



SOC LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS BULLETIN

August 2017 Issue 06

Working together to tackle serious and organised crime

Welcome

Welcome to the sixth 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 showcases the SOC National Conference in which the Home Secretary announced the review of the Government's Serious and Organised Crime Strategy. We also explore the recent College of Policing's 'SOC local response' and SOCEX events. Information sharing remains key to partnership working as demonstrated by the ICE Summit and Cleveland's 'Scam Ambassador' initiative. We also highlight successful local disruptions illustrated by Operations SYCAMORE and CLOUDBURST, and share initiatives designed to keep the public safe such as Project Engage and Bedfordshire's Cyber Protect event. Finally we share new powers available through Telecommunications Restriction Orders and the Criminal Finances Act which had Royal Assent in April.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

Home Secretary Announces Review of Strategy to tackle Serious and Organised Crime

The Home Secretary Amber Rudd announced a review of the government's Serious and Organised Crime Strategy at the SOC National Conference in Birmingham on 16 March.

In a message to delegates, the Home Secretary noted that 'The time is right to take a fresh look at our strategic approach to reducing the risk to the UK and its interests from serious and organised crime, suited to the scale and nature of the evolving threat we face and building on progress made under the 2013 strategy'. She highlighted the particular risks posed by cyber crime, child sexual abuse and modern slavery, and reiterated the corrosive impact of SOC on our economy, our communities and some of the most vulnerable members of our society, who are all too often seen as easy prey by organised criminal groups.

One of the aims of the review will be to generate an expanded, whole-of-government approach to tackling the threat. The Home Secretary has therefore asked all government departments and agencies to devote more effort to tackling SOC. The review will also look to enhance partnerships with businesses and the voluntary sector on SOC issues.

She told the audience of law enforcement and public and private sector representatives that 'My experience as Home Secretary has taught me the vital importance of working collaboratively – across agencies, with the private and voluntary sector, and with the public – to counter the threat of serious and organised crime. And this collaborative approach includes bringing the full power of the state to bear on the threat'.

The new Strategy will be published by spring 2018.



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Serious and Organised Crime National Conference



The Serious & Organised Crime National Conference held at Villa Park, Birmingham, was a great success. The event attracted over 300 attendees from law enforcement and the public, private and voluntary sectors from across the UK, including the devolved administrations. The Home Secretary set the tone for the event, emphasising the need for a multi-agency response and a ‘whole of Government’ approach to tackling serious and organised crime, and announced the refresh of the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy.

The Minister of State for Security, Ben Wallace MP, built on that theme in his keynote speech and demonstrated how this could be done through joint activity between local authorities, police forces and sectors within the Government Agency Intelligence Network (GAIN), such as HMRC and the Environment Agency (see <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/closer-partnerships-needed-to-fight-serious-and-organised-crime>).

The morning plenary included presentations and a panel discussion exploring best practice in partnerships and SOC Prevent work, whilst seven breakout sessions covered key thematic areas – cyber crime, fraud, delivering SOC Prevent, human trafficking and modern slavery, multi-agency disruption through GAIN, current innovative local partnership approaches and victim and witness protection. Key themes arising from these sessions included:

- Partners need to buy in and understand what serious & organised crime is; when it is understood anyone can identify risks and vulnerabilities
- The importance of information sharing and reporting across agencies and normalising conversations around SOC, so that they became business as usual, with all frontline services having a role to play
- Public messaging should be kept simple, enabling people to protect themselves, and is not always best given by government or law enforcement
- Multi-agency partnerships need to be clear about the collective threat picture and roles of different partners and agencies, and
- We need a structure to capture feedback on ‘what works’ from local to national.

An in-depth and interactive afternoon panel discussion featuring Lynne Owens (NCA), Mick Creedon (Derbyshire Police), David Walker (Nottingham City Council) and Richard Riley (Home Office), also explored these themes in greater detail.



The Home Office captured the learning from this event to inform future partnership working in support of the SOC Strategy and its refresh. The Home Office would like to thank everyone who participated in making the Serious &

Organised Crime National Conference such a valuable and enjoyable event. If you would like to feedback further on the event please contact Sue Hennessy at the Home Office on susan.hennessy@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

College of Policing 'SOC Local Response' event

On 2 March 2017, the College of Policing held a one day 'SOC local response' conference for forces. Attended by over 200 delegates from all forces, ROCUs, the NCA, College of Policing and Home Office, the event was focussed on sharing and instilling learning to support forces in developing an improved local response to combatting serious and organised crime. With an opening key note speech from Ben Wallace, Minister of State for Security, CC Barton (Durham Constabulary), CC Creedon (Derbyshire Constabulary) and CC Cooke (Merseyside Police) led the day with sessions focussed on the critical themes of leadership, ownership of Organised Crime Groups, prevention and partnership,

providing a range of strategic speakers, local case studies and opportunities for debate with panels of experts. Delegates have been requested to feedback on their learning, and the opportunities they have created to implement changes in their own organisations. Support to forces does not end with this one day event – NPCC has launched a Peer Support programme, in conjunction with the Home Office's Regional Engagement and Delivery Team, to ensure forces continue to benefit from identified good practice in tackling SOC.

For more information on relevant College of Policing events please contact Tracy Holyer on tracy.holyer@college.pnn.police.uk



SOCEX (Serious and Organised Crime Exchange)

The SOC national policing leads hosted the third annual SOCEX conference at Carden Park Hotel in Cheshire on 15-16 May. Day one included presentations from Mick Creedon – an overview of SOC; HMI Zoe Billingham – summarising the PEEL Effectiveness review; Nikki Holland from the NCA (which included her observations from the recent NHS cyber attacks); Paolo Campana (University Cambridge) and Federico Varese (Oxford University) on governance and acceptability of SOC by communities; Sir Ronnie Flanagan on the impact on health; cyber talks by Peter Goodman and Solomon Gilbert and David Clark on economic crime. Day 2 started with three thematic drugs-

related presentations by Tony Siggers of the NCA, Prof. Harry Sumnall from Liverpool John Moores University and CC Barton. Caroline Haughey spoke about her experiences as a barrister dealing with modern slavery and finally, Dr. Manny Barot and Chris Hardy gave a very personal account of positive interventions in their lives, taking Chris away from far-right extremism and a life of crime. There were around 200 participants from law enforcement and the Home Office.

For more information on this event contact Dave Kirby at Derbyshire Constabulary on david.kirby.2040@Derbyshire.PNN.Police.UK.



COMMUNITIES

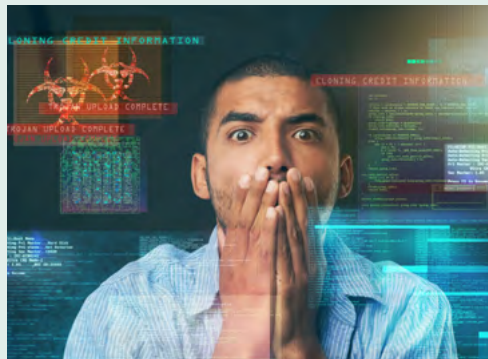
Bedfordshire Cyber Protect Conference

Bedfordshire Police cyber hub hosted a Cyber Protect Conference inviting 147 local SME (small and medium-sized) businesses, larger companies and government organisations.

Local business experts were used to provide local case studies illustrating

- current local cyber threats
- financial and reputational costs and impact
- self-help guidance to reduce threats and vulnerabilities
- methods to improve information security

Supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner and Home Office representatives, local experts explained on an array of subjects, including



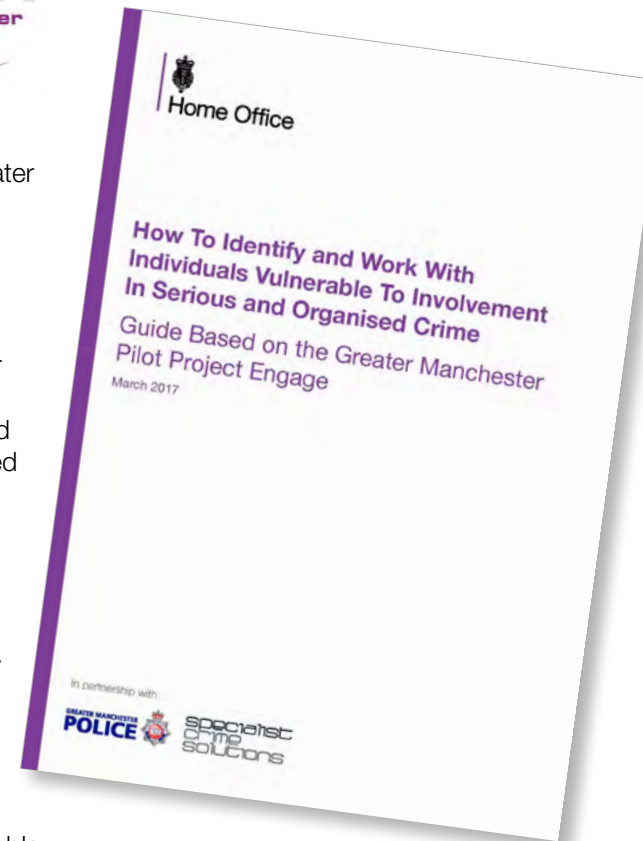
- digital threat information
- an exercise in ethical hacking, highlighting how easy it is to hack company systems
- hostile social networking
- protective measures and minimum information management standards, including Cyber Essentials.
- Yielding significant outcomes including:
 - an increase in the number of Cyber Security Information Partnership (CISP) enquiries to better understand and react to local threats
 - enhanced communication between law enforcement, IT businesses and local SME's committed to building resilient to cyber-attack.
 - exploration to co-opt a local private sector expert onto the Forces Organised Crime Partnership Board.
- For more information on this event please contact Shane Roberts, Home Office on shane.roberts3@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk.

Project Engage



In 2015-16 the Home Office funded Greater Manchester Police to develop and pilot an approach for identifying and referring individuals at risk of involvement in SOC to appropriate Prevent interventions. The project, named Project Engage, took place in five areas of Greater Manchester (Salford, Oldham, Manchester, Tameside and Stockport). Individuals were identified using police intelligence which was shared with multiple local partners as part of a 'deep-dive' discussion to understand the background and challenges of each individual identified. Interventions were then developed based on locally existing good practise and delivery organisations.

A guide to help other areas replicate this approach was shared with partners at the SOC National Conference and has been published. For copies of "How to Identify and Work with Individuals Vulnerable to Involvement in Serious and Organised Crime" please contact socprevent@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk



PARTNERSHIPS

ICE Summit



Bedfordshire's Police & Crime Commissioner – Kathryn Holloway – held an event on 28 March 2017, with partners collaborating on supporting vulnerable communities and victims in Bedfordshire.

The Innovate, Collaborate, Enhance ('ICE') Summit was arranged by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner in collaboration with the University of Bedfordshire and involved commissioning leads from local authorities, criminal justice, health and third sectors, including a number of local and national charitable trusts.

The aims were to:
explore ways of co-commissioning to reduce gaps and overlap across the commissioned service environment

- increase transparency, and good commissioning practice
- build consortium bids for enhanced services to international and national funding bodies.

A Home Office representative introduced the Home Office Organised Crime (OC) procurement pilot work about the real and present dangers and risks of organised crime infiltration of public sector commissioning and tendering.

As a direct result of the event, the group has established an ICE Forum, which will be working to implement the good practice and recommendations contained within the OC Procurement pilot report across future commissioning processes.

PCC Holloway commented, "the forum proved an excellent event to help launch the report to partners". The PCC is happy to share more details of the event if other's wish to try similar.

For more information on this event please contact Shane Roberts, Home Office on shane.roberts3@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk.

IC Cleveland Police and Trading Standards 'Scam Ambassador' Scheme E Summit



Trading Standards Teams, Cleveland Police and the PCC's office have worked in partnership to support the National Trading Standards 'Scam Ambassadors' initiative.

The event aimed to impart awareness training of scams affecting the most vulnerable people in communities. Ambassadors then cascaded this knowledge to create a network of scam champions, including front line staff from partner agencies and voluntary groups working within the heart of local communities. Over a 100 people have now received the training.

Cleveland Police committed to training front line PCSOs as champions who have:

- Identified individuals and vulnerable groups and provided bespoke awareness training and support for them to Protect from scams
- Worked with Action Fraud to identify victims, sending them a letter with specific 'Prepare' advice to mitigate being a repeat victim
- Held Prepare themed workshops at Police HQ delivered by Victim Support in conjunction with Cleveland's Cyber Crime Unit to provide bespoke support.

For more information on this event please contact Shane Roberts, Home Office on shane.roberts3@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk.

DISRUPTIONS

Operation SYCAMORE

The National Food Crime Unit's (NFCU) Operation SYCAMORE proactively targeted the illegal sale of deadly chemical DNP (2,4 dinitrophenol) as a dietary supplement. The operation saw a 60% fall in reported cases of DNP poisoning from 2015 to 2016. Deaths from consumption of DNP, mostly amongst young people using it as a 'fat burner', fell from six to one during the operation by the NFCU and partner agencies.

Interventions with police forces and local authorities led to substantial DNP seizures with prosecutions on-going. SYCAMORE also involved the removal of 20 websites that NFCU identified as selling DNP illegally, a communications campaign on social media (#dnpkills) and intelligence sharing with Border Force to establish mis-declarations of DNP at importation.

The NFCU gathers and develops intelligence to support operational activity against serious crime in food, drink or animal feed. The unit welcomes intelligence submissions to Food Crime Confidential on 02072768787 or foodcrime@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk.



NATIONAL FOOD
CRIME UNIT

Operation CLOUDBURST

Surrey Police is tackling Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

Operation CLOUDBURST involved the execution of warrants at multiple premises, aimed at targeting organised criminals suspected to have links with a car wash in Walton-on-Thames. The operation involved officers from the NCA, UK Immigration Services, Elmbridge Borough Council, the Department for Work and Pensions, HMRC, Interpreters, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

Officers entered five different premises and identified potential trafficking and slavery offences. A man was arrested in connection with the car wash and is currently on bail. Two people have been referred into the Immigration

process and 14 people found working at the car wash were safeguarded from further harm. A total £5,000 in cash was seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

T/Detective Inspector Gary Patterson, Surrey Police:

"If you get your car washed at a site and the price seems too good to be true, ask yourself what's the real cost and is anyone being exploited in the process?"

If you would like more information on Operation CLOUDBURST, please contact Karen Mizzi Head of Serious and Organised Crime, Surrey Police on Karen.mizzi@surrey.pnn.police.uk.




**FOOD CRIME
CONFIDENTIAL**

020 7276 8787

foodcrime@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk



Do you know someone who sells or buys DNP as a fat burning aid? There's no safe dose.
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NEW POWERS

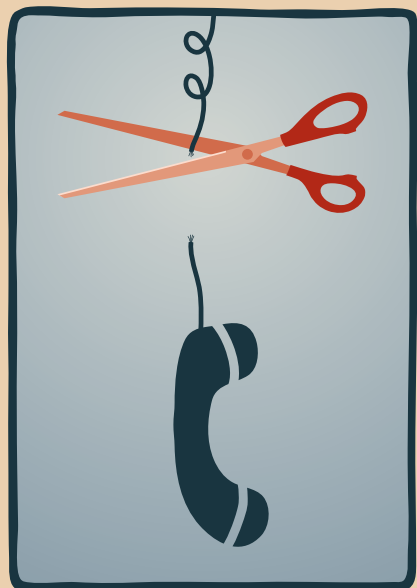
Mobile Phones (TROs)

Since the introduction of new powers to prevent prisoners' use of mobile phones in August of last year, more than 150 illicit phones in prisons have been disconnected. A number of agencies, including Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, the NCA and the police and can apply to the civil court for a Telecommunications Restriction Order (TRO) which requires the mobile network provider to remotely disconnect the device. A single TRO application can specify one or more mobile phones.



For more information on TROs please contact Nick Barnett at the Home Office
Nick.barnett1@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk

More information on TRO powers can be found here (2016 Statutory Instruments for TROs) and here (Serious Crime Act 2015).



The Criminal Finances Act



The Criminal Finances Act received Royal Assent on 27 April and introduces new powers to help law enforcement agencies tackle money laundering, corruption, terrorist finance and recover the proceeds of crime. It has been described by Transparency International as 'one of the most important anti-corruption legislation to be passed in the UK in the past 30 years, and is critical in bringing the UK's laws up to date so they can keep pace with modern criminals'. To ensure that the Act's provisions and their benefits are maximised, the Home Office is coordinating a work-stream to prepare law enforcement and private sector partners. This includes ensuring court rules, secondary legislation, training, guidance and IT are updated and in place to support commencement of these powers from the autumn.

If you have any questions about implementation, please contact
criminalfinancesact@homeoffice.x.gsi.gov.uk