

# SOC LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS BULLETIN

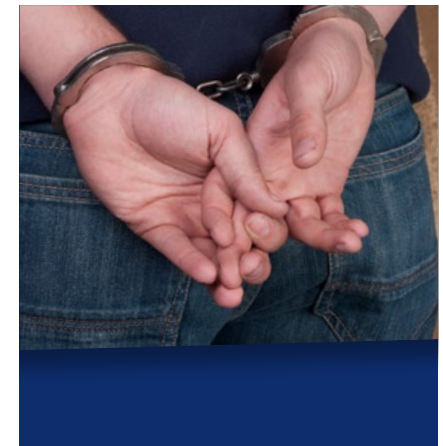
Working together to tackle serious and organised crime

## Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of our SOC Local Partnerships Bulletin, developed to share good practice from across law enforcement and the public, private and voluntary sectors to work together to tackle serious and organised crime. We hope these articles will form the basis for practitioners and policy-makers to interact and share information to help develop both local activity and national policy that will protect the public from serious and organised crime.

The SOC Local Partnerships Bulletin will spotlight a variety of different partners to raise awareness of their local activity and innovative approaches to addressing the ever-changing challenges of serious and organised crime. It will also feature practical tools which can be used to disrupt, and reduce the vulnerability to, SOC in the community. Some articles will focus specifically on how SOC is being tackled at the local level, and highlight forward-thinking ways of information sharing. The bulletin will also provide guidance on how to use legislative powers held by a range of agencies in a tactical way to disrupt and deter SOC at all levels.

For more information about the Government's response to serious and organised crime please see the [Serious and Organised Crime \(SOC\) Strategy 2013](#). SOC Local Partnerships Bulletin will be released on a quarterly basis by the Home Office's Strategic Centre for Organised Crime (SCOC), part of the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT) and will be available [online](#). If you have an article which you would like to feature in a future edition, or you have any feedback or suggestions please contact your usual SCOC contact or the SCOC Partnerships mailbox at: [SCOC.localpartnerships@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SCOC.localpartnerships@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## ...the SCOC Frontline Team

The Strategic Centre for Organised Crime (SCOC) Frontline Team within the Home Office is a network of four individuals from varied law enforcement, public and third sector backgrounds, who work closely with local areas to provide valuable insight to government into how serious and organised crime is being tackled at a local level. They are also vital in providing support to local partners, identifying and sharing best practice, brokering and strengthening partnership working, and galvanising innovative practice in tackling SOC from public, private and third sector partners.



### BECKY WHITE

My background is in the charitable and non-profit sector, working with vulnerable and disenfranchised groups. Prior to joining the Frontline Team I managed services for victims in Avon and Somerset at the charity Victim Support, and I've spent the last few years working and studying full time.

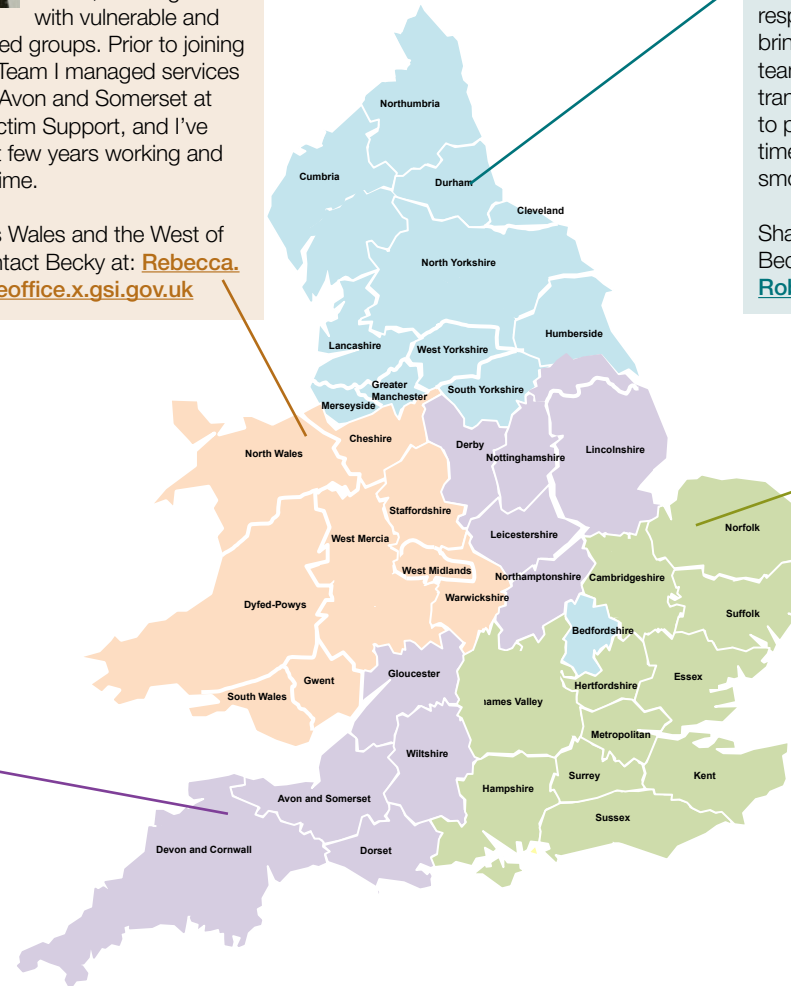
Becky covers Wales and the West of England. Contact Becky at: [Rebecca.White@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.White@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)



### SHANE ROBERTS

I am a seconded Detective Chief Inspector with Bedfordshire Police where I was Head of the Serious and Organised Crime Division with responsibility for leading the strategic and operational response to tackle organised crime groups. I bring a wealth of operational experience to the team which I hope to apply to enable effective transition from policy to practice and practice to policy to achieve IMPACT. In my spare time I am a Junior Rugby Coach, an avid cigar smoker and a keen but ineffective triathlete.

Shane covers the North of England and Bedfordshire. Contact Shane at: [Shane.Roberts3@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Shane.Roberts3@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)



### JOHN PENNYCOOK

I have arrived at the Home office following a 30 year career with the Police Force, joining Thames Valley Police in 1984 and covering many aspects of policing. I've worked both in uniform and as a detective, and my last posting was on the South East Counter Terrorist Unit. My career highlights range from the Miners' Strike in 1984, to 'looking after' a notorious child killer and working on the Government's Extremism Task Force.

John covers London and the South East. Contact John at: [John.Pennycook@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:John.Pennycook@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)



### LUCIE IRVING

I came into SCOC having spent time in UK Border Agency, starting my civil service career arresting and removing immigration offenders in Sussex and South London. After a range of prosecution roles within UKBA I moved to HMIC where I inspected on a range of different programmes, most recently Police Integrity and Corruption.

Lucie covers the South West and the East of England. Contact Lucie at: [Lucie.Irving1@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Lucie.Irving1@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)

# BE CYBER STREETWISE

## Three simple steps to protect consumers and small businesses online

**The Government's Cyber Streetwise campaign aims to change the behaviour of consumers and small businesses online - encouraging them to take simple actions to help protect themselves from cyber criminals.**

The campaign first launched in January 2014 and a new phase will start early September. The focus is to promote the adoption of three simple online behaviours: using three random words to create a strong password; install security software on all devices; and always download the latest software and app updates as soon as they appear.

Here are a few ways you can get involved:

- Follow @cyberstreetwise on Twitter and retweet or signpost to any of our content
- Link to our website [www.cyberstreetwise.com](http://www.cyberstreetwise.com) on your website, blog, social posts, newsletters and other channels
- Visit the Support Us page on the website to download our campaign assets to share with your audiences/customers

For more information on Cyber Streetwise, please contact Orna Joseph on 020 7035 8691 or email [Orna.joseph1@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Orna.joseph1@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)





# NUDE SELFIES

## What parents and carers need to know

CEOP have launched 'Nude Selfies: What Parents and Carers Need to Know'. It is a series of four short animated films for parents and carers offering advice on how to help keep their children safe from the risks associated with sharing nude and nearly nude images. The films can be seen at [www.youtube.com/ceop](http://www.youtube.com/ceop).



The films aim to help parents and carers:

- Understand young people's motivations for sending nude selfies.
- Plan to respond positively and constructively to an incident in which their child has shared a nude selfie.
- Gain confidence and skills in initiating preventative conversations.
- Identify risky behaviours or situations and know where to seek help.
- Know how to get help if a child is at risk after sharing an image.

The Nude Selfies films are accompanied by a guidance pack including a suggested session plan and practitioner guidance for delivering an effective workshop.

Further resources can be found at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk), and for more information please contact Jono Baggaley in CEOP, at [Jonathan.Baggaley@nca-ceop.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Jonathan.Baggaley@nca-ceop.gsi.gov.uk)



# Serious and Organised Crime - PREVENT

## An interactive educational toolkit for frontline practitioners



As part of the Prevent agenda, the Home Office, in partnership with the police and the voluntary sector, have developed an interactive toolkit for practitioners to raise awareness of the consequences of becoming involved in SOC offending. The toolkit is aimed at youth workers, social workers, teachers and police working in schools to use with young people at risk of involvement in serious and organised crime.

The toolkit outlines some of the particular dangers of organised crime and the ways in which young people can become involved, be persuaded, or

groomed to take part in SOC. This aims to enable young people to recognise these dangers and seek help.

The toolkit includes:

- a short video for frontline staff outlining what serious and organised crime is;
- a short, hard-hitting film ('Consequences') for at-risk young people aged between 11-18 years old; and
- a discussion guide practitioners can use with the short film to run interactive sessions.

The toolkit is available at [www.infed.org/mobi/soctoolkit](http://www.infed.org/mobi/soctoolkit)

For further information, or a hard copy of the toolkit, please contact SCOC using the education inbox - [SOCPrevent.Education@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SOCPrevent.Education@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk).

# TACKLING SOC THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

## Crimestoppers campaign disrupts drug-related offending

Crimestoppers, in partnership with SCOC Prepare, developed a campaign 'Tackling SOC through Partnerships' which they piloted in Ipswich, Suffolk between February and April 2015 has proven to be a success. The project delivered targeted communications through local media, social media, and educational messages within schools, outdoors media, and material delivered through local partners. All Crimestoppers information was monitored across Suffolk, and in particular Ipswich, with focus on drug related offences.

During the campaign period there was a substantial increase in actionable information from the

public, including, a 31% increase across Suffolk, with a 16% increase for Ipswich. There have been 14 arrests and charges plus 14 positive actions related to Ipswich, disrupting the gang activity in the local area. Key to the campaigns success was gaining ownership from community groups, volunteers and partners locally.

**To find out more about the campaign or to design something similar in your area please contact Ann Scott (Crimestoppers Campaigns Manager) on 01255 475954 or via email [Ann.Scott@crimestoppers-uk.org](mailto:Ann.Scott@crimestoppers-uk.org)**



## LEADING AGAINST MODERN SLAVERY

### The Welsh Government

Ensuring a multi-agency approach, the Wales Anti-Slavery Leadership Group and Anti-slavery Coordinator bring together evidence on the scale of the problem, sets strategic direction for the agenda, and supports and encourages the sharing of best practice between partners.

The Operational Delivery Group co-ordinates the work taking place across Wales to tackle slavery and facilitate the sharing of good practice and local delivery through the 5 Regional Anti-Slavery Groups. The Regional Groups are delivering local initiatives and also have an information and intelligence sharing function.

Consistent training programmes are being delivered to identify and deal with slavery. This includes the three day Modern Slavery and Organised Crime course for Senior Investigating Officers and Crown Prosecutors.

For more information about tackling modern slavery in Wales you can visit [www.wales.gov.uk/anti-slavery](http://www.wales.gov.uk/anti-slavery), or contact Stephen Chapman (Anti-Slavery Coordinator) on 0300 062 8945 or via email at Stephen.Chapman2@Wales.GSI.Gov.UK. Other central sources of information on modern slavery include the Home Office Modern Slavery website [www.modernslavery.co.uk](http://www.modernslavery.co.uk) and National Crime Agency UK Human Trafficking Centre website [www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk)



# THE PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT, 'POCA' IN ACTION



Officers from the North West Regional Organised Crime Unit ('Titan') used new Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) powers to seize high value goods during early morning raids in July. It is believed to be the first use of the power which enables officers to seize assets suspected to be the proceeds of crime. Goods seized include jet skis, cars and cash, worth an estimated £100,000.

Before the introduction of this power, law enforcement agencies could not seize such items unless they were of evidential value or until a court order was in place. The raids attracted media interest across the North West, including local television news. News items emphasised the importance of the new power in denying criminals their assets and conveying a positive message to the public.

Five men have been charged with conspiracy to supply Class A drugs and a further six have been arrested and released on bail.

For more information please see this ITV News article or the NW ROCU website [www.titanrocu.org.uk](http://www.titanrocu.org.uk) or contact DCI John Webster on 0151 777 7611

## Operation ADVENUS Addressing Foreign National Offending

Operation ADVENUS was a six month pilot to assess and address the risk posed to the Derbyshire Policing area by organised immigration crime, human trafficking and exploitation, and all aspects of foreign national offending. This article highlights the work on tackling foreign national offenders from the European Economic Area (EEA).

Early support was provided by partners including Immigration Enforcement, in the form of a dedicated Intelligence Officer, and a close working partnership with Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Once OP ADVENUS started delivering results, interest and buy-in continued to increase, and officers attended every briefing in the Derby Division and gave presentations to outside agencies.

By proactively seeking out evidence of foreign convictions via ACRO (criminal record) checks, the team were able to successfully identify 120 FNOs for removal from the UK. A notable example was the identification of a Lithuanian national who had breached a restraining order in the UK, but was found to have a conviction for aggravated murder overseas. Also identified was a Romanian national convicted of theft of scrap in the UK who had three murder convictions and a variety of other convictions overseas.

ACRO checks can be submitted for suspects as well as offenders, and for witnesses and victims. To learn more please contact the OP ADVENUS team on 0300 122 8936 or via email at [projectadventus@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:projectadventus@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk)

# TACKLING CHILD EXPLOITATION

## The Concerns Network Information Initiative

In partnership with NSPCC, PC Sam Flint, a Children in Care Police Officer from Nottinghamshire Police and Lisa Hurst, a referral officer from the Sexual Exploitation Intelligence Unit have developed the Concerns Network Information initiative.

Through multi-agency working, the Concerns Network meeting (CNM) collates and shares information on establishments, places, activities, vehicles and people believed to be involved with, or connected to child sexual exploitation (CSE). Attendees at the bi-monthly meetings include a broad range of organisations including as Social Care, the NSPCC, Sexual Health Nurses, Housing, Taxi Licensing and the voluntary sector. This provides an opportunity to share information and collectively consider possible action.

The CNM aims to share responsibility with all agencies so that the police are not the sole agency to tackle CSE. Outcomes range from cascading the concern within a representatives' organisation, to coordinated disruption activity. For example, through the identification of hotels and leisure facilities possibly used by perpetrators to target young people, training for hotel staff and managers of these facilities has led some hotels establishing their own safeguarding lead and improved intelligence sharing.

For further information please contact Sam Flint at Nottinghamshire Police on 07711443797 or via email on [sam.flint@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:sam.flint@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

# Operation TRANSFORMATION



Operation Transformation in Bedfordshire, supporting effective information sharing between Police and Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), has resulted in the production of a comprehensive map of an organised crime group (OCG) heavily involved in both violence and drug trafficking.

The mapping identified both familial and associate links to the OCG, and partner information led to the identification of several previously unknown business interests. A CSP manager led a multi-agency enforcement initiative involving

Trading Standards, Fire and Rescue services, Licensing, and Health and Safety teams who targeted businesses infiltrated by the OCG.

This initiative resulted in the closure of a pub, identification of illegal immigrants in a restaurant business, and the identification of suspected tax evasion. The OCG's network was successfully disrupted, mitigating harm to the community and resulting in the OCG threat score being reduced from 129 to 75. Most significantly, Operation Transformation emphasised how a multi-agency approach, using a menu of disruption tactics can cause significant impact against OCGs who have infiltrated communities.

For more information, please contact Shane Roberts, a member of SCOC frontline team via email at [Shane.Roberts3@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Shane.Roberts3@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)

# TARGETING ORGANISED CRIME AT ALL LEVELS – THE PARTICIPATION OFFENCE

The new offence of ‘Participating in the Activities of an Organised Crime Group’ came into force on 3rd of May this year. It provides a new means for law enforcement agencies in England and Wales to disrupt serious and organised crimes and complements the existing offence of Conspiracy.

It targets those who ‘oil the wheels’ of SOC by, for example, providing materials, services, expertise or information which contributes to the overall capability of the group, but without being aware of the precise nature of the criminality of those who are involved. It also provides for the prosecution of those who head criminal organisations, but who do not themselves directly participate in the commission of the criminal acts.

Guidance has been developed which outlines the legislation and brings it to life for practitioners with explanations of when and how the legislation might be used, along with illustrative case studies. Please contact Caroline Johnson (details below) to obtain this.

SCOC will be interested to hear from any Police Forces on how they use this legislation to tackle Organised Crime, if you have any feedback please contact the Frontline Team or Caroline Johnson on 0207 035 1562 or via email on [Caroline.Johnson@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Caroline.Johnson@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk).

## CRIMESTOPPERS LAUNCH AMBASSADOR PROJECT



Devon & Cornwall Crimestoppers have recently launched their Ambassador project in Exeter. It aims to engage with a network of partner organisations and agencies who regularly come into contact with the public in general. In particular, these organisations may work with individuals and families who: have been victims of crime, have had family members affected by crime, or may have been abused or vulnerable – in addition to coming in to contact with offenders. All of these people often have a wealth of intelligence, that for various reasons they may not be willing to share directly with the police, but may well do so anonymously through Crimestoppers.

The Ambassador project aims to identify and train key members of staff from a wide range of these Devon & Cornwall based organisations about the services Crimestoppers can offer. These staff then become ‘ambassadors’ who are able to signpost their ‘clients’ to the secure and anonymous way of passing crime related information that Crimestoppers uniquely provides.

For more information on the Ambassador project, please contact Mike Fowkes on [mike.fowkes@crimetoppers-uk.org](mailto:mike.fowkes@crimetoppers-uk.org).

## Thank you for reading the first edition of the SOC local partnerships bulletin.

Please feel free to share this with colleagues, partners and other local organisations. The bulletin will be available online at [www.gov.uk/government/collections/serious-and-organised-crime-local-partnerships-bulletin](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/serious-and-organised-crime-local-partnerships-bulletin). If you have an article which you would like to feature in an upcoming edition, or you have any feedback or suggestions please contact your usual SCOC contact or the SCOC Partnerships mailbox at: [SCOC.localpartnerships@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SCOC.localpartnerships@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)