



Child Criminal Exploitation

There is currently no statutory definition of child criminal exploitation (CCE). Although some guidance does exist, it covers the different issues of deception, bullying, manipulation, coercion and violence. Young people are forced to work in cannabis factories, move drugs or money across county lines, and systematically carry out crimes of theft or violence against other young people.

The involvement of young people in organised criminal activity often develops over a long period and through the subtle gaining of 'trust' and 'loyalty' via gifts from criminals on the outskirts of organised crime. Young people who are vulnerable, lonely or have learning difficulties are especially targeted due to being more likely to want to form a relationship with exploiters. Once a trusting relationship is formed, the victims are required to perform increasingly exploitative tasks that embed them further into 'gang' activities, leaving them in debt to organised crime and further exploitation.

If you are concerned about a child's potential involvement in CCE:

Contact South Gloucestershire's Social Services Access and Response Team:
[01454 866000](tel:01454866000) - Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm

[01454 615165](tel:01454615165) - Out of hours and at weekends

In an emergency, please ring [999](tel:999)

Useful websites about this issue

- <https://www.fearless.org/professionals/resources/gangs>
- <https://www.youandco.org.uk/crime-info/violent-crime-facts/gangs-and-street-violence>
- <https://www.childrengsociety.org.uk/what-is-county-lines>
- <https://www.spurgeons.org/>

Definitions

Child Criminal Exploitation

Child Criminal Exploitation is common in county lines and occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child Criminal Exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. (Home Office, 2018)

Organised Crime

Organised crime is serious crime, planned, coordinated and conducted by people working together on a continuing basis. Their motivation is often, but not always, financial gain. Organised crime groups are organised criminals working together for a particular criminal activity or activities. (National Crime Agency, 2018)

County Lines

County lines is 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 forms 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. (Home Office, 2018)

Cuckooing

Cuckooing is a form of crime in which drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person in order to use it as a base for drug dealing. (National Crime Agency, 2017)

Trafficking

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child, for the purpose of exploitation. Any child transported for exploitative reasons is considered to be a trafficking victim, whether or not they have been forced or deceived – this is because a child cannot consent to their own exploitation. Children can be trafficked into, within and out of the UK. (DfE and Home Office, 2011)





Safeguarding Team

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.



Ms James
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Ms Wilshire
KS3 Deputy Safeguarding Lead
(Year 7, 8 & 9)



Mrs Thurston
KS4 Deputy Safeguarding Lead
(Year 10 & 11)

Need to talk to us, but would prefer to text?



Text us on [07749723552](tel:07749723552) between 3:00pm and 5:00pm Monday-Friday

Please speak to us for support or advice!

Contact us Via Email:

Zoe.James@clf.uk

Carly.Wilshire@clf.uk

Jane.Thurston@clf.uk

External Agency Support



Both OTR and CYN can offer comprehensive support on all issues. They offer youth clubs, 1-1 support and their websites can be used for students to find advice and information on a range of topics.

Kooth offer free, anonymous online support. You can encourage students to use Kooth on any issue.

