



Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board

CVS Briefing

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Strategic Priorities 2018 - 2019

- Further promoting preventative and early help approaches
- Neglect
- Working with fathers
- Improving focus on the child's experience of services and better embedding it in practice
- Impact of DV on children



NHS
*Northumberland
Clinical Commissioning Group*


Northumberland
County Council

The Children and Social Work Act 2017

- introduced a new duty to be placed on three agencies,
- the Local Authority, the chief officer of Police and Clinical Commissioning Group
- referred to as Safeguarding Partners,

to make arrangements for the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area.

How this is taken forward in Northumberland is a matter for the Safeguarding Partners and the NSCB.

Safeguarding children arrangements

Working Together to Safeguard Children April 2018 states that to achieve the best possible outcomes, children and families need to receive targeted services to meet their needs in a coordinated way

In order to do this effectively, local agencies should develop processes that promote:

- the commissioning of services in a co-ordinated way; and
- co-operation and integration between universal services such as schools, GP practices, adult services, early years settings, youth services and colleges, **voluntary and community and specialist support services**
- All agencies need to **cooperate** in the local safeguarding arrangements, although the duty to **make** local arrangements rests with the three safeguarding partners'

Local Safeguarding Arrangements

The revised guidance allows for some flexibility regarding the geographic area covered by the arrangements and delegation of safeguarding partner duties:

- safeguarding arrangements can cover two or more local authorities provided there is agreement by the relevant safeguarding partners
- local authorities can choose to delegate safeguarding partner duties where safeguarding arrangements extend across more than one local authority area
- clinical commissioning groups and chief officers of police may also delegate their safeguarding partner duties

Published arrangements

Must include:

- the process for undertaking local practice learning reviews
- the arrangements for independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the arrangements
- who the three local safeguarding partners are, especially if the arrangements cover more than one local authority area including geographical boundaries
- the relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with, why these agencies are relevant and how they will work together to improve outcomes for children and families
- how all schools and other educational partners will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
- how any youth custody and residential homes for children will be included in the safeguarding arrangements
- how the safeguarding partners will use data to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help
- how the arrangements will be funded

Significant changes

Some of the more significant changes between the current arrangements and the new requirements include;

- flexibility over how independent scrutiny is built into the arrangements
- broadening of responsibility to three safeguarding partners
- local choice around which organisations should be included within the arrangements ('relevant agencies' selected from a national list of options rather than a defined list of LSCB members)
- agreed shared funding arrangements
- choice around geographic area and delegation of safeguarding partner responsibilities
- separation of the child death review function

The future

- NSCB has a proven track record of coordination and scrutiny of safeguarding arrangements and cooperation between the safeguarding partners and member organisations.
- Always looking to see how the Board can improve the way it delivers its functions.
- Safeguarding partners need to consider alternative models for safeguarding arrangements.
- This could include joining up some of the function either North of Tyne or across Tyne and Wear.
- Flexibility of the new legislation/statutory guidance will lead to a range of different options being adopted across the country.
- Early indications are that a significant proportion of areas will be retaining the existing arrangements or making minimal changes.

Proposed Model

**North of Tyne
Safeguarding Partners
Executive**

**Northumberland
Strategic
Safeguarding
Children Board**

**North Tyneside
Strategic
Safeguarding
Children Board**

**Newcastle
Strategic
Safeguarding
Children Board**

North of Tyne Joint Sub Committees
Sexual Exploitation, Policies and Procedures, Training, Domestic Abuse

Each area retains Sub Committees in the following
Serious Case Review, Audit, Data and Performance Management and Reference or Task and Finish Groups as required.

NSCB briefing

‘County Lines’

What is County Lines?

County lines is a term used by the police and other law enforcement agencies to describe an approach taken by some criminal groups within the UK to distribute drugs and conduct other criminal activities in other areas of the country.

The offenders often originate from large urban areas and use children and other vulnerable people to deliver drugs/ other illegal commodities to customers.

This often involves deception, intimidation, violence, debt bondage and/or grooming.

The proceeds of this criminality are returned to the large urban areas from which the criminality originates.

“The Line”

The County Lines model is linked by a marketed mobile phone line, known as the ‘line’

Traditionally the ‘line’ is kept away from the area where the drugs are sold and a relay system is used to contact those acting as dealers in the county location.

Gang members travel between the urban and county locations on a regular basis to deliver drugs and collect cash, both within and into Northumberland.

Exploiting Children and Vulnerable Adults

Typically children are exploited to deliver drugs from the urban location using intimidation, violence, debt bondage and/or grooming.

This is commonly conducted by the child or vulnerable adult using rail networks, taxis, hire vehicles or vehicles owned by vulnerable adults

Offenders and Organised Crime Groups 'recruit' and exploit children and teenagers to deal on their behalf in areas where there is little or no intelligence known about them to frustrate local police intelligence systems.

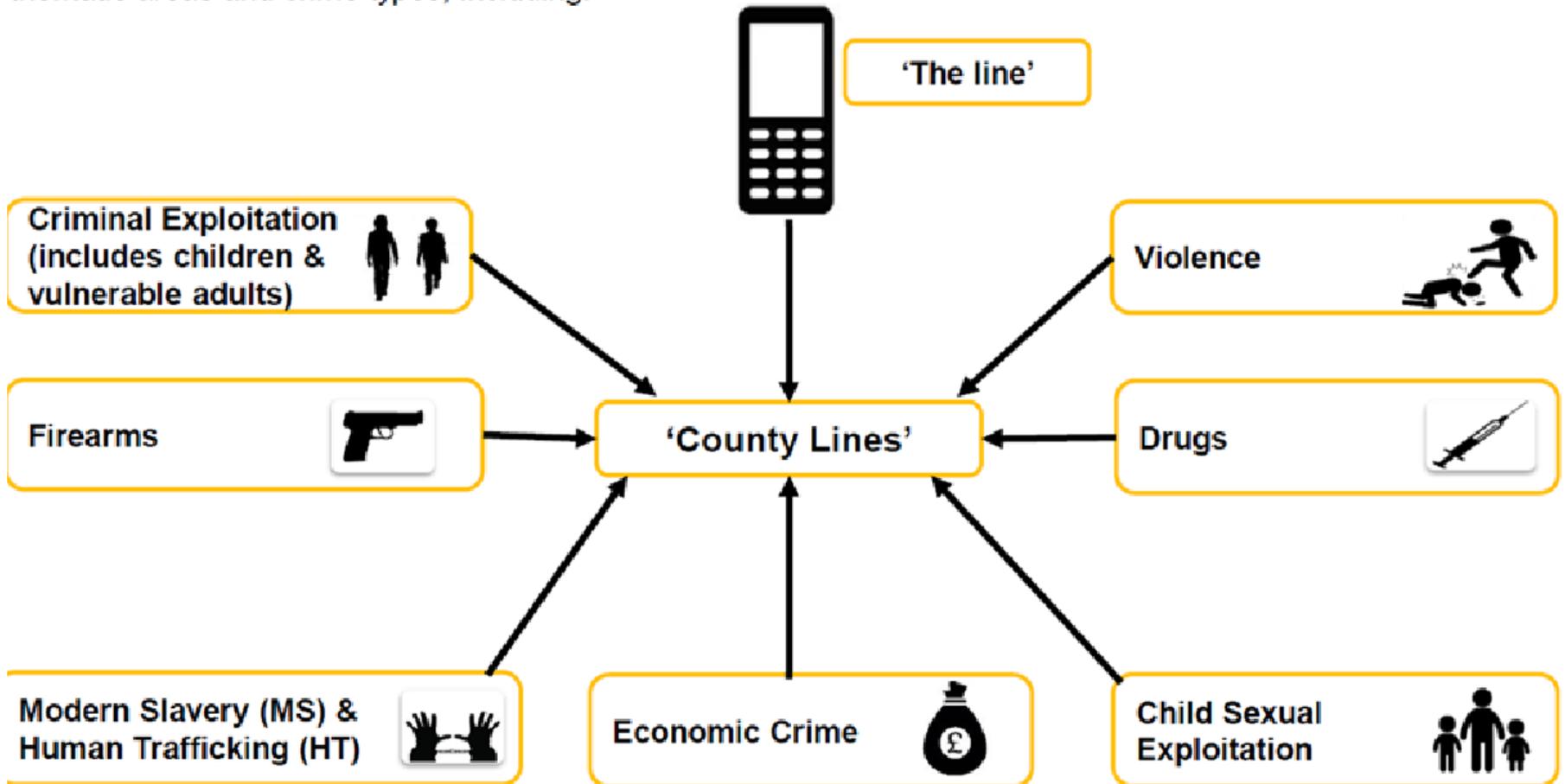
Children are seen as easily controlled and an inexpensive resource.

‘Cuckooing’

This is a term used to describe activity which often accompanies ‘County Lines’ offending. It involves a local property, generally occupied by a vulnerable person, being taken over by County Lines offenders and being used as a base for their activities. The use of the property is usually secured by force or coercion. This is known as **‘cuckooing’**.

Features of 'County Lines'

'County Lines' is not solely a drugs issue as it cross cuts a number of other thematic areas and crime types, including:



County Lines in Northumbria?

- Historically there has been no intelligence of ‘County lines’ activity in the Northumbria area. There are indications that this is changing and that this activity is becoming an issue.
- The accurate recognition and reporting of ‘County Lines’ is key to successfully combating this activity and protecting those affected by it.

What if I have concerns?

- Contact Northumbria Police by telephone on 101 or 999 in an emergency

- Email

forceintelligence@northumbria.pnn.police.uk

Thank you

