



**National  
County  
Lines  
Coordination  
Centre**

# The National Picture

**The National Combatting Gangs, Violence and County Lines  
Conference 2023,**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**NCLCC- Head of Analysis Melanie Barr**

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# What is a County Line?



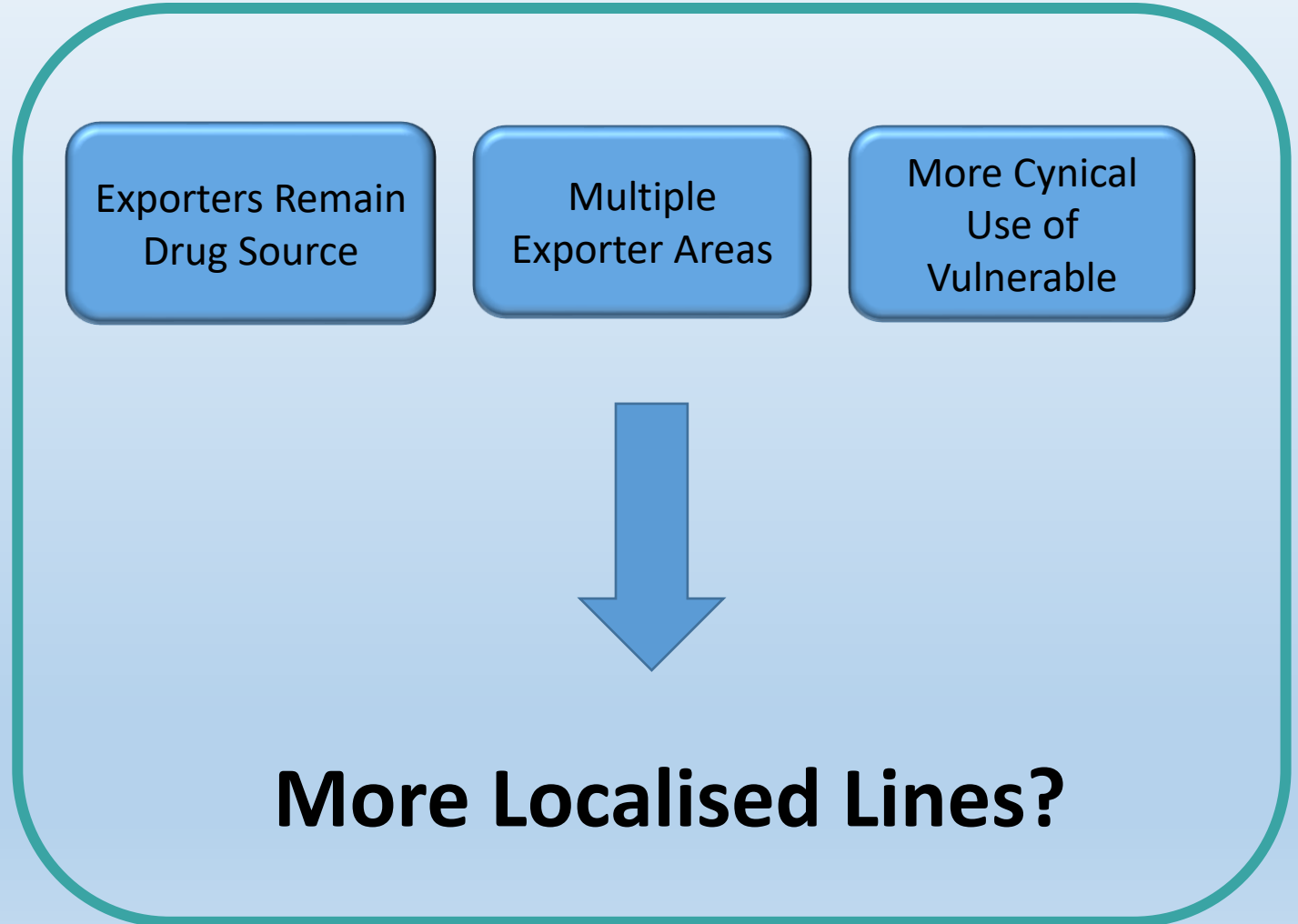
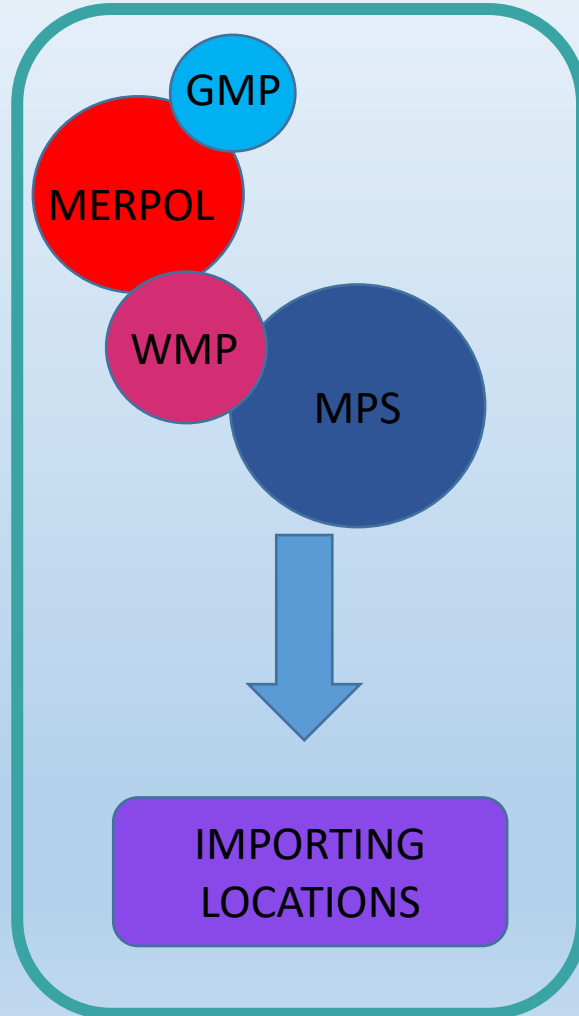
## Home Office definition of a County Line:

...a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas [within the UK], using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of “deal line”. They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move [and store] the drugs and money and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons."


## Practical definition:


**COMMUNICATION, MOVEMENT, VIOLENCE AND VULNERABILITY.**

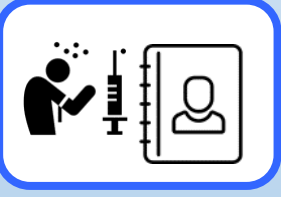
# Development of Lines across Country




# Methods of Communication

**Line Broadcasts**  
bulk text to market

**Line holder send bulk texts to users via a 3<sup>rd</sup> party platform**

**Local user sends message out from dealer to their contact book. With consent for drugs or under duress.**

**Line so well-known advert/ text not required, users call or text in.**



# Changing Commodity



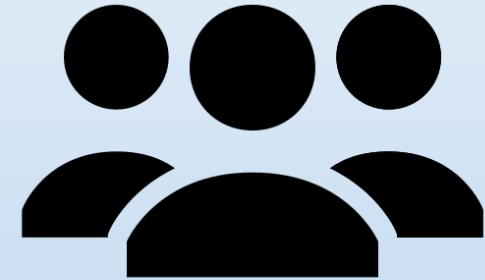
# Changes in Nominals



**NETWORKS**



**RUNNERS**



**DRUGS MARKET**

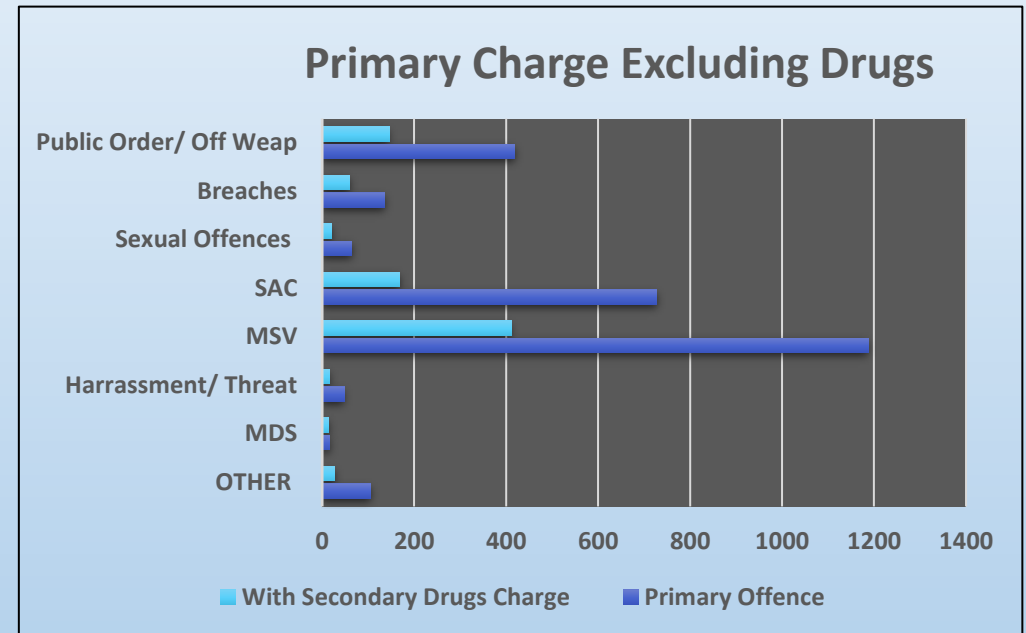
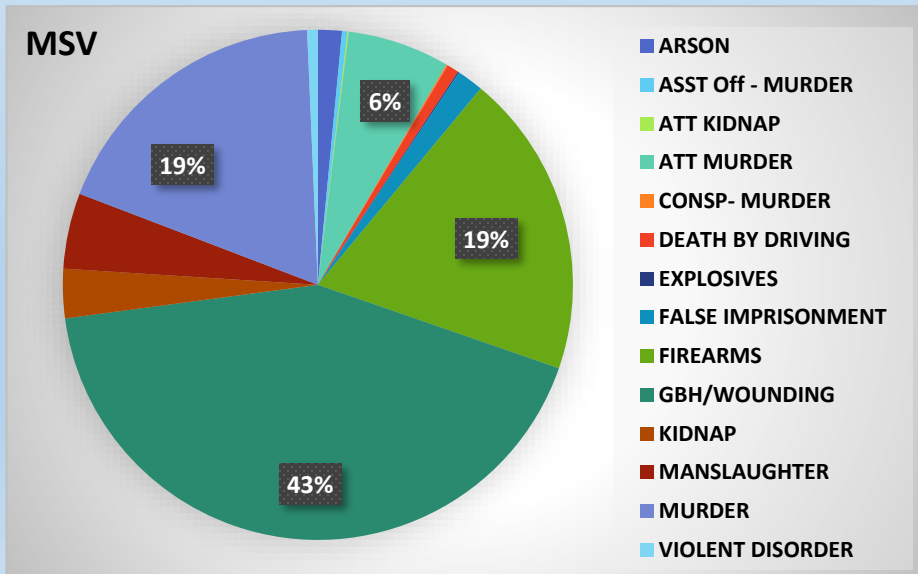
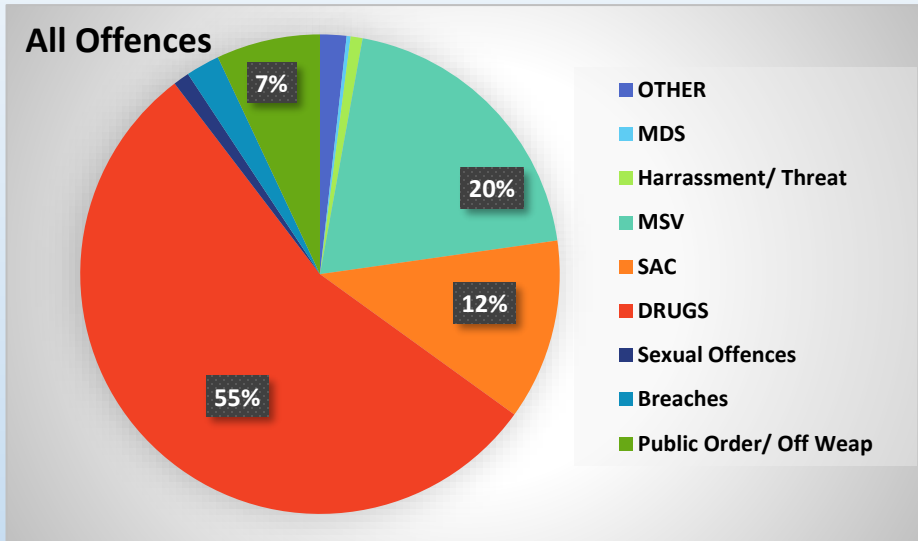


# HMPS



**6000 County Lines Nominals  
Within the HMPS Footprint**

# HMPS – The County Lines Cohort



Snapshot of data for purposes of presentation to National Gangs Conference. For further information Contact Author – not for further dissemination





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# Any Questions?

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