs some further exploration.
9. On the basis of the information reviewed so far ONS are satisfied that CIFAS data appear to be of a good quality. Subject to further re-assurance in the areas outlined above, and some additional work to improve our understanding of the stability and continuity of the CIFAS data over time, we are minded to include them in the published official statistics as part of the police recorded crime series.

**Crime Statistics and Analysis Team
Office for National Statistics
February 2015**

Annex 1: Published table of fraud offences from CIFAS and FFA UK

Table 22: Fraud offences, reported by industry bodies to NFIB, 2013/14^{1,2,3}

United Kingdom			Numbers
Fraud Type ⁴	CIFAS	FFA UK	Total
Banking and credit industry fraud	181,737	100,462	282,199
<i>Cheque, Plastic Card and Online Bank Accounts (not PSP)</i> ⁵	121,565	100,462	222,027
<i>Application Fraud (excluding Mortgages)</i>	55,525	0	55,525
<i>Mortgage Related Fraud</i>	4,647	0	4,647
Insurance Related Fraud	9,484	0	9,484
Telecom Industry Fraud (Misuse of Contracts) ⁶	41,862	0	41,862
Business Trading Fraud	97	0	97
Fraudulent Applications for Grants from Charities	30	0	30
Total	233,210	100,462	333,672

1. Source: National Fraud Intelligence Bureau⁷

2. Fraud data are not designated as National Statistics.

3. From 2012/13, this table presents fraud data collated by NFIB from CIFAS and Financial Fraud Action UK (FFA UK) only and does not include fraud offences recorded by Action Fraud, which are now represented alongside police recorded crime. Data presented here are therefore not comparable with past published NFIB figures.

4. For an explanation and examples of fraud offences within each category, see Section 5.4 of the [User Guide](#).

5. A PSP is a payment service provider (for example Paypal, World Pay) that is not a bank, dealing in electronic money transfers. Fraud offences perpetrated using PSPs fall under 'Online shopping and auctions' (not collected by industry bodies).

6. The CIFAS Telecom Industry Fraud figure is substantially higher than that seen in the year ending September 2013 bulletin.

This is due to a correction of an error that was caused by the NFIB system not correctly picking up certain CIFAS fraud types.

7. For more information on the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau see <http://www.nfib.police.uk/>

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Update from the CSAC Awayday 4 November 2014

Purpose

1. This paper provides Crime Statistics Advisory Committee members with an update on the key points from the CSAC awayday held on 4 November 2014.

Action

2. Members are requested to note the following information:
 - a note on progress from key points raised at the awayday – annex 1;
 - the letter sent from the Chair to the National Statistician – annex 2;
 - an update on the actions from the awayday – annex 3;

Background

3. The Crime Statistics Advisory Committee held its annual awayday on 4 November 2014.
4. Key points recorded on the day have already been circulated to members for further consideration. No further comments were received. Annex 1 provides an update relating to those key points.
5. One of the key actions from the day was for the Chair to write to the National Statistician setting out the proposals from the workshop, see annex 2.
6. An update on the actions from the day is included in annex 3.

CSAC Secretariat
February 2014

Update on the key points raised at the CSAC awayday – Nov 2014

Role/scope of the Committee	
The Committee needs to consult more widely. For example, how to better serve the needs of victims.	<i>The Chair has proposed that additional engagement networks are set up with groups such as victim support. A paper on progress will be discussed at the next CSAC meeting in May 2015.</i>
The Committee needs to consider how it can position itself to advise more effectively in terms of the policy agenda.	<i>The Committee is planning to hold an awayday in spring 2015. How CSAC can be more effective in providing advice in relation to policy will be a topic for that event.</i>
The Committee should widen its scope relating to reoffending statistics, working more closely with the Ministry of Justice.	<i>A paper on this topic will be commissioned for the next CSAC meeting in May 2015.</i>
The Committee should be more visionary and partake in more horizon scanning.	<i>The Committee is planning to hold a follow up awayday in spring 2015, a horizon scanning session will be included in the agenda.</i>
A work programme needs to be developed that addresses both the short, medium and longer term priorities	<i>A more detailed work programme will be developed using the outcomes from the awayday and future priorities highlighted in the last CSAC Annual Report. This will be presented to the Committee in May 2015.</i>
Encourage more non-executive members to lead on specific topics. This includes reports and establishing working groups.	<i>There are examples of non-executive members presenting papers at past meetings. E.g. Allan Brimicombe work relating to Domestic Abuse. The Chair will continue to identify and encourage non-executive members to contribute to future meetings. In addition task and finish groups have been established to report back on specific topics. These are chaired by non-executive members.</i>
Bring in more people with expert views such as users including journalists.	<i>It has been suggested that the awayday would be an appropriate opportunity to engage wider with, for example, journalists.</i>
Engage with members from other bodies.	<i>The Chair currently attends on an annual basis the APCC conference. In addition it is planned to consider a session at the British Criminology conference and European Criminology conference. Research on possible engagement with key overseas stakeholders will be carried out.</i>

Skills	
Non-executive members need a clear understanding of what is expected of them. There needs to a review of the Committee's Code of Conduct.	<i>CSAC Secretariat will carry out a review of the Code of conduct and report back to CSAC in May 2015.</i>
There should be a more formal structure for induction for non executives following recruitment.	<i>It is acknowledged that currently there is no formal procedure for induction. It is planned that prior to the CSAC meeting in May 2015 the chair will conduct a session for any new members that have joined in the past year. This will formulate the start of an on-going process for the induction of new members.</i>
Should the role profile/job description for members be made clearer	<i>The job profile is reviewed prior to any recruitment of non-executive members. The last revision was made in November 2014.</i>
To ensure that members are able to be more focused and spend more time on committee issues should the non-executive posts be remunerated?	<i>This will continued to be giving consideration as the Committee develops.</i>
Communications	
The committee seems to have a low profile, was this a conscious decision? How can the committee raise its profile?	<i>There has never been a decision taken that the Committee should maintain a low profile. Members will be encouraged, through future changes to role specification, to promote the Committee. The Chair will also take every opportunity to promote the Committee.</i>
The Chair should consider releasing press releases to coincide with key releases for which the Committee has provided advice	<i>The Chair has already initiated this by releasing a note supporting the HMIC CDI report. Other opportunities to do this will be actively sought.</i>
Develop a network of key stakeholders for the chair to engage with to raise the profile.	<i>The Chair already engages with a number of key stakeholders. This action is on-going.</i>
Role of the Chair	
The Chair needs to ensure that members have an opportunity to add items to meeting agendas	<i>The agenda for meetings is circulated to members for comment prior to it being finalised. This is ongoing</i>
Role of the Secretariat	
The Secretariat would benefit from additional resource specifically with crime statistics expertise.	<i>This is under further consideration.</i>
The secretariat could provide a forward look prior to meetings of topical issues to aid discussions/decisions	<i>The Chair regularly discusses with the secretariat emerging issues relevant to the committee for inclusion at meetings and awaydays.</i>



John Pullinger
National Statistician
UK Statistics Authority
1 Drummond Gate
London SW1V 2QQ

Dear John,

Crime Statistics Advisory Committee

The Crime Statistics Advisory Committee held its annual workshop on 4 November 2014. A note of the proceedings will be published shortly on the Committee's pages of the UK Statistics Authority website.

The main focus of the workshop was a self review prompted by the remarks made about the Committee by the Public Administration Select Committee in its report *Caught red-handed: Why we can't count on Police Recorded Crime Statistics* which was published earlier this year. Members rejected the assertion that the committee had failed but acknowledged that there was scope for improvement in its strategic direction and operation.

In particular, members resolved to take a strategic view of: (1) the overall crime statistics landscape to include all organisations which maintain information about crime; (2) the totality of crime and incident data; and (3) the underpinning standards that inform crime and incident data collection. The Committee agreed that it was important for it to be aware of the costs and benefits of different approaches in order for its advice to be authoritative as possible.

From the outcomes of the day it was clear that to become more effective the Committee also needs to:

- Be more proactive and develop a longer term vision through horizon scanning. This will enable the Committee to be more focused on emerging issues and provide more timely advice;
- Develop a clearer understanding of the impact of recent reviews of crime statistics. The Committee will remit this work to a task and finish group to report in spring 2015;
- Raise its profile. For example, the Chair will in future, on behalf of the Committee, issue press releases to coincide with key publications relating to crime;
- Review its terms of reference, membership and mechanisms of engagement.

The Committee decided to hold a follow up workshop in spring 2015 to evaluate progress, including the recommendations from the task and finish group.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Shute'.

Stephen Shute

Actions from the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee Workshop

Action 1:

Formation of a task and finish group who will:-

- Carry out a review to develop a clearer understanding of the impact of recent reviews of crime statistics;

The group will present final outcomes and recommendations to the Committee at a workshop planned for spring 2015.

Update: A task and finish group has been formed and it held an inaugural meeting in January 2015. A first progress report is included on the agenda for the CSAC meeting on 11 February 2015.

Action 2:

The Chair to write to the National Statistician setting out high levels proposals for progress following the discussions at the workshop. This will be followed up by a more detailed proposal for the future of the Committee in spring 2015.

Actioned: The Chair wrote to the National Statistician in November 2014, see annex 2.

Action 3:

CSAC Secretariat to further consider comments from the workshop relating to the Committee's terms of reference, membership and mechanisms of engagement, reporting back at the workshop in spring 2015.

Update: CSAC Secretariat will carry out a review of ToRs, membership and mechanisms of engagement and report back to CSAC at its awayday in spring 2015.

Action 4:

The Chair to raise the profile of the Committee through more media engagement. It was agreed that this would begin with the issuing of a press release to coincide with the release of the HMIC's Crime Data Integrity Inspection Report in November 2014.

Update: The Chair issued a press release to coincide with the release of HMIC's Crime Data Integrity Report. Further opportunities to raise the Committees profile will be sought.

Action 5:

The Chair to write to the Chief Executive of the National College of Policing to support the improved training for Force Crime Registrars.

Update: The Chair will write to the Chief Executive before the end of February 2015.

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**Review of recommendations from past Crime Statistics Reports Task and Finish Group – Update****Purpose**

1. This paper provides Crime Statistics Advisory Committee members with an update on the Review of recommendations from past Crime Statistics Reports Task and Finish Group.

Action

2. Crime Statistics Advisory Committee members are asked to note:
 - the note of the task and finish group's' inaugural meeting;
 - provide any comments on the current proposals.

Background

3. At the CSAC awayday on 4 November it was agreed that in order to get a better understanding of the future direction for crime statistics it would be beneficial to review recommendations from past Crime Statistics Reviews/Reports to establish if there were any recommendations that have not been progressed effectively. It was agreed that a task and finish group be commissioned to oversee this task.
4. Following agreement by the Chair the Review of recommendations from past Crime Statistics Reports Task and Finish Group was formed and held its inaugural meeting on 22 January 2015. See annex 1 for a note and actions from the meeting.
5. The group will provide written updates to the Committee in the next few months, providing a final report at the CSAC awayday in spring 2015.



Crime Statistics Advisory Committee

Review of recommendations from past Crime Statistics Reports Task and Finish Group

Thursday 22 January 2015, 14:00 – 15:00

Members present:

Steve Ellard Elliot
John Flatley
Fiona Glen
Pat Mayhew

Apologies:

Chris Lewis - Chair

1. Scope of the review

- 1.1. Members discussed the scope of the review agreeing that when looking at the recommendations that have already been completed it would be beneficial to consider if the outcomes had been successful. It was agreed that quality should also be considered where possible.
- 1.2. It was agreed that it will be important to have an overall view of all the recommendations and that it would be helpful to group recommendations together by Theme to make this easier.
- 1.3. It was noted that the initial work will be carried out by a member of the crime statistics team in ONS.

2. Information to be reviewed

- 2.1. It was agreed that the recent HIMC inspection report and the assessment of Police Recorded Crime would not be included although it was noted that it would be important to link any outstanding recommendations with the recommendations of both those reports.
- 2.2. Members considered the proposed documents to be included and agreed that "Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime" by Louise Casey should be added into the scope of the review.
- 2.3. As such the agreed reviews to be included are:
 - A Review of Crime Statistics: A discussion document - Jon Simmons, July 2000

- Statistics Commission Report No 30: Crime Statistics, User Perspective - Sept 2006
- Crime Statistics: An Independent Review - Home Office, Nov 2006
- Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime - Louise Casey, June 2008
- Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics: England and Wales - UK Statistics Authority, May 2010
- National Statistician's Review of Crime Statistics for England and Wales - June 2011.

3. Next steps

- 3.1. Members agreed that although the initial work to list the recommendations should be done by the crime statistics team in ONS, the in depth reading of the reviews would be shared by TFG members. It was agreed that the reviews would be allocated to members by John Flatley and agreed by the TFG Chair.
- 3.2. In order to allow time for the list of recommendations to be compiled it was agreed that the next meeting of the TFG will take place in the week beginning 23 February. In addition a short update on the groups' plans would be given at the next CSAC meeting on 11 February 2015.

CSAC Secretariat
Jan 2015

Actions

1. Resource to carry out the initial work of the review to be allocated within the ONS Crime Statistics team.
2. John Flatley to allocate the in depth reading of the reviews to TFG members, with final agreement by the Chair
3. The next meeting of the TFG to be arranged for week beginning 23 Feb 2015.
4. An update on the TFG will be provided at the next CSAC meeting on 11 February 2015.

CRIME STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**National Crime Registrar's Report****Purpose**

1. This paper is the regular report to the Crime Statistics Advisory Committee from the National Crime Registrar. In accordance with the Committee's terms of reference, these reports are intended to either outline any proposed changes to the Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR) in detail or, where there is no need to do so, to advise accordingly.

Action

2. Crime Statistics Advisory Committee members are invited to note the contents of this report

Background

3. As set out in the Committee's terms of reference, the National Crime Registrar (NCR) has delegated authority to determine, as an ex officio member, whether changes proposed to the HOCR or the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) require referral to it for consideration prior to implementation.

Crime Recording Strategic Steering Group

4. The National Crime Recording Strategic Steering group (NCRSSG) has met twice since the last meeting of the committee, in October 2014. These meetings were principally held to consider the responses to a number of the national recommendations made by HMIC in their Crime Data Integrity thematic report published in November 2014. Following those meetings a revised National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) has been developed. The committee had sight of that draft prior to this meeting and endorsed the proposal. At the time of writing the revised NCRS is awaiting clearance by Ministers however forces have been made aware of the content to allow them to consider any actions they may need to take. The Home Office media unit is considering options on plans to publicise the new NCRS.
5. As set out in my report to the committee's previous meeting in October 2014 the NCRSSG also has the oversight lead of Home Office actions in relation to the ONS re-designation project some of which may continue after re-assessment. Since the last meeting of this committee whilst the NCRSSG has had to focus on the work to revise NCRS and respond to HMIC recommendations it has continued to monitor the re-designation work and to report back to the ONS re-designation project board.

Revisions to the Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR)

6. The committee has previously endorsed proposals to make revisions to the HOCR in respect of:

- New classification for Modern Slavery;
- Disaggregation of “No Crimes” data;
- Vision Statement for Crime Recording;

all of which have now been agreed by Ministers and will be incorporated in the HOCR to be published in April.

Domestic Abuse Data

7. In my report to the committee on 3rd October 2014 I set out plans for improvements to the data available on crimes and incidents related to domestic abuse. Ministers have now endorsed these plans and from April 2015 two “flags” will be introduced to identify recorded crimes where DA is a factor. The first flag will apply to all such crimes. The second, additional, flag will apply to any crime where the victim has previously been recorded as a victim of domestic abuse in the preceding rolling twelve month period.

8. Additionally a collection of recorded incidents of domestic abuse will be implemented, based on a monthly count. Forces have been consulted on the options and practicalities of identifying incidents with repeat victims. It was apparent that reaching a nationally effective solution in time for a data collection in April of this year presented some challenges. Home Office officials will continue to work with forces over the coming year to assess options to deliver a repeat incidents data set.

HOCR for 2015

9. Following the publication of the revised NCRS there will be a need to review the entire HOCR to ensure that all appropriate references to the NCRS provisions are incorporated. This opportunity will also be used, as far as possible in the time available, to improve the readability and usability of the document.

Steve Bond
National Crime Registrar
February 2015