

Child Exploitation Police METT & Willow Team

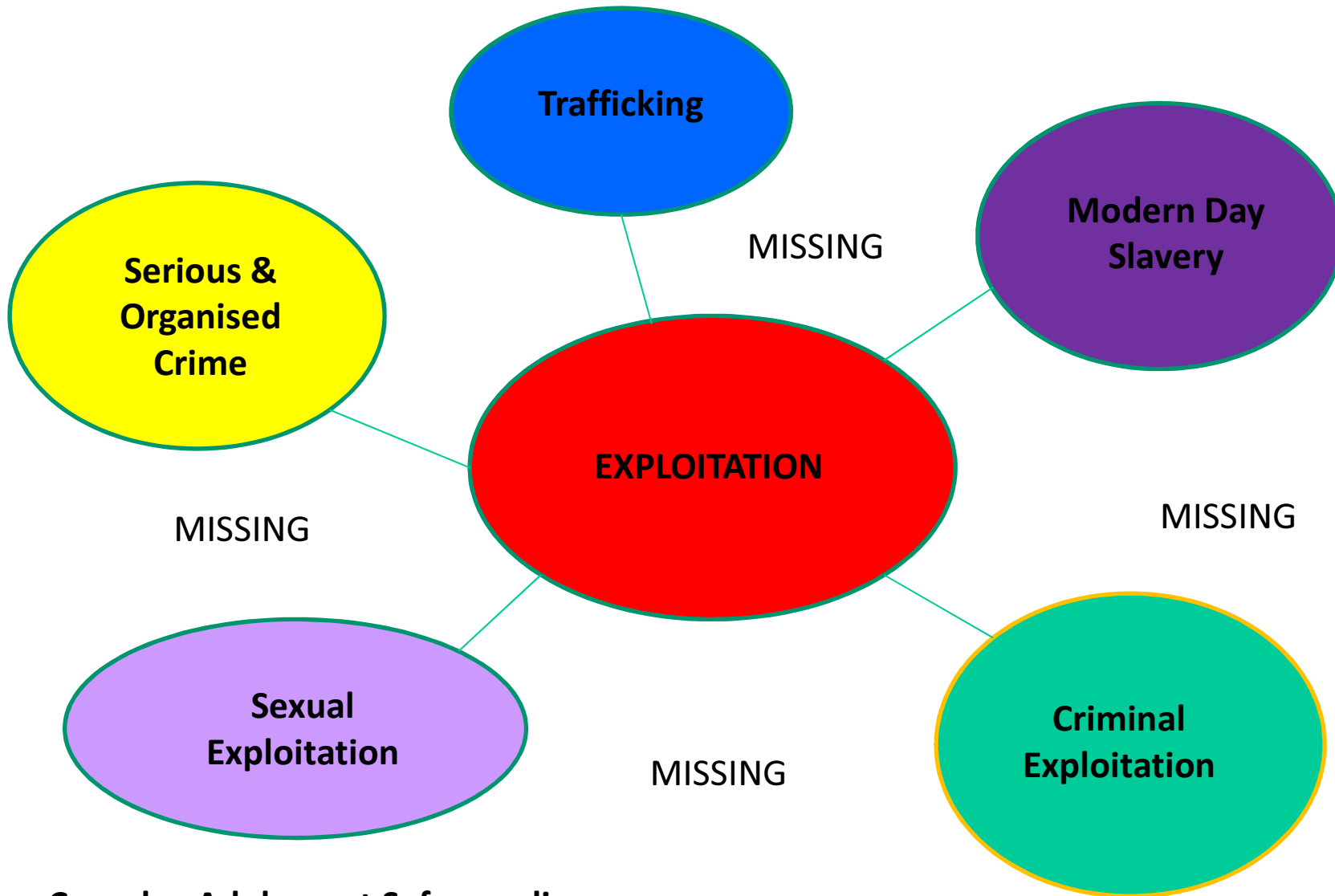


Long Term Impacts of Child Exploitation

- Distorted sexual boundaries
- Poor ability to sustain positive relationships
- Mental health problems including:
 - Anxiety ~ Depression ~ Self Harm ~ PTSD ~ Suicide
- Teen Pregnancy
- Poor parenting – Care System – Removal
- Drug and alcohol dependency
- Failure to secure work – Education - ASB
- Poor physical health Including STIs - Prostitution
- Wider family issues
- Unstable relationships – separations & divorce – Domestic Violence
- Next generation of issues

Hampshire Response to MET

- Higher emphasis on children at risk from Missing, Exploitation, Trafficking
- Strategic MET response headed through LSCB
- Willow Team /MET Police Team - Multi agency response
- Operational MET – identifies children at risk attended by key agencies

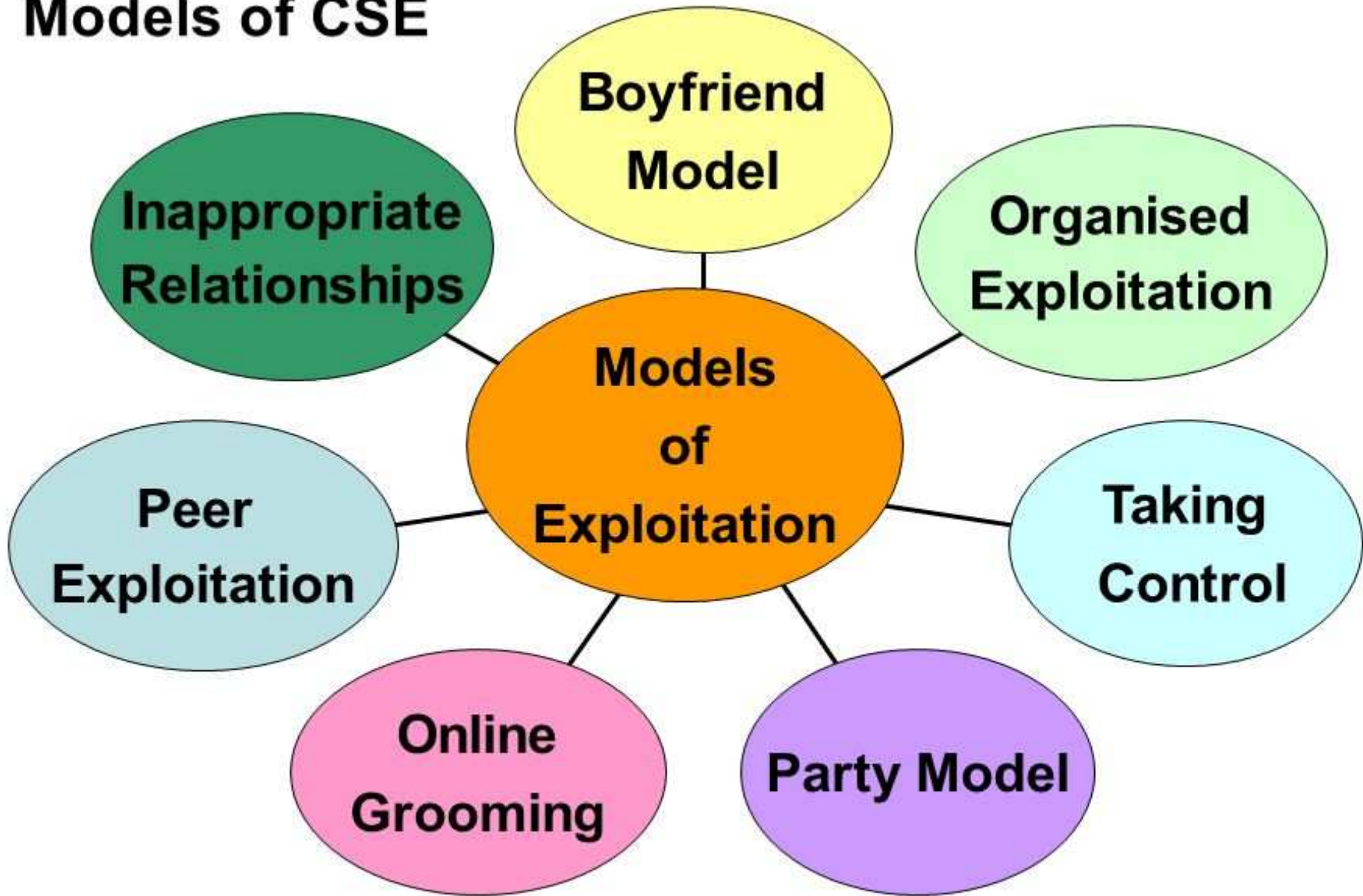


Complex Adolescent Safeguarding

Small Minority - Large Impact

- MET say that there are 250 active gangs in London and about 25% of them are responsible for 66% of all gang related crime (age group 18-24)
- Almost 50% of shootings, 22% of serious youth violence, 16% of drugs trade and 14% of rapes in London is thought to be committed by people linked with gangs.
- 27% increase in children being arrested for drug dealing 2017-2018

Models of CSE



SE – Regional Organised Crime Unit

- Individuals not gangs pose biggest threat
- Victims - mostly white British females aged 15
- Offenders – commonly white British male aged 18
- Online abuse is biggest thematic threat in the region
- Notable demographic & social characteristics linked to CSE are teen pregnancy, CIN, Youth Crime
- Threats to tackling CSE – Poor information sharing, lack of partner working, not seeing children as children, Poor data handling & storing
- Key vulnerabilities – Emotional, LD, Drugs, Missing, MH

Serious & Organised Crime - SOC

- 2014 - Cost to UK – 24 Billion
- 2015 – 50,000 individuals involved with 6,000 Groups identified
- 2016 – National Threat

National Strategic Assessment of Serious & Organised Crime, which identifies the five key threats as;

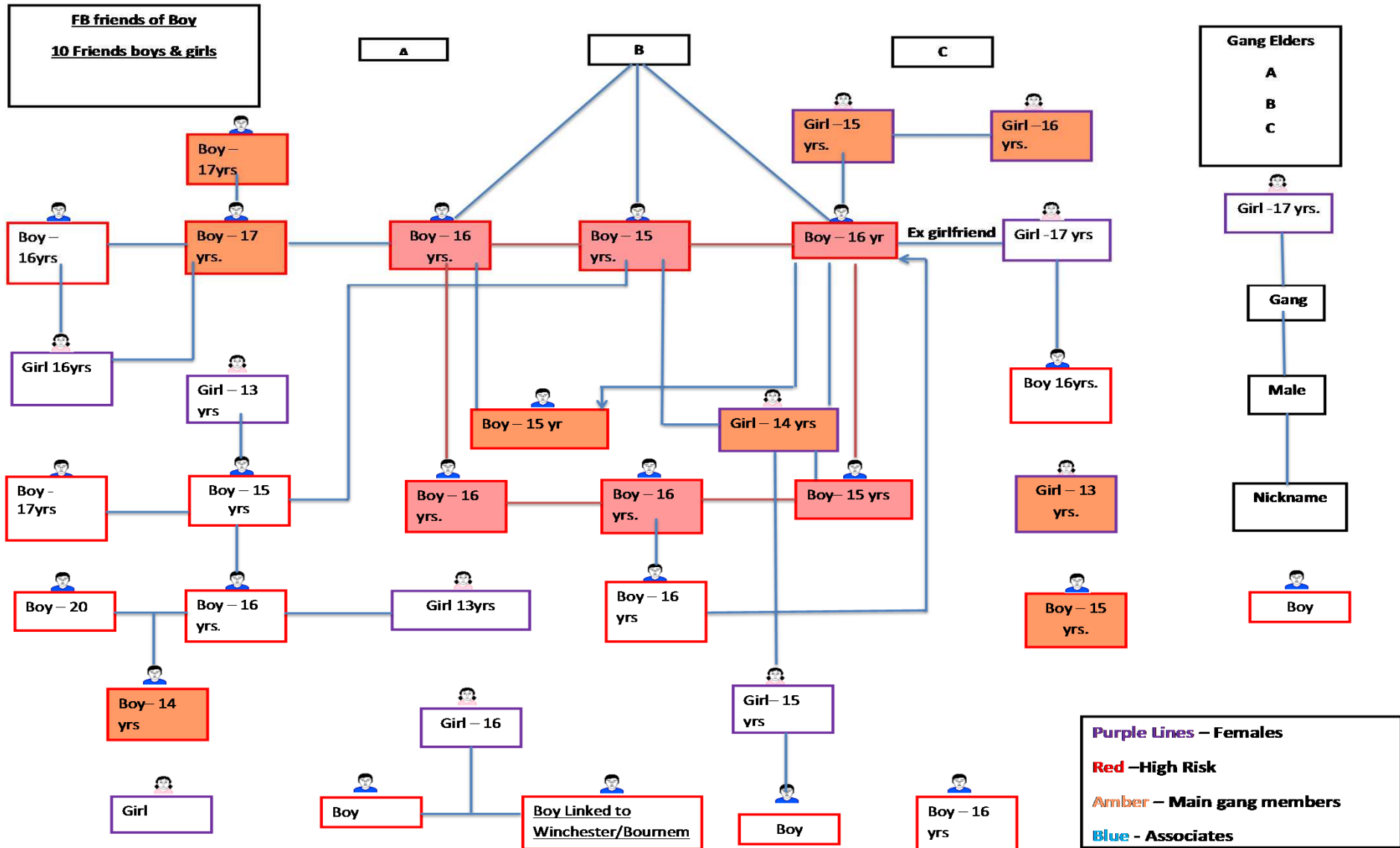
- **Child sexual exploitation and abuse**
 - **Organised Immigration crime**
 - **Cybercrime**
 - **Firearms**
 - **High-end money laundering**
- 3 times as many OCGs impact on Hampshire as we have within Hampshire

County lines

- It is a business model for organised criminal gangs
- Expanding their drug selling market
- Target vulnerable children/ adults, enticing them with money, drugs, alcohol, friendship and 'standing'
- Use them as drug mules to move drugs and money from local areas back to inner cities and vice versa
- They then entrap the young person, usually by robbing them of their 'takings', creating long term debt that's never repaid
- National issue but Hampshire is not immune due to its geography /proximity to large cities

Operation A/B

- North of the County
- 6 key 'nominals'
- London based County Lines activity
- At least 5 separate gangs involved
- Class A, B, C drugs
- Mixture of CSE – CCE – internal Trafficking
- Males 'loading' in London and dealing in Bristol
- 'Top of Town'
- Operation over 2 years
- All children had Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) – seemed to have clear links – developing a model of early intervention with the Police



CSD/Police – Safeguarding Approach

- All children in **Red Risk** as S47 CP investigation
 - Willow - Police - ICTA
- **Amber Risk** children being monitored by a professional
- **Green Risk** children – At risk from Grooming By Amber & Red Children
- All children likely to have been trafficked – NRM Process

Operation C

- West of Hampshire
- 4 key nominals
- London based County Lines – some from West Country
- At least 4 separate gangs
- Class A, B, C drugs
- Mixture of CSE / CCE and internal Trafficking
- Males dealing locally
- 6 months operation
- All children had 'ACE's – seemed to have clear links with each other

Operation D

- South East Hampshire
- Girls identified at risk up to 2 years ago
- Rape of 3 girls – given drink & drugs
- First major CSE related investigation
- Set scene for RAG rating children
- Strong multi agency working
- Links to one local area
- Links to fast food outlets
- Targeted disruption – Housing, schools, police, CSD, Licensing, Border Force

Multi Agency Partnership & Oversight

- Continue to have issues with Red/Amber Risk children – Long Haul Risk & Interventions
 - Continued Criminality
 - NRM Process
 - Accommodation
 - Displacing the ‘problem’
 - Multi agency meetings are on going
 - Red Risk children have not ended their behaviours
 - Hotspots across North remain key
 - All agencies better aware and able to manage the risk

Looking Ahead

- These children very hard to engage
- Takes Months to establish a trusted Relationship
- Need to tackle 'Social Context' issues
- Need to consider removal of Children/Legal Discussions
- Risk to managing Human Intelligence
- Better work with schools in hotspot areas

Emerging/Continuing Issues

- Drug dealing in schools across the County is an emerging issue
- Further gang penetration into Hampshire
- Further violence – Weapon use – DRH – Murders
- Cuckooing – Vulnerable adults
- Transition cases
- Large scale organised Exploitation
- Drug dealing across train lines and transient dealers
- School exclusions and targeting of PRUs
- Complex Adolescent Safeguarding





Detective Inspector Ross Toms
County lines *(From a Hampshire Police officers perspective)*

February 2018

Introduction

- Synopsis/ Key points of the county lines problem
- Journey of county lines in Hampshire
- The commodity (crack cocaine, heroin)
- Motivation
- Key features (Phones, travel, violence, targeting the vulnerable)
- Exploitation of children
- What you can do

Synopsis

- Crack cocaine and heroin street supply into another County
- From an “Urban Hub” (eg London, Liverpool, Manchester)
- Pay as you go mobile phone with a brand name
- The use of Hire cars and Railways
- Aggravating features (Cuckoo nesting vulnerable adults, Child exploitation, Violence and weapons)

18 year Journey

- Gosport drug squad 2002 (YD)
- Aldershot and Farnborough priority crime unit 2007-2009 (Insurgents)
- Serious and organised crime unit 2009-2013 (Transients)
- Intelligence department 2013-2017 (County lines)
- Missing, exploited, trafficked team 2017-present

Motivation

- This is a lucrative business, the criminal intent is not perversion or cruelty of the vulnerable.
- This is about money, bling and status
- The dealers are often (victims of society) who have limited access to role models
- The Crack cocaine and heroin supply trade is perhaps the most lucrative criminal enterprise.
- A kilo of heroin costs £40,000, breaking it down into 10,000 street deals of £10 can make you £100,000- however this does not include cutting the purity with agents.

Commodity

- It is generally not Cannabis supply
- It is generally not MDMA or other party drugs
- It is generally not powder cocaine.
- It is generally not other crime types, albeit the aggravating features of the MO often bring charges of Murder, assault, Sexual assault, Money laundering, MDS act

Crack cocaine

- Crystallised powder cocaine that is washed up or cooked with baking soda
- Highly addictive. Its smoked not snorted and reaches brain fast
- Extreme high lasting 20 mins. (Falling off a cliff, pulling out in front of a junction)
- Small white (candle wax) rocks less than the size of a 5p piece, often with a yellow tint.
- Often called white, rock.
- Deals are often buy 2 for 3, and a rock is approximately £10 or £20

Heroin

- From opium poppies in the Afghanistan, Pakistan region
- Brown, sandy in colour. It can be white.
- A small bag less than the size of a 5 piece is £10.
- It's a “downer”, lasts 4 hours and gives a fuzzy sensation (Mothers womb/ wrapped up in a duvet).
- Highly addictive, smoked or injected.
- Users often offset heroin against crack (one of each)

The deal phone

- Named after the deal network
- Often based in the hub, it acts as a call centre between the user and the runner.
- Pay as you go
- Group/ bulk texts in “slang”
- Often recycled
- One phone can facilitate a the daily business worth £3,000 a day

Hire cars/ Trains

- Discreet hire cars from legitimate companies
- Often rack up thousands of miles
- The use of back street lease companies provide layers of smoke screen
- Trains are popular

Child exploitation

- Generally from the London estates
- Cheaper labour
- Influenced by lifestyle and material assets
- Starts off friendly, then can turn into a debt bond
- Sending them back with this bond is a risk
- A small percentage in Hampshire use children (7 out of 56)
- The impact on local children is generally low

Cuckooing

- A flat/house as a base often only for hours but can last days.
- Vulnerable user
- This is Home invasion- addicts, dogs, sexual acts
- Balance between MDA act- allowing premises to be used and treating them as a victim.

Violence/ Weapons

- Boiling water, acid, irons, stabbings, sometimes the use or threat of firearms.
- Readable access to firearms
- Turf wars are rare in the counties

Definition of Child Criminal Exploitation [CCE]

- *Child Criminal Exploitation occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into any criminal activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or (c) through violence or threat of violence. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child Criminal Exploitation does not always involve physical contact, it can occur through the use of technology.*

Other child exploitation

- Bulk shoplifting
- Burglary
- Car washes
- Take away shops

What you can do

- 5 Key areas of intelligence
- Criminality
- Associations
- Mode of transport
- Telephone numbers
- Addresses

Community partnership form

- Found at; Safe4me.co.uk
- Resources
- Initiatives tab
- Download form

Rationale

- Protection of sources/ Informants
- Should be dynamic and a 24/7 function
- Auditable
- Accuracy
- Uploaded onto PND

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