

# SOC LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS BULLETIN

Working together to tackle serious and organised crime

## Welcome

Welcome to the fifth edition of our Serious & Organised Crime (SOC) Local Partnerships Bulletin, developed to share good practice from across law enforcement and the public, private and voluntary sectors. We hope these articles will form the basis for practitioners and policymakers to interact and share information to help develop both local activity and national policy that will protect the public from Serious and Organised Crime.

This edition spotlights the HO's conference in February which will showcase some of the key practical initiatives that those on the frontline have been deploying since the SOC Strategy's launch. We also highlight the GAIN review and new operating model, new initiatives such as the SOC Prevent pilot projects and the active role non-governmental organisations such as the Soroptimists can play in preventing SOC. Finally we share powers available through the Modern Slavery Act and anticipated under the Criminal Finances Bill which is currently passing through Parliament.

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





# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## SOC National Conference

**Serious & Organised Crime National Conference  
– 2 February 2017, Birmingham.**

The Home Office will hold a SOC national conference on 2 February 2017 in Birmingham to showcase some of the key practical initiatives that those on the frontline have been deploying since the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy's launch. Through a combination of presentations and breakout sessions it will equip a wide range of practitioners to develop their own collaborative response, tailored to the profile of serious and organised crime in their local area.

Through bringing together practitioners, local leaders and government departments, the conference will provide a forum for capturing and sharing best practice and encouraging more proactive multi-agency partnership working across the whole of the SOC Strategy. For more information and details of how you can register for this event, please visit Home Office SOC National Conference, [www.socnc.co.uk](http://www.socnc.co.uk)

# PARTNERSHIPS

## Tackling Human Trafficking at the local level through partnership

The Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland are part of a global volunteer movement working together to transform the lives of women and girls. As part of their desire to inspire action and create opportunities, many branches have supported the Purple Teardrop Campaign whose primary objective has been to tackle the human trafficking of women and children. In Barnstaple, Devon, the local Soroptimist branch has been active over the last five plus years in raising awareness of the effects of human trafficking on all those involved. To date, Barnstaple members have worked in partnership with Devon and Cornwall Police, presenting at a local conference on human trafficking. In addition members have publicised their campaign in the local community in a variety of ways. To date, all Hackney Carriage Licence holders have received information on the application or renewal of their licences – this being in the

form of a leaflet on the signs to look out for, together with a card printed with the Crimestoppers 'phone number. In addition all National Farmers Union offices in Devon hold the same information, as do all the charity shops within the North Devon area. Barnstaple member Irene Hockin summed up the branches' commitment, "we are intent in doing our very best to help in the eradication of this crime which destroys lives".

For more information on the work of Soroptimist International email [hq@sigbi.org](mailto:hq@sigbi.org)



For specific information on the work of the Barnstaple branch contact [Irene Hockin irene@ihockin.force9.co.uk](mailto:irene@ihockin.force9.co.uk)

## GAIN review and new operating model



The GAIN review and new operating model has created enhanced capability and effectiveness writes Peter Constantine, NE GAIN co-ordinator, who has been able to;

- **Proactively assess and interpret intelligence** trends between partner agencies, identifying new and emerging areas of Organised Crime Group (OCG) criminality and risk where importation and local distribution networks for counterfeit cigarettes have been linked, leading to better informed Local Profiles and galvanising Organised Crime Partnership Boards (OCPBs) to determine actions.
- **Building and developing relationships and Networks** with less well known partners such as Inland Fisheries Authority and Marine Management Organisation, British Horse racing council- all of whom have provided information and intelligence on known OCG nominals.
- **Enhancing consistency in multi-agency operations** such as Operation Azores, involving an OCG specialising in organised theft, cloning and disposal of motor vehicles via local scrapyards where police, Health and Safety Executive, Environment Agency, Council, Trading Standards, Fire Service, DVSA and HMRC Road Fuel Team recovered £300,000 worth of vehicles, closed one scrapyard for breaches of Law and disrupted OCG links to 4 others.

Peter asks all agencies to ensure they use the GAIN Co-ordinators to help tackle Organised Crime

For further advice please contact: [peter.constantine@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:peter.constantine@durham.pnn.police.uk)  
[pnn.police.uk](mailto:pnn.police.uk) [ne.gain@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ne.gain@durham.pnn.police.uk)  
Direct 0191-3752659 Mob 07768368113

# DISRUPTIONS

## Op Timon

East Midlands ROCU (EMSOU) and the National Crime Agency worked closely with the Crown Prosecution Service on parallel investigations to bring down crime groups linked to alleged international drugs trafficker Robert Dawes.

Throughout their investigations the agencies seized 13kg of heroin, 168kgs of cocaine, 354kg of amphetamine, 12kg of MDMA, a pill press and more than £200,000 in cash from various drug rings. One of the gangs, based out of Nottinghamshire, used encrypted mobile phones and secret compartments in vehicles to launder cash and supply Class A and B drugs around the country.

At Stafford Crown Court on 30 September, 11 men and two women were sentenced to more than 40 years in jail combined for their parts in this illicit operation.

EMSOU Detective Inspector Andy Jones said:

**I cannot emphasise enough that the street value of the seized drugs is exponentially more than what we have valued them at in the prosecution case. They were without doubt destined to cause great harm to our communities.**



## Criminal Finances Bill



In October 2016 the government introduced the Criminal Finances Bill to Parliament. The Bill is part of the response to the consultation on the Government's Action Plan for anti-money laundering and countering terrorist finance. The Bill will make the legislative changes necessary to significantly improve our capability to recover the proceeds of crime; to tackle money laundering and corruption, and to counter terrorist financing.

This bill focused on four key priorities:

- Strengthening the relationship between public and private sectors.
- Enhancing the UK law enforcement response.

- Significantly improving our capability to recover the proceeds of crime, including international corruption.
- Combating the financing of terrorism.

Having been introduced to the Commons, the Bill will go through the Parliamentary processes involving debate and scrutiny by both Houses (Commons and Lords). Upon successful passage of the Bill, it is anticipated that it will gain Royal Assent in Spring/Summer 2017.

For more information please contact [cfbill@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cfbill@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)

# PREVENT



## SOC Prevent pilot projects



- Lancashire Constabulary will target women who are at risk of SOC in Blackpool. Women will be offered mentoring, tailored support to address their individual needs and a job skills programme including volunteering.
- Durham Constabulary will develop a training package to support other areas to replicate their successful 'Project HAGGRID'. HAGGRID offers a police-lead educational and horticultural intervention to children, including those potentially at risk of SOC involvement.

The HO will be seeking bids in January for funding new Prevent projects in the next financial year. Please contact [socprevent@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:socprevent@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk) for further information.

The HO are funding 3 local pilots this year as part of the SOC Strategy commitment to use interventions to stop people being drawn into SOC.

- Bedfordshire Police will identify women with associations to organised criminals in Luton. Third sector providers will offer interventions to address their personal needs, vulnerabilities and to improve job skills.

## Professional Enablers

Organised criminals rely on the skills of professionals such as accountants and solicitors to profit from their crimes and work hard to portray their criminal enterprises as credible and legitimate operations. That's why the Home Office, National Crime Agency, legal and accountancy sectors are working together to launch a new phase of our successful anti-money laundering campaign – 'Flag It Up' - which aims to prevent professionals from becoming unwittingly involved in criminality.

Campaign activity is designed to highlight key risks to professionals; provide them with clear, straightforward advice on due diligence best practise; and encourage them to report suspicious activity to the UK Financial Intelligent Unit (UKFIU) in the NCA.

A wide range of materials (including infographics, articles, videos and social media content) is available for partners to disseminate through their own networks. For more information or to request these materials, please contact [leigh.hanby@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:leigh.hanby@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk)

Organised crime costs the UK economy **£24 billion** each year

### Do you know how to spot the red flags?

- Is the client behaving suspiciously?
- Are there inconsistencies in the information provided?
- Is the amount of funds and their source unusual?
- Are there any discrepancies in their transactions?

Flag it up

[www.accountancysupervisors.co](http://www.accountancysupervisors.co)

Home Office Accountancy Affinity Group NCA National Crime Agency

# PROTECTION

## Bsafe Blackpool Community Safety

Bsafe Blackpool Community Safety partners have successfully used a range of tools and powers to tackle and mitigate the risk factors around premises and individuals linked to CSE.

Intelligence sharing between partners through the local SOC board identified the emergence of ASB hotspots being linked to CSE by the convergence of young people missing from home, availability of drugs and alcohol and access to the locations by suspected adults involved in grooming for CSE.

Provisions under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014 to issue a range of Community Protection Warnings, Notices and Civil Injunctions by community officers and partners from CSE teams ensured locations and people were targeted.

Between April 2016 and August 2016, 71 Community Protection Warnings (CPWs) were served, provisions included

- Prohibiting young people from going into addresses of concern
- Preventing adults from using drugs and alcohol in the presence of young people,
- Requiring adults to report children who had gone missing.

This has resulted in a significant decrease in vulnerability, with 93% of people receiving a CPW desisting in similar future conduct, with only 5 cases progressing to full Community Protection Notice (CPN) stage.

“This innovative utilisation of the tools and powers to complement existing methods of tackling CSE has proven to be highly effective and has undoubtedly safeguarded a number of vulnerable young people.”

## Operation Genga



Operation Genga is Lancashire's response to the SOC Strategy and Lancashire's Serious Harm Reduction Strategy and informed by SOC local profiles outlining a 4P approach to tackling SOC within Lancashire and its borders.

The primary objectives are to stem the opportunities for organised crime to take root; and to strengthen enforcement action against organised criminals and safeguard communities, businesses and the state. Genga is made up of over 200 multi-agency partners spanning across public and third sector agencies in Lancashire. Referrals into Genga made by

partners are governed by risk and threat, assessed via designated coordinators in each Basic Command Unit. In building an intelligence product, Genga links local to regional and national agencies in improving knowledge, sharing partnership tools and powers and increasing capability and disruption opportunities.

This has led to a tailored approach managed by the local SOC boards with a designated action plan for each key risk and threat. Each agency is inducted into the partnership with a detailed understanding of SOC that includes bespoke aide memoires, tools and powers review and a designated coordinator to assist with local action.

Initial operational results include Immigration offences, fraud, Modern Slavery, CSE, human trafficking and large-scale counterfeiting.

Further Information contact Catherine Hoyle: [genga@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:genga@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)



# FEEDBACK

**Thank you for reading the fifth edition of the SOC local partnerships bulletin.**



## Team Working

We have had excellent feedback on our bulletin so far, however we are looking to YOU to help us make it even better.

- Do you have a particular article that you found interesting/useful?
- Have you engaged with partners as a result of certain articles?
- Would you consider contributing an article for future editions?
- What would you like to see more of?

These are some of the questions that we would like to ask you to help us to deliver a bulletin which is increasingly effective in galvanising partnership work, to improve our collective ability to tackle serious and organised crime.

Your responses will greatly support and positively impact on the publication of future editions.

We are eager to receive articles for future editions, to showcase the forward-thinking, innovative and pioneering work taking place in local communities. If you have an article which you would like to feature in an upcoming edition, or you have any feedback, suggestions or questions please contact the SCOC Local Partnerships **mailbox**. When submitting an article, **please use this form** as a template.

Please feel free to share this with colleagues, partners and other local organisations. If you would like to be added to the bulletin distribution list, to receive future editions, contact the team at: [SCOC.localpartnerships@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SCOC.localpartnerships@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk).

The bulletin will also 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).