Vulnerability and Exploitation update



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Introduction

Dave Sargent

Partnership Strategic Lead for Vulnerability and Exploitation

dave.sargent@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

What we are going to cover

- Changes to national /local picture
- Implications to you, concerning Crime and Policing Bill 2025
- Emerging issues!!

What we know nationally

There are now more than 1800 active county lines running in England and Wales.

Large increase over the last few months that can be partially attributed to police activity

There is still an overlap between missing young people, criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation.

What we know locally

Currently we have approx. 15 active lines operating in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Increase in violent crime especially those involving knives or other weapons

Peterborough and Cambridgeshire are ranked in the top 5 impacted areas nationally.

Growth area due to transport links.

Peterborough highlighted as known area of multi deprivation Incredibly diverse areas making it easy to hide in plain sight! Contextual Safeguarding and Risk outside of the home! Embedded processes in both authority areas now

Contextual Risk Screening Tool

CONTEXTUAL RISK (including Exploitation) SCREENING TOOL Child or young person's name Youth Justice Involvement (Yes / No / Previous) **Known to Police** Gender (Yes / No) CAMH DOB & AGE (Yes / No / Previous) Education Placement (Name of Ethnicity provision) **Accommodation Type Current Attendance (%)** CSC Legal Status (i.e., S17, S47 CP SEND Plan, S31, targeted services) (Yes/No) **Home Address** Alcohol/ Substance Misuse (Yes / No / (Address / Postcode) suspected) Context/s of concern: Home School Family Peers Spaces/neighbourhoods Online Please describe the concerns within the contexts selected above: RISK CATEGORIES (add X to relevant box) Regularly coming home late/ Absent without permission/ Returning late to care home/ Absent from school/ Whereabouts often unknown **EMERGING** Frequently staying out overnight without permission/ Episodes of running away, MFH, missing from placement/ Looking well cared for despite MODERATE 1.Running Away/ having no known base/ Regular breakdowns of placement due to behavioural problems Going Missing Persistently running away, going Missing from home or placement/ Pattern of street homelessness/ Whereabouts often unknown/ talks about and/or known to travel to different areas or cities **EMERGING** Recent change in peer group/ Reduced contact with family/friends/ Late night phone/internet contact Secretive about having a mobile phone or more than one/ Extensive use of mobile phone/internet/ Late night phone/internet contact / Limited **MODERATE** 2.Coercion / contact with family/friends/ concerns about secretive relationships and peers' groups/ behaviour change causing concern to family and peer group Control Secretive about mobile phone or more than one / Disclosure/intelligence of physical/sexual assault followed by withdrawn allegation/reluctance

Contextual Risk Screening Tool

Process may vary depending on authority area in the future

Task and Finish
Group currently
looking at the form

No changes without multi agency agreement

Crime and Policing Bill 2025



Crime and Policing Bill 2025

Some important changes coming our way!

Child Criminal Exploitation

Cuckooing

Coerced Internal Concealment

Defining
Child
Criminal
Exploitation
(CCE)

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) involves the use of children to commit crimes. This exploitation often involves an imbalance of power where adults manipulate or coerce children into illegal activities.

New Criminal Offence

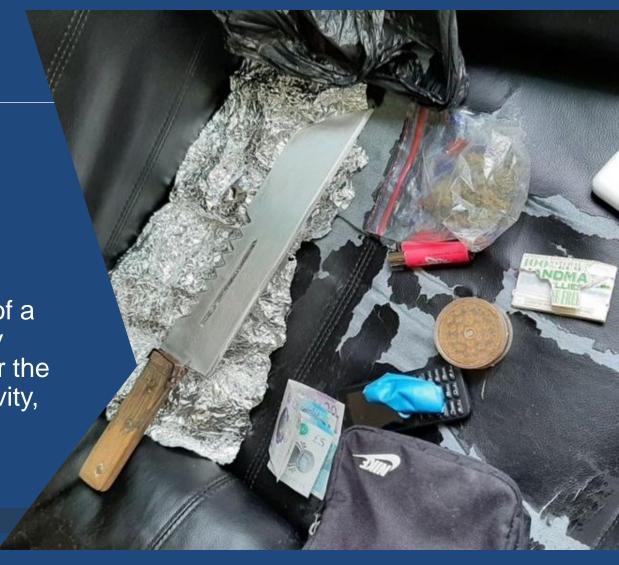
The Crime and Policing Bill 2025 introduces a new standalone offence to prosecute adults committing child criminal exploitation. This offence targets adults aged 18 and over who use children under 18 to commit crimes. The maximum penalty for this offence is 10 years' imprisonment, a fine, or both.

Civil Preventative Orders

The bill introduces new child criminal exploitation civil preventative orders. These orders can be issued at the end of criminal proceedings or upon application to prevent exploitative conduct. Breach of an order is a criminal offence with a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment.

What is cuckooing?

Cuckooing is the unauthorised takeover of a person's home, typically someone vulnerable, for the purpose of criminal activity, such as drug trafficking



Why Legislation is Needed

Current laws address cuckooing under broader offences like harassment or modern slavery. A bespoke criminal offence is needed to better protect vulnerable individuals and ensure perpetrators face appropriate consequences.

Key Provisions of the New Law

- Creation of a bespoke criminal offence for cuckooing

- Definition: Unauthorised takeover of a person's home for criminal activity

- Maximum sentence of five years in prison

Coerced Internal Concealment

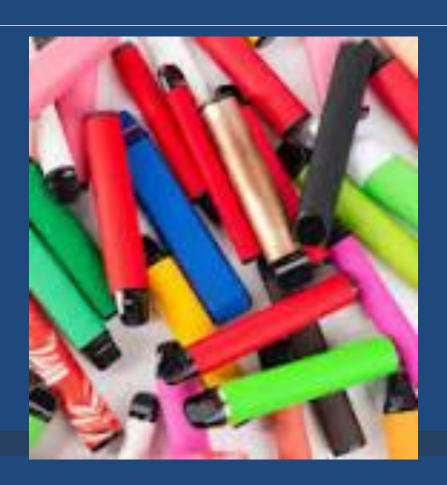
New offence coming!

A new criminal offence of 'coerced internal concealment', to be introduced as an amendment to the landmark Crime and Policing Bill, will crack down on anyone, including gang leaders who force people to hide items inside their bodies to avoid detection.

This practice, also known by the street names 'plugging', 'stuffing' and 'banking', is typically used by organised gangs to transport items like drugs, money and SIM cards from one location to another.

It relies on forcing or deceiving children and vulnerable adults into ingesting or hiding items inside their bodily cavities and is often linked to county lines drug running.

Disposable vapes now illegal since 1st June 2025



Nicotine Pouches are the new vape!!





Questions?

www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk

safeguardingboardstraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk