

TRAPPED

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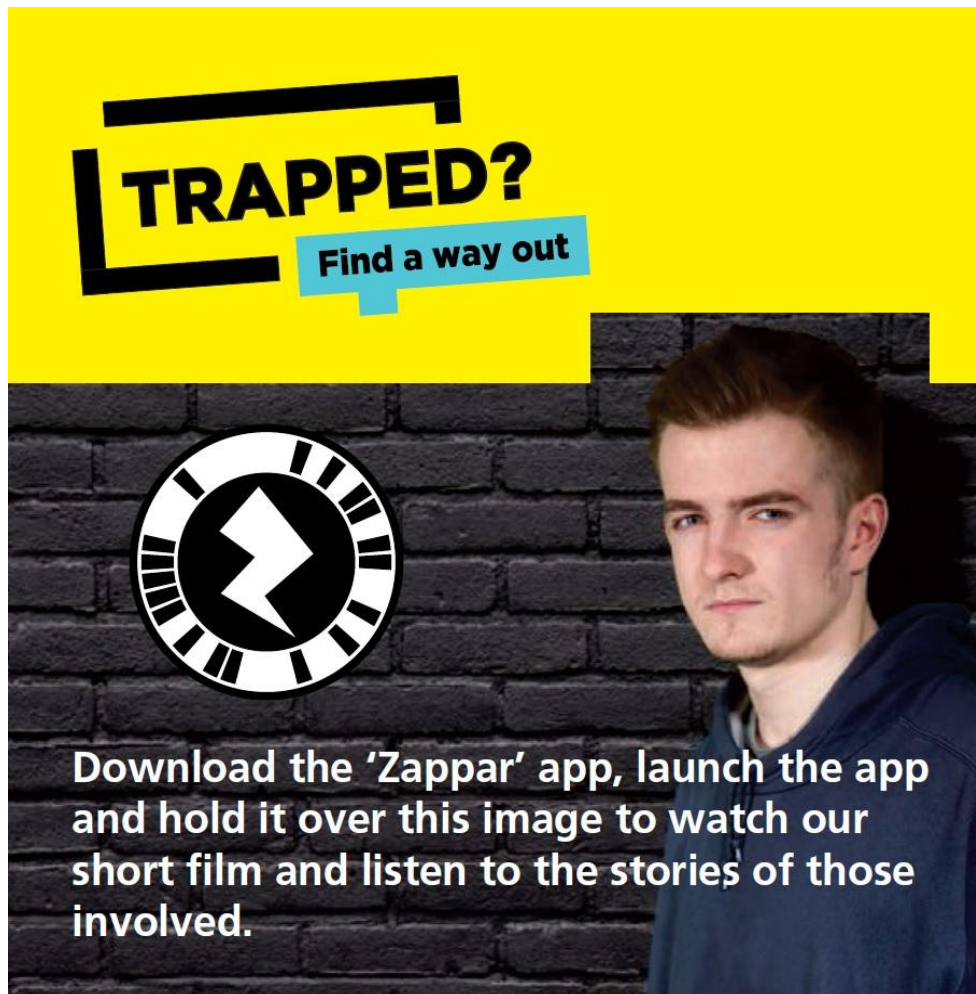
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Child Criminal Exploitation

County Lines – Home Office Definition;

County lines is a term used to describe gangs, groups or drug networks that supply drugs from urban to suburban areas across the country, including market and coastal towns, using dedicated mobile phone lines or “deal lines”. They exploit children and vulnerable adults to move the drugs and money to and from the urban area, and to store the drugs in local markets. They will often use intimidation, violence and weapons, including knives, corrosives and firearms.

“Trapped” – Criminal Exploitation of Children



TRAPPED?
Find a way out

Download the 'Zappar' app, launch the app and hold it over this image to watch our short film and listen to the stories of those involved.

Trapped Campaign video

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLhGpS1f-F0>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLhGpS1f-F0>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLhGpS1f-F0> – Trapped Campaign



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Risk Factors

- Persistently going missing from school or home and /or being found out-of-area;
- Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes, or mobile phones
- Excessive receipt of texts / phone calls
- Relationships with controlling / older individuals or groups
- Leaving home / care without explanation

Risk Factors Continued...

- Suspicion of physical assault /unexplained injuries
- Parental concerns
- Carrying weapons
- Significant decline in school results / performance
- Gang association or isolation from peers or social networks
- Self-harm or significant changes in emotional well-being

Case Study

- 15 Year Old Male not attending education
- Poor relationship with Mother - thrown out of home
- Moved in with alcoholic father
- Regularly locked out at night, unfed and neglected
- ‘Caring’ neighbour offers to take him in gives him food, clothes and cannabis
- 15 year old told he has to pay back his neighbour through selling drugs



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Case Study

- 15 year old feels Indebted as his neighbour 'cared' for him
- Arrested in Devon with 10k worth of Class A Drugs
- NRM Submitted
- Referred to ICTA
- Challenge charge using Modern Slavery Act – Sec 45 defence



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Case Study

- 13 year old diagnosed autism
- Behaviour issues
- Missing 6 times in 12 months ranging from 2 days to 2 months
- Initially arrested twice in 2 weeks In possession on between 25 – 55 wraps of cocaine & Heroin, £500 - £1000 and 2 mobile phones
- The next month arrested in Cumbria in similar circumstances
- Referral sent by professionals in Cumbria in relation to his vulnerability



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Case study continued

- 31 pieces of intelligence in relation to his associations , 17 referenced the child was being groomed, made to deal drugs, he was in fear, frightened for his safety and named the drugs line or person involved
- 14 years old was beaten, kidnapped and admitted to hospital with a bleed on the brain after being taken to Blackpool.
- Served time in custody due to breach of TAG



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Learning

- No joined up thinking and information sharing
- Strategy meetings around the risk to other siblings
- Each case being dealt with in isolation
- No leadership and plans put in place to identify facilitators
- Lack of understanding of exploitation

Independent Child Trafficking Advocate

Barnardo's has been commissioned by the Home Office to deliver services (2017–19)

Under the Modern Slavery Act all children within Greater Manchester who are aged under 18 and identified as potentially trafficked; must be referred into Barnardo's ICTAs Service; this would include:

- *Young people who have been trafficked to the UK from abroad*
- *Young people trafficked for the purposes of exploitation through CSE*
- *Young people trafficked for the purposes of exploitation through criminal activity*
- *Young people who are identified as potentially trafficked and are currently missing*

Role:

- Developing a safety plan and ensuring a referral is made to the NRM
- To work alongside professionals to provide effective support for the child or young person

Referrals via:

- secure email - trafficking.referrals@bypmk.cjsm.net
- 24/7 referral line: 0800 043 4303