



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

County Lines

Hate the Player, Hate the Game



Creating

WHAT PEOPLE THINK DRUG DEALERS ARE LIKE



WHAT DRUG DEALERS ACTUALLY ARE LIKE



DRUG DEALERS ARE CONVICTED EVERY DAY

BUT THEIR BUSINESS PLAN IS DESIGNED TO COPE WITH THAT

THIS IS HOW YOU FIT INTO IT

NOT LOCAL

The vast majority of drugs are not produced locally – they are imported to major cities and distributed through networks of young dealers that run drugs into rural and suburban areas.

Britain does not have the climate to produce drugs – drugs are either manufactured (‘cannabis factories’) OR imported (cocaine, heroin etc).

The network that supply drugs are professional and criminal. They target vulnerable communities.

This will include people who are already drug dependent, recovering drug addicts and young people (student community being a large target market).

County Lines dealers want to make money and create debts.

They want to sell drugs and they want to press people into selling drugs for them to increase their share of the market.

CUSTOMER

First of all, they want your money.

They want to sell to you.

They don't care about you. They don't even care about the product.

They want your money.

It helps if you get addicted or dependent – so they will help you to get addicted or dependent on their drugs.

If you will buy weed, they will sell you weed.

If they can get you to try heroin or cocaine, they will.

They are not your friend.

YOUR 'FRIEND' STARTS SELLING DRUGS

It may start by someone you know asking you to come to parties where drug taking is absolutely normalised. Everyone seems to be doing drugs.

This may seem like something that all people do as they get older and become adult. This is simply a 'cool party'.

This is not normal. *It is not 'ordinary' to start using drugs as you approach 18.*

Cool people who are 18 – 25 do not hang out with 15 and 16 year olds doing drugs. It is not cool to supply 15 & 16 year olds with drugs and encourage them to get addicted.

At this party your resistance to dabbling with drugs may be overwhelmed. You will be surrounded by people who encourage you to use. You may be coerced into other things you don't want to do.

The 'friend' that brought you to the party becomes your supplier.

Cuckooing

A County Lines drug dealer may establish themselves in a community by focusing a vulnerable person, an addict or a recovering addict.

This person may live alone or with another similar individual.

The dealer supplies this person and creates debt and dependency. They move into that address and begin to use it as a base from where they can supply the surrounding community. This has an adverse effect on the neighbourhood.

The vulnerable person will be coerced into staying silent and will fear the consequences of asking the dealer to leave.

If the address is subject to a search warrant by police the dealer may claim to be a visitor passing through and will even make efforts to incriminate the vulnerable person as the dealer.

The Entrepreneur Model

The County Lines dealer tells you that he has ‘seen something in you’ – you are enterprising and a business man. He wants to take you under his wing.

“You will make lots of money”

He will show you generosity. He may gift you expensive trainers, perhaps a flashy mobile phone or a laptop (may be stolen).

He will encourage you to become his ‘partner’ and then use you as a channel to get inside your school or your friendship network.

Being able to supply cannabis to friends might make you feel popular, more adult, and it might be exciting. It will change the people you mix with.

You will always be indebted to the County Lines dealer and the money isn’t yours.

When you are identified and arrested you will be prosecuted and he will move on to the next victim. You refuse to ‘snitch’.

The Boyfriend Model

The County Lines dealer will be older and will target a younger teenager girl.

He will flatter her and will give her attention and gifts.

He will have money and a car. He will know lots of people and have access to lots of parties and events.

He will encourage her to become infatuated with him and tell her that she can trust him. He will isolate her from her family and friends. He might 'rescue' her from a distressing or unhappy family environment.

When he gains her trust he will manipulate her into selling drugs for him and he will exploit her sexually.

Knowing she is under 16 he will probably subject her to statutory rape.

He may ask her to engage in sexual acts with his 'friends' to 'help him out'. He is getting paid for this.

The Business

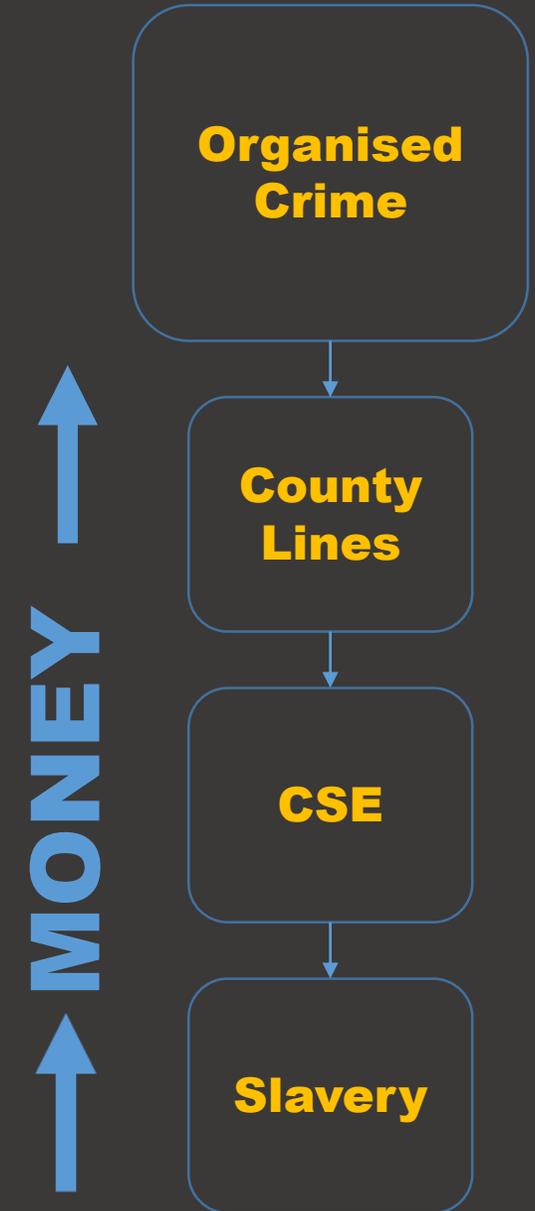
'County Lines' is an established part of organised criminality.

It feeds money back up through a chain of criminals into the hands of people who generate billions of pounds from a variety of offences:

- **Money laundering;**
- **Drug dealing and trafficking;**
- **Human trafficking and modern day slavery;**
- **Child exploitation and sexual exploitation;**
- **Terrorism & radicalisation.**

These are global industries and you are their target market and their target victims.

The business model is designed to insulate the organisers and cause you harm.



DEBT & DEPENDENCY

From every method available a County Lines drug dealer is trying to make you indebted to him and dependent on him.

You owe him money and you have to either pay it off in cash (probably with interest) OR work it off.

The debt will be reinforced with a threat of violence or the use of violence.

The alternative can involve being compelled to deal drugs.

You might find yourself being subject to sexual exploitation or unreasonable personal demands.

Owing money to a drug dealer will change your life and feel like a nightmare. You probably won't feel like you can talk to anyone.

DEBT & DEPENDENCY (cont)

In such a circumstance you may be incredibly scared, you may feel isolated, you may realise how vulnerable you are. You may be in fear of violence.

You might feel that you need the supply of a drug too much to be able to walk away (addiction).

You might be scared that you are going to be prosecuted or that you are guilty of a crime.

The County Lines dealer may tell you that you have to fear the police and that the police are out to get you.

In such circumstances you are a victim, you will be treated as a victim, and you can come to the police for help without fear of prosecution.

Your friends

You might not get caught up in County Lines – but you might know someone who has been.

These are some of the symptoms:

- **They become suddenly withdrawn and won't talk about why;**
- **Signs of depression/self harm;**
- **They're attendance at school becomes infrequent;**
- **They become moody or very impulsive – 'up and down';**
- **They are suddenly quite aggressive or confrontational when you ask them what they have been doing;**
- **Guarded/defensive about bags, pockets, mobile phone, personal possessions;**
- **They change their mobile phone frequently or unexpectedly;**
- **They adopt a new friendship group – older people who you don't know or trust;**
- **They suddenly have access to money, designer clothing, new electronic technology;**
- **They offer you drugs.**

Getting Help

Whether you need to get help for a friend, or for yourself – help is available. If you don't seek help you or your friend could end up being convicted, addicted, or seriously harmed.

People You Can Trust

Your parents

Teacher

Your doctor

Social worker

The police

People You Can't Trust

Anyone who offers you drugs

Anyone you know who is using

Anyone they introduce you to

More Information

Teenage suicide is an alarming and increasing problem. Getting entangled in County Lines might make you contemplate your life.

177 teenagers took their own life in 2017.

You can ask for help:

Samaritans – call 116 123 (confidentially)

Police – 101

NHS Direct – 111

Speak to a teacher that you trust. Talk to your parents.

