

West Mercia Police and Crime Panel

Item 6 – Appendix 1 - Serious Violence Strategy

Supplement to the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel Agenda

**Tuesday, 18 September 2018, 1.30 pm
County Hall, Worcester**

This document can be made available in other formats (large print, audio tape, computer disk and Braille) on request from Democratic Services on telephone number 01905 843579 or by emailing democraticServices@worcestershire.gov.uk

West Mercia Police and Crime Panel

Tuesday, 18 September 2018, 1.30 pm,

Membership:

Mr S J Mackay (Chairman)	Substantive Member - Worcestershire County Council
Mr T Baker	Substantive Member - Malvern Hills District Council
Cllr Sebastian Bowen	Co-opted Member Herefordshire Council
Mrs Carole Clive	Co-opted Independent Lay Member
Cllr Gerald Dakin	Co-opted Member - Shropshire Council
Cllr Roger Evans	Co-opted Member - Shropshire Council
Cllr Karen May	Substantive Member - Bromsgrove District Council
Cllr Gareth Prosser	Substantive Member - Redditch Borough Council
Cllr Stephen Reynolds	Substantive Member - Telford & Wrekin Council
Cllr Kuldeep Sahota	Co-opted Member - Telford and Wrekin Council
Cllr Juliet Smith	Substantive Member - Wyre Forest District Council
Cllr James Stanley	Substantive Member - Worcester City Council
Cllr Emma Stokes	Substantive Member - Wychavon District Council
Cllr Dave Tremellen	Co-opted Member - Shropshire Council
Colonel Tony Ward OBE	Co-opted Independent Lay Member
Cllr Brian Wilcox	Substantive Member - Herefordshire Council
Cllr Michael Wood (Chairman)	(Vice Substantive Member - Shropshire Council

Agenda

Item No	Subject	Page No
6	Appendix 1 to the Report on the Home Office Serious Violence Strategy	1 - 2

Agenda produced and published by Simon Mallinson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP

To obtain further information or a copy of this agenda contact Samantha Morris, Scrutiny Officer on Worcester (01905) 844963 email: sjmorris@worcestershire.gov.uk

Reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website at www.worcestershire.gov.uk

Date of Issue: Monday, 10 September 2018

This page is intentionally left blank

The diagram illustrates the 'Brand' Line distribution model, showing the flow of goods and information between three main entities:

- Urban Command Control Hub:** The central hub, represented by a smartphone icon. It is associated with a **'Brand' Line** (indicated by a red line).
- Rural Location:** The intermediate point, represented by a person icon. It is associated with a **Customer** (indicated by a red line).
- Rural Operational Hub:** The final point, represented by a person icon. It is associated with a **Runner/Dealer** (indicated by a red line).

The flow of goods and information is as follows:

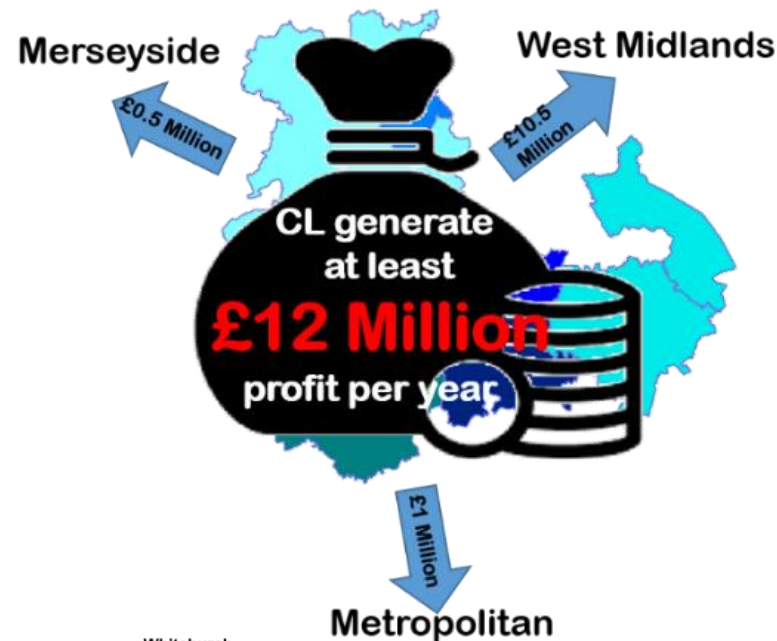
- A **Global text message to customer database** is sent from the Urban Command Control Hub to the Rural Location. The message content is: *'Deals for you. 8-12. 2 4 £20 Ask for T'*
- SUPPLY** flows from the Rural Location to the Rural Operational Hub.
- SUPPLY** flows from the Rural Operational Hub back to the Rural Location.
- CASH** flows from the Rural Location back to the Urban Command Control Hub.
- RUGS** (representing the cost of the supply) flows from the Rural Location back to the Urban Command Control Hub.

The diagram is labeled **Page 1** at the bottom left.

- Present significant and enduring threat, risk and harm to communities.
- Cross boundary drug network.
- Controlled from urban hub to rural location using a line.
- Line is the controlling phone number and brand name.
- Homes of vulnerable individuals are cuckooed to provide operating and distribution hubs.
- Exploitation of the most vulnerable is key to the county lines business model.
- The visible drug supply is a driver for high harm offending and unseen systematic physical, mental and sexual exploitation.
- Will exploit vulnerable adults and children.

- 80+ lines across alliance area.
- Hire cars, taxis and rail network used.

Drugs and Money



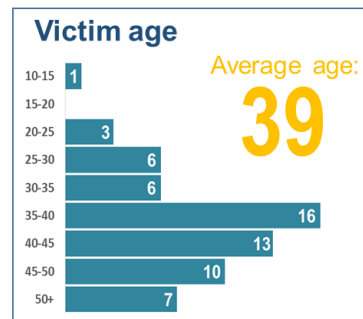
Violence and weapons



- Knives can be used and carried. Blunt and bladed weapons, firearms and corrosive substances also used.
- Diverse range of reasons for violence from taxing other dealers, competition between rival networks and shows of strength to ensure dominance.

Victims and exploitation

- **Victims of County Lines activity frequently will not represent the 'idealised' victim.**
- They often have complex needs, chaotic lives and poor decision making skills.



Exploitation risk factors

Mental health problems

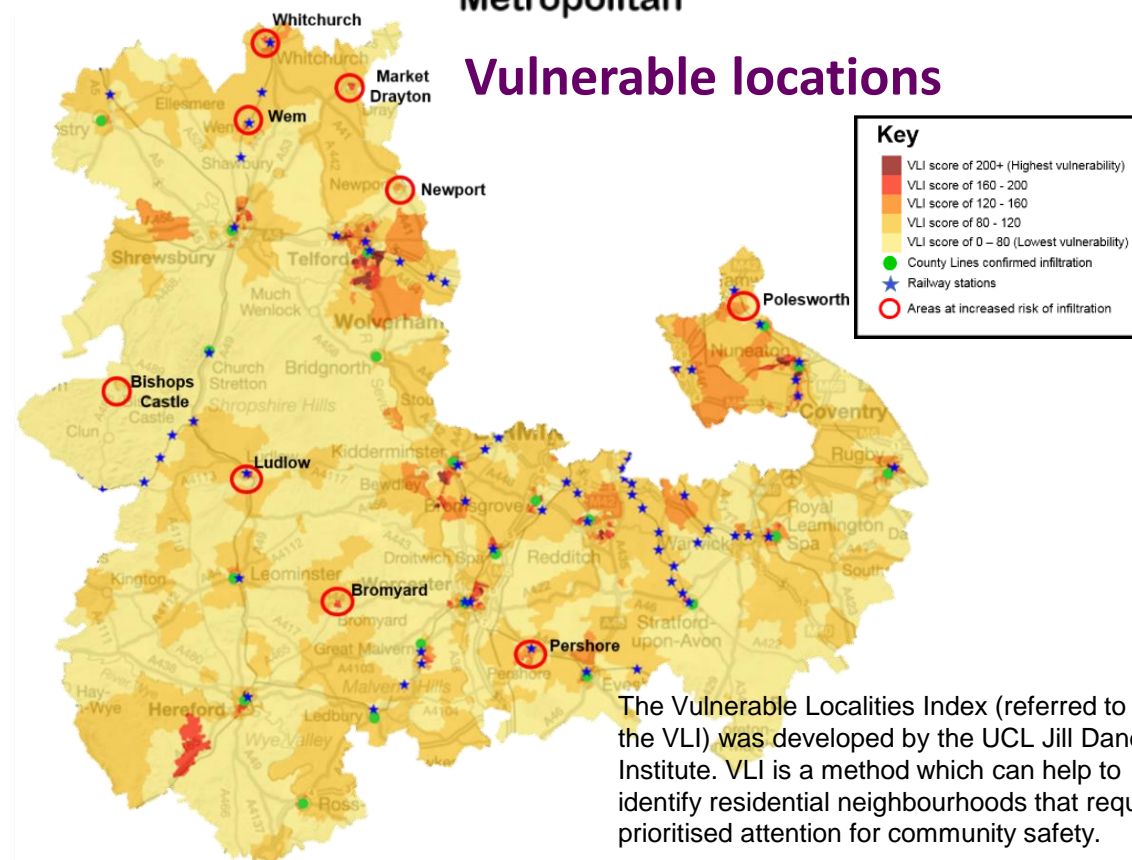
Drug use

Debt bondage

Prone to missing episodes

Known to care
systems

Vulnerable locations



The Vulnerable Localities Index (referred to as the VLI) was developed by the UCL Jill Dando Institute. VLI is a method which can help to identify residential neighbourhoods that require prioritised attention for community safety.

- County Lines (CL) operating model relies on identifying and exploiting vulnerability.
- Where vulnerability intersects with good transportation links via road and rail network then there is risk of CL.
- Most major towns in the alliance have been infiltrated by CL.
- However some locations, not yet infiltrated, are at heightened risk of infiltration due to their location/population. Measures can be taken here to make the environment less hospitable to CL activity.
- These locations have been indicated on the map.

This page is intentionally left blank