



Home Office

Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation

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Introduction

- Document setting out our new approach to ‘Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation’ published 13 January 2016.
- EGVE programme builds on learning from previous Ending Gang and Youth Violence programme and includes a new twin focus on tackling violence and identifying action to tackle exploitation.
- Six key EGVE priorities are to:
 - **Tackle county lines**
 - **Protect vulnerable locations**
 - **Reduce violence and knife crime.**
 - **Safeguard gang-associated women and girls**
 - **Promote early intervention**
 - **Promote meaningful alternatives to gangs**

Overview

- National conference on Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation on 1 March.
- EGVE Forum established and met in July (focus on mental health and social media) and November (focus on community engagement). Over 100 members of the Forum.
- New partnership with Institute of Community Safety in place and offer of local support announced.
- Delivery plan in place to drive progress and inform updates to quarterly Inter-Ministerial Group on Gangs.
- New Working Group and action plan on 'county lines'.
- Continued work with law enforcement to develop intelligence picture and take further action on knife crime.



Progress so far

What we have done – action since last Forum includes:

- New partnership with Institute of Community Safety with funding in place to support 15 match funded local reviews. MOPAC funding in place to support further 10 reviews within London. Reviews delivered in Milton Keynes, Colchester, and Portsmouth with further reviews identified in Plymouth, Basildon and Chapelton.
- 2nd National Crime Agency Assessment on 'County Lines' prepared providing updated intelligence on latest threat from gangs and exploitation. Report highlights continued threat and makes recommendations for further work on mobile phone and safeguarding.
- IMG Meeting including discussion on county lines and key actions needed by police and other agencies eg:
 - Operational/tactical advice on the use of trafficking legislation.
 - Further work on introduction of PNC Marker.
 - Progress on disrupting mobile phone lines involved in county lines exploitation.
- Series of actions on knife crime including:
 - Supporting series of coordinated weeks of police action under 'Operation Sceptre'.
 - Working with retailers to implement agreement on responsible sales of knives.
 - Supporting Crimestoppers in 'Fearless' re-launch.
 - Legislating to ban zombie knives.
- Roundtable with MPs on EGVE programme.
- Publication of Ending Gang and Youth Violence independent assessment with update to HASC.
- Funding for Young People's Advocates (continuation of funding since March 2012).

Next steps

Action for next quarter includes:

- New National Working Group on County Lines to push approach across all departments and agencies. Action plan includes :
 - *Policing*: developing further cross border operations, raising awareness and building resilience in forces and areas outside London (eg Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham gangs), securing PNC Marker, multi-agency operations, further intelligence assessments
 - *Mobile phones*: developing options for legislation to close mobile phone lines and pursuing techniques to disrupt numbers pending legislation
 - *Prosecutions*: updated guidance for prosecutors highlighting modern slavery/trafficking offences
 - *Raising awareness and developing resilience*: across key sectors including housing, children's social care, health (incl mental health services), jobcentre plus
- Also working with DCMS to harness opportunities within Sports Strategy for gang members and within arts and culture funding streams.
- Continuing our actions on knife crime including work with retailers and commissioning communications work on preventative messages and engagement opportunities for children and young people on the risks and consequences of knife crime.
- Working with MoJ (NOMS) on measures to reduce gang violence in prisons as part of wider package of prisons reforms.
- Supporting the expansion of youth violence intervention models outside London.
- Further meeting of the IMG in January as well as Roundtable with MPs next Spring.

Summary and next steps

- Significant programme of activity underway across the EGVE priorities. Clear set of actions being delivered.
- Challenges around raising awareness of gang related exploitation and tackling county lines.
- EGVE Forum providing direct feedback on challenges.
- Any questions/thoughts/comments?