

Improving the Protection of Young People -A joined up Approach -

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Community Resilience / Building trusted Relationships



Children and vulnerable adults are being used by drug dealers across the country to courier drugs and money*

* This crime is known as county lines



Partnership Approach



Mandela8



LIVERPOOL'S ROYAL COURT



Liverpool 8 Cycle of Life



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Merseyside SOC Problem – Organised v Disorganised Crime

135 Active OCGs

1058 Active OCG members

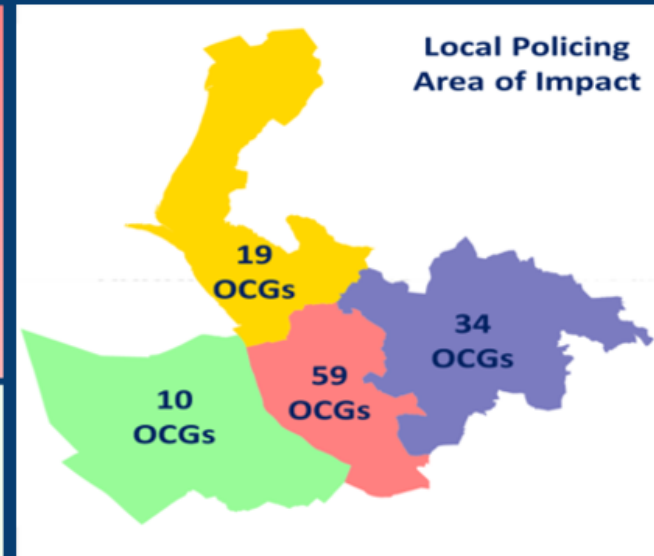
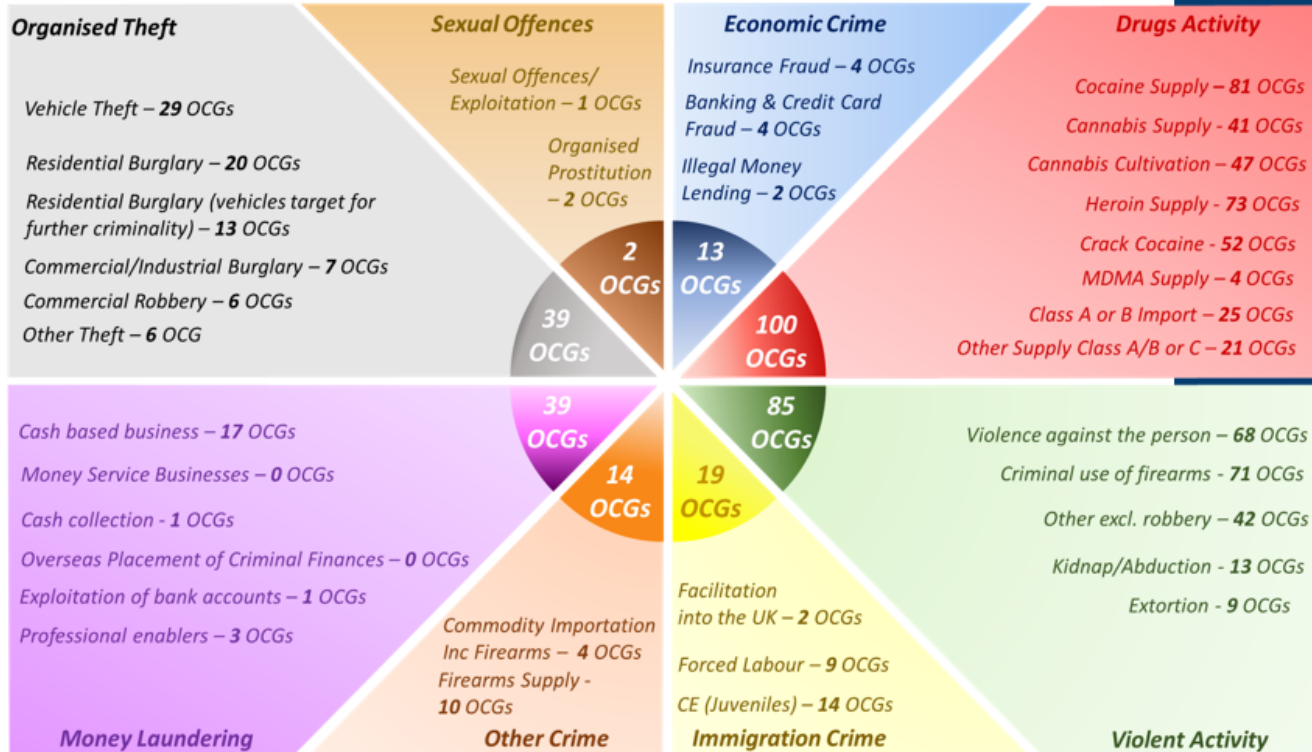
 1033 Male

 25 Female



Serious & Organised Crime Threat

Response	No. of OCG's
Tier 1	6
Tier 2	10
Tier 3	3
Tier 4	116
Total	135



Please note that the number of OCG's linked to a Crime Type does not reflect the total number of active groups. As groups within one crime type heading may be linked to more than one type of offence within, e.g. an OCG linked to Drug Activity may be linked to the supply of more than one commodity.

4P Plan or Clear Hold Build ?

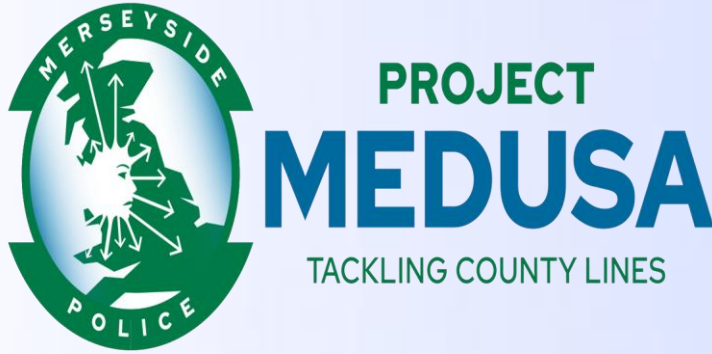
Successful 4P Plan?

Pursue
Prevent
Partners
Public

- We cannot do this alone”
- “We cannot arrest our way our of this”
- Break the cycle
- Individual/family/Community
- Trusted relationships
- Empowerment / Hope / Future



County Lines – Strategy

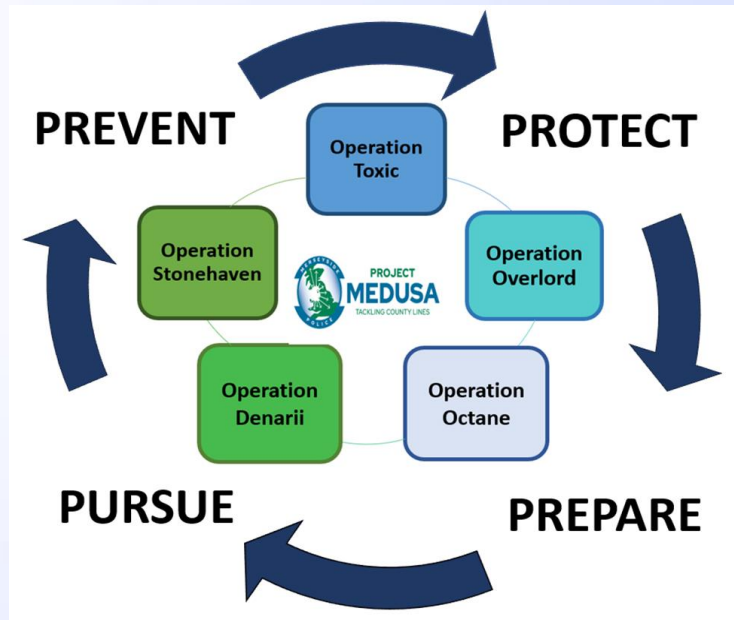


Merseyside Police have continued their successful approach to tackling county lines through Project Medusa which coordinates the activities 5 operations, from safeguarding to enforcement, and is built around a 4P plan:

- **Operation Toxic** – Investigating and targeting the Merseyside based controllers of county lines
- **Operation Overlord** – Targeting individuals using the transport networks to engage in county lines drugs supply
- **Operation Octane** – Targeting individuals who use the road networks to engage in county lines supply
- **Operation Denarii** – Targeting the illicit finances linked to county lines
- **Operation Stonehaven** – Safeguarding and Prevention response to intervene and divert young people and vulnerable adults away from county lines

The Merseyside 4P approach under Project Medusa consists of:


- **PURSUE** – Hard edged and relentless approach to target offenders linked to county lines drugs supply
- **PREVENT** – Ensuring suitable safeguarding is implemented for victims of county lines. Working with partner agencies and the 3rd sector to implement effective prevention, intervention and diversionary pathways out of county lines
- **PROTECT** – Raising awareness of county lines exploitation in High Harm Force areas and Merseyside, through partnership working with the Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership and the Eyes-Open campaign etc.
- **PREPARE** - Making best use of technology to develop intelligence and awareness of county lines within the community and partner agencies.



Results Which are more important ?

Between November 2020 and October 2022 Project Medusa has successfully:

- ❑ Closed 661 county lines;
- ❑ Charged and prosecuted 550 line holders with a 100% conviction rate;
- ❑ **Successfully achieved 9 evidence led prosecutions for modern slavery offences for county lines offenders**
- ❑ Worked in partnership with 22 other Forces;
- ❑ **Safeguarded 462 children and vulnerable adults;**
- ❑ Seized £1,495,272;
- ❑ Carried out 4,793 stop searches;
- ❑ Made 2,573 intelligence submissions;
- ❑ Seized just over 400 kilos of controlled drugs;
- ❑ Seized 11 firearms;
- ❑ Seized 200 knives and other weapons;
- ❑ **Worked in partnership with over 60 internal and external partners, charities and third sector bodies to identify, commission, coordinate and deliver appropriate intervention and diversion pathways to prevent young/vulnerable people being drawn into serious organised crime and county lines activity;**
- ❑ **Engaged with over 10,000 children and young people through a mixture of mass participation events, group work and one to one interventions**
- ❑ Made 1605 Project Medusa arrests

Op Toxic 661 County Lines Closed	Op Toxic 550 Line Holders Charged	Op Toxic 100% Conviction rate
462 children & vulnerable adults Safeguarded	£1,495,272 Cash Seized	Over 400 kilos of controlled drugs Seized
11 Firearms & over 200 Knives and other weapons Seized		Over 60 Op Stonehaven partnerships delivering intervention and diversion pathways to prevent young & vulnerable people being drawn into county lines
4,793 Stop Searches	Op Stonehaven engagement with over 10,000 children and young people	2,573 intelligence submissions
9 Evidence Led modern slavery prosecutions for County Lines offences	1605 Project Medusa Arrests	19 Civil Orders

Prevent Strategy – Op Stonehaven

Operation Stonehaven



- Operation Stonehaven has worked in partnership with over 60 internal and external partners, charities and third sector bodies to identify, commission, coordinate and deliver appropriate intervention and diversion pathways to prevent young/vulnerable people being drawn into serious organised crime and county lines activity.

Operation Stonehaven breaks its prevention interventions into 3 levels:

1. Primary interventions - aimed at young people who aren't necessarily involved in SOC but assessed as vulnerable. Interventions are intended to discourage young people from committing serious offences e.g., mass participation interventions and awareness raising at school.
2. Secondary Interventions - aimed at, at risk young people with emerging indicators of being drawn into SOC
3. Tertiary Interventions - aimed at the hardest to reach and most challenging young people. Interventions are intended to facilitate desistance from SOC activity.

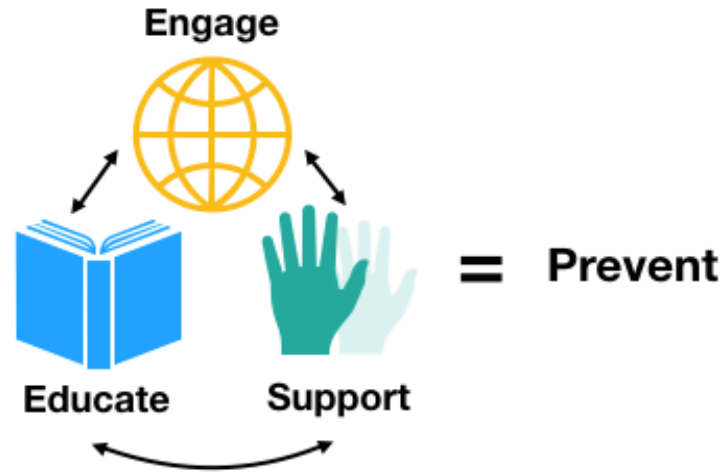
Between Nov 2020 and Oct 2022, Operation Stonehaven has engaged with over 10,000 children and young people through a mixture of mass participation, group work and one to one intervention.

The Op Stonehaven SOC Community Coordinator has also overseen multi-agency processes to enhance community initiatives and activities for improving community resilience to SOC especially when county lines have been closed within an area and voids are created. Community well-being and the flow of intelligence has been increased and activities undertaken to reduce the attraction and acceptability of SOC as a lifestyle to individuals within communities. This has led improved community trust/confidence in the police.

Multi-agency problem solving approaches with strategic partners through complex abuse strategic safeguarding meetings have been undertaken to share information and intelligence to formulate bespoke investigative and safeguarding strategies and tactics, coordinated resources, and provide a robust response to preventing and tackling OCG's who traffic children within county lines. This has been particularly successful in the Wirral area of Merseyside, which has highest levels of children being exploited within county lines.



The Power of a Badge.....



Vision

'To provide young people in the local community with the knowledge, skills and opportunity to make the right choices for a more positive, pro-social future'

- Working with 11 to 16 years old, across 8 schools in Liverpool and Knowsley
 - 6 schools in Liverpool as part of MYA
 - 2 schools in Knowsley as part of VRU
- All secondary schools are targeted as classed as in areas of high need – low attainment, high crime and unemployment
- Targeted 16-week delivery programme covering topics such as;
 - Stereotypes and Perceptions
 - Drug and Alcohol Misuse
 - Behaviour, Anger Manager and

Triggers

- Mental Health Awareness
- Gangs and Toxic Masculinity
- Knife Crime – The Ripple Effect
- Joint Enterprise
- 1-to-1 mentoring sessions

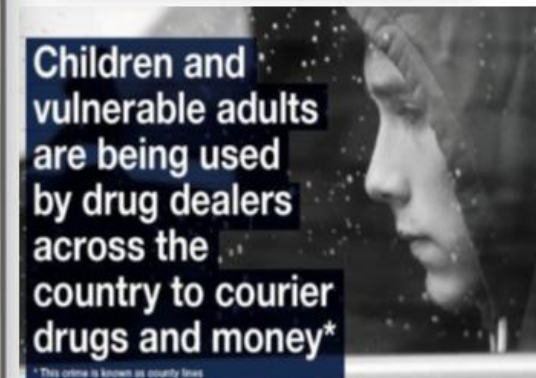


LFC Foundation has released figures showcasing the breadth and impact

- 15 year old and a former LYG gang member.
- series of arrests and intelligence logs suggesting he was drug dealing and was being criminally exploited.
- Living with mother who has many risk factors including substance abuse, abusive relationships.
- Reports he had been involved in 2 serious violence/machete incidents.
- Referral to Op Stonehaven from Sefton enrolled on LFC Kicks Targeted Program
- Training - Drugs and Alcohol (To Peer Mentor)
- Qualifications - Maths and English (GCSE or Equivalent)



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Partnership Approach & The Future.....



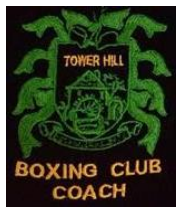
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Thanks for Listening

Any Questions?

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