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# Problem Profile: Operation PROTECTION 2

(Internal Human Trafficking of Children for Sexual Exploitation within  
the West Midlands)

May 2012



*"Serving our communities,  
protecting them from harm"*

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## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 National context

*“The sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive ‘something’ (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through use of technology without the child’s immediate recognition, for example the persuasion to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones with no immediate payment or gain. In all cases those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources.”<sup>1</sup>*

**The National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People, 2008**

As far as identifying internal trafficking as a distinct form of child sexual exploitation within the UK, evidence has remained limited. This is due to a range of factors including a lack of consensus regarding how ‘internal trafficking’ should be defined and understood across agencies. The most often cited and internationally accepted definition of ‘child trafficking’ comes from the United Nations Protocol supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. The UN Protocol commonly described as the Palermo Protocol states children under 18 represent a ‘special case’ where human trafficking is concerned. This is due to children below age 18 being considered unable to give fully informed consent to their movements by an adult across national or international borders for the purpose of exploitation.<sup>2</sup> Child Sexual Exploitation is a form of ‘internal trafficking’ being used by some offenders and exploiters to effect stronger control over those they abuse. This trafficking is often seen in situations where young people are victims of sexual exploitation and the perpetrators of this abuse move them from one city in the UK to another for the purpose of sexual abuse by individuals or groups of men in another city.<sup>3</sup>

A study was conducted on sexual exploitation by the International Centre for the Study of Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People, based in the Institute of Applied Social Research at the University of Bedfordshire. Research was funded by Comic Relief with findings being published on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2011. As part of the research questionnaires were sent to 144 Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) in England. A total of 100 were completed. Follow up interviews took place in 24 areas resulting in 89 interviews. A total of 1065 cases from 33 agencies in nine regions were monitored. The study found that victims of child exploitation were being failed by LSCBs as only a quarter in England are implementing the guidance appropriately.<sup>4</sup> Young people, their families and carers receive awareness raising in less than half of the country and the prosecution of abusers is rare and, where criminal proceedings take place, young people’s experience of court can be intolerable.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nationalworkinggroup.org/what-is-child-sexual-exploitation>

<sup>2</sup> Sexual Exploitation: ‘Internal Trafficking’ of Children and Young People at risk in the North East and Cumbria, March 2010

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.teachingexpertise.com/articles/preventing-internal-trafficking-in-the-uk-2941>

<sup>4</sup> Working Together to Safeguard Children (2006) and Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation (2009)

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.beds.ac.uk/news/2011/october/exploitationstudy>

Almost two thirds (64 of 100) of the survey respondents had 'no plans' to appoint a coordinator and a third reported that they have 'no plans' for developing a protocol or strategy, with some overtly stating that child sexual exploitation was not a priority for them. The research also found that data collection and quality was inadequate and data was not being collected on the nature and prevalence of CSE despite data collection being intricately linked to awareness raising. Child sexual exploitation takes place in many ways. There is no one model of how young people are sexually exploited and no one method of coercion. While exploitation by an older boy/girlfriend was noted most frequently (137 of 439 cases), a total of 27% of the cases noted peer on peer exploitation. Sexual exploitation is also occurring within gang affected neighbourhoods.

The research also found a high proportion of sexually exploited young people 'go missing' while some are purposefully trafficked within the UK for sexual exploitation usually without intelligence sharing between professionals in different areas. A disproportionate number of sexually exploited young people are looked after by the local authority, and a disproportionate number are placed in residential care although care homes are known to be 'targets' for exploiters and many young people identified as at risk of, or experiencing child sexual exploitation also experienced a range of other problems. These problems may have resulted from sexual exploitation, or may increase the vulnerability of the young people to this form of abuse.

Key recommendations from the document which should be implemented nationally include a review of the court process for CSE, training to be provided on CSE to LSCB chairs, Directors of Children's Services and in core curriculum for all child care professionals, each LSCB to monitor and submit annual data, regular inspections of LSCBs progress in protecting victims and a full review of 'safe' accommodation for victims. The report also recommends that at a local level each LSCB should have a multi-agency strategy, use's the study's self-assessment tool, completes annual monitoring and has a co-elected team.<sup>6</sup>

The issue of child sexual exploitation has recently received more attention in the media due to recent arrests, convictions and trials regarding Asian Males sexually exploiting young females in Rochdale<sup>7</sup> and Oxford<sup>8</sup>. In Rochdale 11 Asian men were on trial at Liverpool Crown Court accused of a variety of sex offences against children including rape, trafficking and sex assault. The ethnicity of the offenders has caused racial tensions in the Heywood area of Rochdale due to the victims being young white females. Takeaway restaurants were mentioned in media coverage for the trial which led to angry mobs taking to the streets in protest brandishing racist placards, and attacking local businesses and clashing with police officers.<sup>9</sup> On 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012 nine men were convicted of being involved in the sexual exploitation ring. Two men were acquitted and walked free from court.<sup>10</sup> In Oxford 6 men have been charged as part of an investigation into child trafficking, seven others were bailed until April 2012. Police originally said 24 females were allegedly involved but reports suggest there could be as many as 38.

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<sup>6</sup> 'What's going on to Safeguard Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation? How local partnerships respond to child sexual exploitation' by Jago et al. October 2011

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2104360/Girl-15-gives-harrowing-account-plied-alcohol-passed-Asian-gang-sex.html>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-oxfordshire-17563203>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/mob-attacks-asian-restaurant-linked-to-sex-grooming-court-case-7440671.html>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-17989463>

Reference	PIERO	Details
1	Intelligence	Liaise with NW RIU, Greater Manchester Police and Thames Valley Police to ascertain what research/analysis techniques they used to identify victims.
2	Intelligence Enforcement	Liaise with NW RIU, Greater Manchester Police and Thames Valley Police to share good investigative and enforcement practise.
3	Reassurance	Liaise with Greater Manchester Police to ascertain what communications and media strategy they have used to manage community tensions
4	Prevention	Liaise with Greater Manchester Police to ascertain whether they identified any females acting as facilitators for offenders through their investigation and what safeguarding measures were implemented. Establish whether facilitators were managed as victims or offenders.

## 1.2 Regional Context

CSE became a redefined Regional Control Priority for 2012, moving away from human trafficking for Exploitation which was deemed too large. There are no new operations currently taking place in neighbouring forces; however work is ongoing in West Mercia and Staffordshire under the project names CHALICE and SHELTER respectively. These are the force’s response to CSE similar to West Midlands’ response with PROTECTION. The true scale of CSE can not be accurately ascertained; however reports are increasing rapidly as the awareness of this criminality is only beginning to be realised across the forces. Intelligence indicates the males are not just using females for their own sexual gratification but are actively prostituting them to others in the network. There were similar offender and victim profiles to those found nationally with nearly one hundred offenders/suspects identified in the region.

Regionally there are strong similarities with regards to the profile of the offenders, the vulnerability of the young female victims and MO. The main difference in CHALICE compared to the other regional operations was that victims were predominantly approached outside of educational facilities, under 18’s discos or areas frequented by youths. They are then groomed and forced into illegal sexual activity. Some of the offences disclosed included Sexual Activity with a Child, Rape and Abduction.

Operation RETRIEVER in Derbyshire found links to Staffordshire and the West Midlands with offenders being identified and subsequently charged with sexual offences but not trafficking. Regionally the offender profile is one of an Asian male of Pakistani origin who befriends underage females for sexual activity and encourages them to introduce other young females. They provide the victims with alcohol, drugs, money and threaten them with violence if they don’t comply with their demands. Communication occurs primarily through face to face contact or via telecoms through calls and text messages. Once victims turn 18 they may be used as ‘madams’ or facilitators in recruiting more young girls. Their homes might also be used for storing drugs or hosting drugs and sex parties. Many victims are regular MISPERs and have been found in Birmingham, Staffordshire,



Manchester and Yorkshire. One of the key findings from Op SHELTER was that Asian males working for taxi companies and fast food restaurants were responsible for numerous offences. Victims were picked up from home or popular public locations by males in vehicles or taxis, and taken to hotels and flats by their abusers. [REDACTED]

Some groups appear to have a more sophisticated organisation; however there is little knowledge around the hierarchy, roles and key players. It has been inferred that offenders have a history of sexual offences as well as a wide range of other offences. The sexual exploitation offences are therefore part of a wider criminal lifestyle which also includes offences such as drugs supply and acquisitive crime. Offenders are willing and able to travel long distances nationally to collect girls.

In July 2010 the Strategic Profiling Unit at Staffordshire Police completed a CSE Problem Profile that considered two years of sex offences committed against children under the age of 16 across the county using the broad definition of 'Child Sexual Exploitation' to include a variety of offences rather than only organised sexual exploitation and on-street grooming offences. Following the completion of the problem profile, the Strategic Profiling Unit produced Project TOPSAIL in November 2010. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Victims were usually vulnerable teenage girls who were either under the age of 16 or were over the age of consent but had additional vulnerabilities such as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The Strategic Profiling Unit are currently working on Project GARNET – which aims to build on the work of Project TOPSAIL to identify young people who are being sexually exploited and the people who are committing the exploitation.

CSE is now part of the RIU control strategy and a SPOC has recently been appointed to look at this area of business on a day-to-day basis. Part of their main duties will be to liaise with regional and national forces to better understand how to tackle CSE and engage with UKBA if exploitation occurs involving foreign nationals.

### 1.3 Background and Purpose

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a major child protection issue for communities across the UK. Hidden from view and going unnoticed, vulnerable young girls and boys are groomed and then abused, leaving them traumatised and scarred for life. CSE is illegal activity by people who have power over young people and use it to sexually abuse them. This can involve a broad range of exploitative activity, from seemingly 'consensual' relationships and informal exchanges of sex for attention, accommodation, gifts or cigarettes, through to serious organised crime. The true number of children who are victims of sexual exploitation is unknown as the pain of their ordeal, fear of reprisals from the offenders and fear that they will not be believed means that they are too often scared to come forward.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/our\\_projects/sexual\\_exploitation.htm](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/our_projects/sexual_exploitation.htm)



grooming); however, the OCGs identified by West Midlands Police Force are, in the main, involved in varying types of exploitation, including distribution and production of child pornography.

Another limitation of this document is that data regarding victims was providing by LPU MISPER co-ordinator's; however not all LPU's have a dedicated co-ordinator. Therefore, despite previous findings and intelligence suggesting all LPU's were vulnerable to CSE, analysis from the provided data does not support this anymore. As a result the number of identified victims, offenders and offences is not likely to be representative of the true picture.

The underreporting is likely to be exasperated further due to lack of trust and confidence in police and statutory agencies. There is also no specific special interest marker in CRIMES for CSE which makes it difficult to quantify the true nature of this criminality.

Partner agencies have considerable amounts of data relating to this issue, but it has not been considered in this analysis because systems do not exist within the force to absorb this data into IMS.

Finally, because this is a complex area of criminality that presents itself in many different or overlapping forms, the interpretation of what counts as a victim, suspect or offence may have been applied differently across LPUs. Due to these limitations, the document does not provide a definitive representation of the true scale of the problem.

Reference	PIERO	Details
5	Organisational	<b>Data Quality</b> - CSE marker to be created in CRIMES to help identify and quantify the number of CSE offences.
6	Organisational	Strategic plan to be formulated around trust and confidence to encourage engagement and disclosure of offences by victims to relevant authorities.
7	Organisational	<b>Data Quality</b> - Robust processes to be implemented to ensure accurate data collection at LPU, force and regional level.



## 2.0 Executive Summary

This product evidences that organised grooming and sexual abuse of vulnerable young girls is occurring on every LPU within the force. It identifies significant organisational risks to the force and statutory agencies. A number of offenders and vulnerable locations have been identified, which will allow a clear and co-ordinated approach to disrupting this criminality.

The majority of identified suspects are Asian, a large proportion of which are of Pakistani origin. This criminality received significant media coverage during 2012 as a result of court cases in Liverpool, Oxford and Birmingham, which in turn increased community tensions in these areas. These and other key findings are listed below.

### Offences

- Offences include group rape and sexual assault, indecent assault, child abuse and false imprisonment.
- A high level of organised criminality has been evidenced both within the force and regionally.
- There are examples in Wolverhampton, Dudley and Birmingham East where victims are often forced into prostitution.
- Repeat locations for offences include hotels, parks and private dwellings. [REDACTED]

### Victims

- In February 2012 LPU MISPER co-ordinators identified 45 children who were at high risk from sexual exploitation. Of the 45 identified victims, 42 are female with 3 being male. However; this figure is ever increasing due to new referrals, intelligence and crimes.
- 85% of the victims are white which is consistent with the ethnicity profile of the West Midlands.
- The majority of victims are aged between 14 to 16 years old (80%), with the oldest victim having recently turned 18.
- 44% of the victim's live either in their parental home or with family members. Of this 44%, over half have no experience of care.
- In total, 80% (36 of 45) of victims have been reported missing to the police at least once.
- Victims in Wolverhampton, Dudley and Solihull are involved in prostitution.
- Girls are transported to different locations across the force, away from LPU's they reside in and onto various locations across the region and country where they are abused by multiple males.
- Some girls now fulfil the role of facilitators who befriend new vulnerable girls and introduce them to their abusers.
- Although victims have been given educational opportunities and sexual health awareness, engagement with services varies from good engagement with regular contact to others who don't engage at all.

- Numerous victims of CSE have also been victims of domestic abuse, child abuse, sexual abuse, bullying, neglect and some from unstable family environments.

### **Offenders**

- The majority of identified suspects are Asian males of Pakistani descent (59%).
- Regionally, a significant proportion of suspects are from a Muslim background. It is unclear if this is true of the West Midlands due to poor data quality with regards to religion in crimes.
- Clusters of offenders have been found in Walsall and on Birmingham East which also have the highest populations of Pakistani communities in the West Midlands.
- Offenders have previous arrests for serious sexual offences, drugs and vehicle related crime which suggests CSE is part of a wider criminal lifestyle rather than the sole focus of offending behaviour.

### **Community Cohesion**

- The predominant ethnicity of victims and suspects poses significant threats to community tension.
- The recent guilty verdicts of five Asian males from Birmingham and nine men from Rochdale has made CSE enter the mainstream media again which can potentially lead to an increase in community tensions.
- The BNP have used these cases to gain support with the public and recruit new members. This could also lead to an increase in community tensions and vigilantism.

### **Regional links**

- In light of recent high profile cases, the RIU have started to re-look at CSE from a regional perspective and have re-launched it as a priority with a dedicated SPOC.

### **Organisational**

- Organisational processes continue to present a significant threat to effective intelligence collection, investigation and the force's reputation.
- Under-reporting of offences by victims and lack of engagement and disclosure with the police and partners is a big obstacle for the police and partner agencies when tackling CSE. This in turn can affect trust and confidence in policing.

## 3.0 Victims

### Inferences

- *The biggest obstacle the West Midlands Police faces when tackling the issue of CSE is with engagement and disclosure from victims. Until victims are willing to fully engage with the police and its partners and disclose all offences committed against them, gaining successful convictions against offenders will continue to prove difficult.*
- *Police and partners are missing opportunities to safeguard MISPERs appropriately when they initially go missing, which makes them more vulnerable to becoming victims of CSE.*
- *Offenders are targeting victims irrespective of residence type.*

## 3.1 Victim Profiles

LPU MISPER co-ordinators were tasked with risk-assessing vulnerable people at risk from child sexual exploitation using the West Midlands Child Exploitation Threshold Assessment Form and submit these to the PPU intelligence team by 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012. In total, 45 high risk victims were identified under Operation PROTECTION 2 with a summary of the victim profiles being provided as below:

### Ethnicity, Age, Type of Residence

Of the 45 identified victims, 42 are female with 3 being male. When looking at the ethnicity of victims 85% are white, which is consistent with population of the West Midlands when looking at Census data. The remaining 15% are comprised of various ethnicities including Pakistani, Bangladeshi and mixed race victims. The majority of victims are aged between 14 to 16 years old (80%) with the oldest victim having recently turned 18.

44% of the victim's live either in their parental home or with family members, of this 44% over half have no experience of care. 38% of victims are in looked after care whether a children's home, secure or supported accommodation or with foster parents. These findings are consistent with those in the original Op PROTECTION Problem Profile produced in 2010, and disprove the original hypothesis that the victims of CSE predominantly lived in children's homes.

### Missing Persons (MISPERs)

In total, 80% (36 of 45) of victims have been reported missing to the police at least once with the most number of missing episodes being attributed to [REDACTED] (LPU, 70 missing episodes). Of the 45 victims, 12 (27%) have been reported missing between 1 and 10 times, nine (20%) have been reported missing between 11 and 19 times and fifteen (33%) have been reported missing more than 20 times. When looking at these 45 victims, they have been reported missing an average of 18 times. Of the 45 victims, nine have never been reported missing to the Police. Of these nine, three live with family members and two have never had any experiences of care.

When the victims go missing the majority (49% or 22 of 45) are missing for frequent and short episodes. There are however examples where victims are known to stay out late but have never been reported missing (8 of 45). Persistent and prolonged

missing from home episodes are still creating substantial resourcing implications for WMP and still leaving the Force vulnerable should a vulnerable victim come to harm whilst missing. While conducting analysis it was found that some of these nominal's had duplicate records on the force COMPACT system. These records have been created with names spelt differently, omissions and additions of middle names and incorrect dates of births. This evidences the poor data quality that exists within police systems and a failure to adhere to the recommendations made from the Bichard Inquiry.<sup>12</sup>

There are also weaknesses within COMPACT as it is a stand-alone system that is not linked to any other police system. Unlike CRIMES, ICIS, OASIS and IMS it cannot be accessed through FLINTS and the information is not duplicated or linked in IMS. As a result COMPACT has to be searched independently and as the information it holds cannot be found in IMS it is all unsanitised.

Reference	PIERO	Details
8	Enforcement Organisational	Ensure relevant CSE investigative strategy <sup>13</sup> is enforced at all investigations with emphasis being placed on intelligence opportunities with victim debriefs, revisiting previous victims of CSE and communications data.
9	Organisational	<b>Data Quality</b> - Regular audits of CSE nominal's COMPACT records to be conducted to ensure there are no duplicates and data quality is of a high standard.
10	Organisational	<b>Data Quality</b> - Review of COMPACT procedures in order to address intelligence sharing protocols of vulnerable MISPERs who travel across regional forces.
11	Prevention	Agree an approach for working with parents/carers of children/young person at risk of CSE/ being sexually exploited.

### Links to Prostitution

Research suggests that victims in Wolverhampton, Dudley and Solihull are involved in prostitution. These victims are transported by males to hotels and residential dwellings where they are subsequently abused by numerous other males. These males pay a 'boyfriend' who actually fulfils the role of a pimp so that they can have sexual intercourse with the females but rather than seeing any money the victims receive drugs and alcohol. [REDACTED] is believed to fulfil the role of a facilitator and recruits new girls for older males to exploit. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These examples are discussed in further detail in Section 7 (LPU Overviews).

<sup>12</sup> [www.bichardinquiry.org.uk/10663/report.pdf](http://www.bichardinquiry.org.uk/10663/report.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> [http://intranet2/hq\\_departments/public\\_protection/child\\_sexual\\_exploitation.aspx](http://intranet2/hq_departments/public_protection/child_sexual_exploitation.aspx)



## 3.2 Levels of Abuse and Engagement

### Inference:

- *Children that suffer from domestic abuse, child abuse, neglect and bullying are the most susceptible to being victims of CSE as they are given the attention they crave from offenders which they have never received before. Having been provided with gifts in the form of money, drugs, alcohol and attention the victims show loyalty to their offenders and develop a form of Stockholm Syndrome where they develop positive feelings for them, defend them and see them as boyfriends. This causes them to not want to engage with partner agencies or disclose offences committed against them.*

Although it is necessary to recognise that every case is different there are some underlying and consistent factors when looking at victims of sexual exploitation. Cases can involve single or multiple victims, as well as single or multiple perpetrators. The individual stories of victims can include a number of factors which should have indicated vulnerability to child sexual exploitation early on, or, on the contrary, may include none of these factors. There is common ground, however, that factors like criminal activity, drug and alcohol dependency, going missing or running away, experience of domestic violence, pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections and suffering from learning difficulties are linked to vulnerability to child sexual exploitation.<sup>14</sup>

Research conducted by the University of Bedfordshire found that a significant number of sexual exploitation victims had also been victims of domestic abuse and that high numbers had witnessed it taking place. The study also found that victims of sexual exploitation face an increased risk of further abuse, such as domestic abuse or sexual assault in adulthood (“re-victimisation”).<sup>15</sup> Analysis of the 45 victims shows that seven of the victims have previously been victims of domestic abuse, a further seven have been victims of sexual abuse from boyfriends and family and three are currently being described as being violent towards others and their peers. Consideration should be made to nominate some of these victims and provide support to them through the government’s new Troubled Families Programme. These families are characterised by there being no adult in the family working, children not being in school and family members being involved in crime and anti-social behaviour. These families almost always have other often long-standing problems which can lead to their children repeating the cycle of disadvantage. Other problems such as domestic abuse, relationship breakdown, mental and physical health problems and isolation make it incredibly hard for families to start unravelling their problems.<sup>16</sup>

Intelligence held on police systems shows that one of the main methods the offenders use to get victims to engage in sexual activity is by providing them with drugs and alcohol as well as money. Analysis of the threshold assessments shows that many of the victims are believed to be involved in drugs (66% or 30 of 45), with some being believed to be heavily dependant on drugs. Where it is known what drug the victims use, the most common is Cannabis followed by Cocaine and Heroin. Use or

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<sup>14</sup> Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.education.gov.uk/.../Download?...>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/troubledfamiliesframework>

dependency on alcohol is believed to be slightly more prevalent in the victims with 32 of 45 (71%) suspected of using it on a regular basis.

Of the 45 victims, 36 (80%) currently have an allocated social worker who they are engaging with, four do not and there are five victims where it is unknown. Engagement with services varies from good engagement with regular contact to others who don't engage at all. All victims are believed to be sexually active but there are varying degrees of engagement with services. Some victims engage fully with sexual health services and are aware of the risks they face, while others have no engagement and are believed to be at high risk and have decreasing health. Victims are believed to have several sexual partners and engage in unprotected sex which makes them a very high risk of contracting STIs or becoming pregnant. Recent research has found that Britain has the third-highest proportion of teenagers who are sexually active at an early age and also ranks low among high-income nations for harmful teenage drinking. The research, plus a report by Unicef, call for more attention to be paid to the changing needs of the young, warning they are at risk of mental and physical illness and that too many will die early.<sup>17</sup>

Reference	PIERO	Details
12	Organisational	Missing Persons Co-ordinator's to take on SPOC role in relation to multi-agency information exchange for all Op PROTECTION victims/offenders with all relevant intelligence being forwarded to the Force PPU intelligence Team.
13	Organisational	Consideration to be made to implement a monthly MARAC meeting to discuss the most vulnerable and high risk CSE victims.

### Type of Offences

**Inference:**

- *When victims of CSE commit TFSS offences they target cosmetic products to look more glamorous and appear older than they actually are.*
- *Victims steal hair dye to alter their appearance and avoid detection by officers when reported missing or to avoid being seen by their abusers.*

Offences identified include rape, sexual assault, indecent assault, child abuse, abduction, assault with a weapon and false imprisonment. [REDACTED]<sup>18</sup>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]<sup>19</sup> [REDACTED]

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2012/apr/25/uk-third-highest-proportion-sexually-active-teens>

<sup>18</sup> [REDACTED]

<sup>19</sup> [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED],<sup>20</sup>

When looking at crimes committed by victims of CSE, only 16 of 45 victims do not have a custody record which leaves 65% who have. Of the 29 victims who have custody records, 55% have been previously arrested for violent offences including common assault, ABH and battery followed by 38% who have been arrested for TFSS and other theft offences. When looking at the custody records for the TFSS offences the vast majority of the records relate to the theft of cosmetics, make-up and lingerie. Stolen items include foundation, lipstick, hair dye, false nails and mascara.

Reference	PIERO	Details
14	Prevention Enforcement Organisational	Consideration to be made how frontline officers can be notified when in contact with CSE nominals during tours of duty.
15	Organisational	Consideration to be made to implement early intervention opportunities for vulnerable CSE victims when in custody.

### 3.3 Vulnerable Locations

Based on last known address, victims are spread throughout the force and reside on every LPU. The following table shows the breakdown with regards to CSE nominals and which LPU's they reside on:

LPU	BS	BE	WS	WV	BN	BWC	CV	DY	SH	SW	Grand Total
Total	9	7	6	6	5	4	2	2	2	2	45

It can be seen that BS LPU has the highest number of high risk CSE nominals residing on it with nine, followed by BE, WS and WV with seven, six and six respectively. There is one discernible cluster when looking at home addresses of victims of CSE and this is on BN LPU in the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] areas. Four CSE nominals reside in this area within a 0.8km radius of one another, with three residing in a force priority area. Two of these victims reside in Children's homes, one being [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### Force Priority areas

When looking at home addresses of victims 11 of 45 victims (24%) reside in force priority areas. [REDACTED] of the six high risk victims on WV LPU live in force priority areas in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] one of these being [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Two nominals reside in a force priority area on Walsall LPU in [REDACTED], in close proximity to [REDACTED] which later in the document is identified as a hotspot for locations of offenders. Two nominals reside in force priority areas on BWC

<sup>20</sup> [REDACTED]



LPU in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. Two nominals reside in force priority areas on BS LPU in [REDACTED]. Both these nominals live with family members and have no experience of care. Two nominals also reside in the force priority area located in [REDACTED] on CV LPU; however neither live in children's homes.

**Children's Homes**

Of the 45 vulnerable victims 12 reside in children's homes, which equates to 27%. There are two children's homes that house more than one CSE victim. These homes are [REDACTED] on BE LPU and a Children's Home on [REDACTED] on BS LPU. Historically [REDACTED] on BWC LPU has been identified as a vulnerable location; however there is currently only one high risk CSE nominal that resides at this location. Operations in other forces have identified an MO where offenders use a young girl in a children's home to target and groom other residents on their behalf. These girls are still seen as victims because they have been sexually abused but now appear complicit in the abuse and fulfil the role of facilitators. The girl's motivation to recruit new victims is often that the provision of new girls provides her a way to escape the cycle of abuse. They are also provided with rewards in the form of money, alcohol and drugs. One individual in particular that is believed to be fulfilling the role of a facilitator at Children's homes is [REDACTED]. She is discussed in further detail in section 7 of the document and is a subject of [REDACTED]

Reference	PIERO	Details
16	<p><b>Prevention</b></p> <p><b>Enforcement</b></p> <p><b>Organisational</b></p>	Explore prevention and enforcement opportunities in relation to vulnerable victims who are in looked after care.

**Schools**

Of the 45 victims, 14 (31%) are currently engaged in full time education, training or employment, 13 (29%) are currently not engaged in full time education, training or employment but have shown interest in accessing opportunities and nine (20%) are currently not engaged in education or training and have shown no interest in accessing opportunities. A further 7% have been excluded from school and are either undertaking some training or are attending a Pupil Referral Unit and the status of 13% of victims is unknown.

**3.4 Partnership Working**

Barnado's, one of the Police's partners, have stated that budget cuts could lead to tackling the sexual exploitation of children being downgraded as a priority. A report commissioned by the charity found that its specialist services delivered a third fewer school sessions on child sexual exploitation across the UK in 2010/11 compared with the previous year. Little is happening to protect victims in many communities around the country and in some areas budget cuts may lead to the issue being



downgraded, the charity added. Acknowledgement and recognition of the issue "remains very patchy" and the trend is "worrying", it said. The report went on to state that most of these cases of grooming were in private, rather than on the street, nearly half of these children had gone missing from home, and one in six had been trafficked and moved from town to town.<sup>21</sup>

A publication was printed in September 2011 providing an assessment of the potential savings from Barnardo's interventions for young people who have been sexually exploited. The main finding from the research stated that the benefits to the taxpayer of Barnardo's interventions for young people who have been sexually exploited substantially outweigh the costs, with a potential saving of either £6 or £12 for every £1 spent depending on the assumptions made, in addition to a substantial (non-costed) reduction in the risk of sexual exploitation.<sup>22</sup>

Reference	PIERO	Details
17	Intelligence	Debriefs to be conducted on all historic victims of CSE who are no longer subjects of this offending to discover how and why they were first targeted by offenders in an attempt to better understand why offending first occurs and identify what preventative tactics may work.
18	Organisational	Specialised multi-agency teams to debrief vulnerable girls in order to attain disclosure and provide support whilst the case is progressed through Court.

## 4.0 Offenders

### Inferences

- *Offenders are likely to have a history of previous sexual offences, as well as a history of violent offences and convictions. As such, offences committed under Operation PROTECTION 2 are part of a wider criminal lifestyle rather than the sole focus of offending behaviour.*
- *Many offenders have previously been arrested for vehicle related matters such as driving without a license, insurance and theft of vehicles as well as for drug related offences including the supply and possession of Class A and B drugs. Targeting offenders through these areas of criminality will provide greater opportunities for arrests and convictions if there is no intelligence regarding their involvement in Child Sexual Exploitation or if victims refuse to disclose details of abuse to the police or our partners.*

## 4.1 Offender Profiles

In total, 50 male suspects and one female suspect have been identified by PPU intelligence under Operation PROTECTION 2. A summary of the main findings is outlined below:

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.burtonmail.co.uk/News/Funding-fears-on-child-exploitation-478893.xnf?FeedSourceID=11&FeedImageID=701872&BodyFormat=1&>

<sup>22</sup> Reducing the risk, cutting the cost: An assessment of the potential savings on Barnardo's interventions for young people who have been sexually exploited, September 2011



## Ethnicity and Age

The vast majority of identified suspects (75 per cent) are Asian (38 of 51), 14 percent are White and 8 per cent are Black-Caribbean. Based on self-ethnicity descriptions and intelligence 79% of the Asian suspects are of Pakistani origin, followed by 5% who are from Iraq. This is disproportionate to the ethnicity profile of the West Midlands as Census data shows 12.7% are Asian with 5.4% being Pakistani. In 2010, RIU analysis of data from Warwickshire, West Mercia and Staffordshire identified that offenders in the main are second and third generation Pakistani males and have a Muslim faith background.<sup>23</sup> Due to data quality issues and the religion field not always being populated in custody records, an accurate picture of the religion of the offenders is unavailable and it would be incorrect to assume that just because an offender is Pakistani and has a Muslim name that they are Muslim.

69 percent of suspects in the force are aged between 16 and 26 with the oldest identified offender being 62. Previous findings found the age of the offenders was commonly between 20 and 39.

## Offending Histories

A key finding from Derbyshire's Operation RETRIEVER was the high number of previous arrests and NFAs for sexual offences that were held by offenders. Of the 51 identified offenders 14 have previously been arrested for serious sexual offences, 24 have been arrested for violent offences (including assaults and wounding), [REDACTED] 15 have been arrested for kidnapping, human trafficking or detaining a person against their will and 14 have been arrested for drugs related offences (including possession and supply of class A and B drugs).

Of the 14 individuals who have previously been arrested for serious sexual offences, one is a registered sex offender, three are currently on police bail for sexual offences against females under the age of 16, four are part on an ongoing case into the sexual exploitation of an Op PROTECTION 2 nominal on Birmingham South LPU [REDACTED] and two have been served with harbouring notices. Nine of the 14 nominals have NFAs for sexual offences ranging from rape and sexual assault to sexual touching and molestation.

## Location of Offenders

### Inference

- *The close proximity of suspect addresses in the [REDACTED] of Walsall suggests offenders are collaborating in the identification, grooming and subsequent abuse of vulnerable females.*

<sup>23</sup> Memorandum, Internal Human Trafficking of Vulnerable Females Within the Region and the Wider Implications, [REDACTED], 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Of the 51 known offenders, 45 reside on WMP LPUs. One resides in [REDACTED], two have addresses in [REDACTED] and the last known address for three of the nominals is No Fixed Abode.

- 47% of offenders live in Birmingham.
- The LPU with the highest number of offenders is Walsall with 16 which equates to 31 percent of all offenders. All 16 offenders live in the [REDACTED] of Walsall and within a 1.3km radius of each other. 10 of these offenders also reside in Force Priority areas.
- The LPU with the second highest number of offenders is Birmingham East with 12 which equates to 24% of all offenders. There is a cluster of 4 offenders residing in close proximity to each other in [REDACTED]. Half of the offenders on Birmingham East (6 of 12) reside in Force Priority areas in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Seven of the 12 offenders live within a 1km radius of each other.
- The vast majority of identified offenders in [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are Pakistani males. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- Of the 45 offenders where address details are known within the West Midlands, 20 reside in Force Priority areas. Three of these areas are mentioned above in [REDACTED] on Walsall LPU and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on Birmingham East LPU. The remaining Priority areas where offenders reside are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which are all on Birmingham West and Central LPU.

Reference	PIERO	Details
19	Intelligence	LPUs to provide support with intelligence and disruption of criminal activities of identified offenders in force priority areas.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Intelligence requirement**

- Are there parks a common location that groups of males visit to identify females they can possibly befriend to sexually exploit [REDACTED]



Reference	PIERO	Details
20	Intelligence	Consideration for offenders to be recorded as an OCG and to identify opportunities to dismantle / disrupt their activity
21	Enforcement	Promote robust offender management of all identified offenders utilising PPU and LPU officers.

## 4.2 Vulnerable Locations

Based on intelligence provided by MISPER co-ordinators and research conducted by the Force PPU intelligence team, a number of repeat offence locations have been identified that are used by offenders to commit the sexual exploitation and abuse. These are:

### Hotels

- [Redacted]

### Parks

- [Redacted]

### Private Dwellings and derelict buildings

- Private addresses and abandoned/derelict buildings and warehouses are known to be used for short periods for multiple offending with new premises quickly emerging. [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]



**Businesses**

- Business premises have been found to be used as meeting points for vulnerable females who in turn are transported to other locations. Four locations in particular are [REDACTED] on Walsall LPU, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] on Wolverhampton LPU and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on Birmingham East LPU.

Reference	PIERO	Details
22	Enforcement	[REDACTED]
23	Enforcement	Consideration to be made to seize assets under POCA if it is found business owners are gaining financially from offences.
24	Intelligence	Intelligence Collection Plan to be produced on vulnerable locations to incorporate prison debriefs with convicted offenders.
25	Intelligence Enforcement	Considerations to be made to implement an intelligence sharing agreement with [REDACTED] and place targeted vehicles on company's own ANPR system.
26	Intelligence Enforcement Organisational	Devise kitemark scheme for hotels to highlight positive approach to tackling child sexual exploitation.

### 4.3 Level of Organised Criminality

#### Organised Crime Groups

A high level of organised criminality was evidenced throughout the force area and regionally in the first Problem Profile with multiple offenders working together to identify, groom and abuse victims. The organised nature is evidenced in many ways, for example by offenders targeting victims on multiple LPUs many miles from where the offenders live themselves, or in the number of offenders jointly abusing victims in specific offences. In a number of organised groups victims are forced into prostitution and high levels of intimidation and force are used to keep the victims compliant.

#### Walsall LPU

[REDACTED] As stated in section 4.1 these males live in close proximity to one another, have been encountered with underage females in hotel rooms and have been linked through intelligence and previous custody records as being involved in the supply of class A and B drugs.



**Wolverhampton LPU**

Numerous males have been linked to vulnerable victims in Wolverhampton through the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Reference	PIERO	Details
27	Intelligence	PPU intelligence to develop all identified networks with support from LPUs.

**Regional Links**

The organised level of criminality is further evidenced through multiple regional links between victims and offenders. Some recent examples are summarised below.

**Derbyshire (Operation RETRIEVER)**

Op RETRIEVER was the original operation into CSE launched by Derbyshire Constabulary in 2009. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A new operation under the name of VENTES is currently being launched in the East Midlands to review CSE in the region.

**Staffordshire (Op SHELTER and Project TOPSAIL)**

The operations initially identified [REDACTED] organised groups, with a review identifying a further [REDACTED] groups that were believed to be operating in a less organised way. There were a large number of nominals that crossed over into multiple offender networks, with 11 girls featuring as victims in more than one network. There was one 15 year old female who featured in five of the 16 sexual exploitation networks. Common themes in the groups were:

- Some of the networks victims had been missing on 100 to 200 occasions;
- Victims with learning difficulties , some with a mental age of 10/11 years were targeted by offender networks;
- Physical violence is not prevalent but could be inferred from limited intelligence;
- [REDACTED] was common to several networks as were white British offenders;
- A park was a prominent location for meeting and recruitment of girls;
- Taxi firms play a role in the facilitation of the offending with one probably being a network in its own right; and
- Previous victims of networks progressed to become facilitators/recruiters of new, younger victims.



## 5.0 Organisational Risks

### Inference:

- *There are numerous strategic and organisational issues that may affect the police in their ability to effectively tackle CSE.*

### 5.1.1 Political

#### ***New Strategy to focus on Girl Victims of Gang Violence***

An anti-gang strategy drawn up by ministers and due to be published this week will highlight the extent to which girls are involved in – and suffer as a result of – gang violence. The broad anti-gang strategy will recommend early intervention, better parenting and tighter co-ordination by the Department of Health and other agencies, especially in cases of troubled families where children are at risk of drifting into gangs.<sup>24</sup>

#### ***Birmingham's new NSPCC centre aims to tackle child abuse***

An NSPCC centre opening in Birmingham will work with ChildLine to offer face-to-face counselling. A new service at the centre in Newhall Square also aims to ensure children reunited with their birth families are not abused or neglected. The charity said it will also focus on working with children from minority ethnic communities. Currently in Birmingham, 485 children are on a protection plan because of neglect, according to council figures. The city council said its Safeguarding Children Board had launched 26 serious case reviews where children had died or been seriously injured because of abuse or neglect since 2005.<sup>25</sup>

### 5.1.2 Environmental

#### ***New support for young victims of sexual violence and gangs***

Organisations that support young people who have been victims of sexual violence or exploitation are being invited to apply for funding amounting to £1.2m. The new money, announced in the 'ending gang and youth violence report', will be used to help support 'young people's advocates'. They will support victims of rape and sexual abuse, and work with vulnerable young people at risk of being targeted by gangs, as well as providing a vital link between existing services.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> [http://www.policeoracle.com/news/New-Strategy-To-Focus-On-Girl-Victims-Of-Gang-Violence\\_39889.html](http://www.policeoracle.com/news/New-Strategy-To-Focus-On-Girl-Victims-Of-Gang-Violence_39889.html)

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-16726282>

<sup>26</sup> <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/gang-victims?version=2>

### ***Teenagers asked 'Would you see rape?' as ad campaign goes live***

A powerful new TV advertising campaign challenging teenagers to re-think their views of what constitutes rape and consent was launched by the Home Office in March 2012. With 33 per cent of teenage girls and 16 per cent of boys reporting that they have experienced some form of sexual violence from a boyfriend or girlfriend, the campaign aims to help teenagers recognise unacceptable behaviour. The adverts are aimed at 13 to 18-year-olds and feature a teenage girl being coerced into sex. They will run for a month on youth TV channels, as well as in cinemas and online.<sup>27</sup>

## **5.1.3 Social**

### ***Kicking out youth deprivation***

The UK is one of the world's most developed economies but nearly four million children are living in poverty. "What can be done to improve their life chances?" suggested that concern about poverty of opportunity was shared by frontline workers and the parents of children growing up in poverty, but that practical interventions – such as tackling crime and providing decent employment – could make a real difference. Improving life chances, tackling the negative influences on children and providing them with career prospects for the future could also lead to positive results. In the report, parents from three different estates in London expressed their concerns about high rates of crime and anti-social behaviour. The parents said 'this normalised social problems', "with low-level crime being so commonplace as to be viewed simply as part of day-to-day existence."<sup>28</sup>

### ***Call for action over 'intra-familial' child sex abuse***

A number of children's charities have written to the government calling for an action plan to tackle the problem of sexual abuse within the family. Charity ChildLine said its figures, based on calls about sexual abuse, showed that 59% of perpetrators were family members. Children's Minister Tim Loughton MP said work was being done "to improve responses to all forms of child abuse".....According to the NSPCC, between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011, there were 16,222 counselling interactions where sexual abuse was the primary concern. Where the perpetrator was disclosed, about a third said the person responsible was their father, while 4% said that the person responsible was a stranger.<sup>29</sup>

### ***10,000 children taken into care: Numbers have doubled in the past four years***

The number of children taken into care has hit a record 10,000 in one year. Since the 2007 killing of Baby P, there has been a huge surge in the number of youngsters being removed from their families by social workers. The children's court advisory service dealt with 10,199 cases between April 2011 and March 2012 – a near-doubling of the numbers in just four years.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>27</sup> <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/rape-prevention>

<sup>28</sup> <http://www.guardian.co.uk/housing-network/2012/apr/04/child-poverty-uk?newsfeed=true>

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-17595091>

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2128465/10-000-children-taken-care-Numbers-doubled-past-years.html#ixzz1roZKWWh>

#### 5.1.4 Technological

##### ***'Sexting' Putting Girls At Risk, Charities Warn***

Young school girls are putting themselves in danger of bullying and sexual abuse by sending explicit photographs of themselves by text message. "Sexting" will be debated by MPs later as child safety experts warn the practice is a growing problem in Britain's schools. Jon Brown, the head of the NSPCC's Sexual Abuse programme, says sexting is putting children at risk. According to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre, 38% of 11-17 year olds said they had received a sexually explicit text or email and 70% of them knew the sender.<sup>31</sup>

#### 5.1.5 Economic

##### ***Continuous Improvement and Priority Based Budgeting***

The biggest economic threat facing the police comes in the form of the Continuous Improvement and Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) programs. Phase 1 of PBB made no reductions to PPU services, however if a review is conducted which leads to cuts being made in the department this may impact on it's ability to deal with public protection matters and CSE. As previously stated, due to budget cuts some of the larger partners of the police are already finding difficulty in supporting victims of CSE. This has already increased workload for the police when dealing with CSE, but if departments are reviewed and decrease in size then this will adversely affects the police's ability to tackle CSE.

#### 5.1.6 Legal

##### ***Plan to tackle child sexual exploitation***

The problem of under-18s in England being groomed for sexual activity takes place "in far greater numbers than was ever imagined", the government warns. Ministers say gifts such as money, food, drugs or alcohol are often used as a means of coercion. They say robust strategies are needed to ensure children are not sexually exploited by gangs or individuals. The Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan will bring together the police, the Crown Prosecution Service, local safeguarding children boards and support organisations like Rape Crisis. The plan will also look at improving sex and relationships education in schools and helping parents know what tell-tale signs to watch out for. The children's charity Barnardo's, which is itself campaigning for a greater understanding of this issue, welcomed the action plan.<sup>32</sup>

##### ***'Out-Of-Date' Child Abuse Law Fails To Protect***

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<sup>31</sup> <http://news.sky.com/home/uk-news/article/16215427>

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-15839031>

An 80-year-old child abuse law is failing to protect children suffering neglect and emotional trauma and needs updating, according to a new report. Research by the charity Action for Children claims the law on child neglect is outdated and confusing to parents. It said neglect is the most prevalent form of child abuse in the UK. Experts warned the child cruelty law fails to cover all forms of neglect, including emotional abuse, which can cause long-term mental scarring. The report suggests authorities should intervene in cases of continual emotional neglect, as well as in instances of physical neglect. It also calls for more guidance and support for parents, to help them understand the law and seek help if they break it. A YouGov poll of 1,092 parents found that 731 (67%) felt the current law on parenting is confusing. The report advocates supporting vulnerable parents rather than using immediate punitive measures.<sup>33</sup>

5.1.7 Organisational

*Fighting child abuse – a key command in combating crime*

[Redacted text block]

Reference	PIERO	Details
30	Organisational	Training to be provided to serving officers and external partners as appropriate to raise awareness of CSE matters.
31	Organisational	Ensure staffing levels, training and skill set is appropriate in the new CSE team.

## 6.0 Community Tension Risks

Inferences

- *There is a potential for a backlash against the vast majority of law abiding citizens from Pakistani communities from other members of the community believing their children have been exploited with local businesses being attacked like they have in other parts of the country.*

<sup>33</sup> <http://news.sky.com/home/uk-news/article/16213993>  
<sup>34</sup> [http://www.publicservice.co.uk/feature\\_story.asp?id=18808](http://www.publicservice.co.uk/feature_story.asp?id=18808)



- *The police will be criticised if it appears they have not safeguarded vulnerable children, investigated offences and prosecuted offenders effectively which will adversely affect trust and confidence in policing and may also result in an increase in community tensions.*

The predominant offender profile of Pakistani Muslim males (as highlighted in Section 4) combined with the predominant victim profile of White females has the potential to cause significant community tensions. Court cases in relation to this are increasingly being reported in local and national media and these are being highlighted and actively campaigned on by far right groups such as the British National Party (BNP). For example, in early 2012, the BNP placed articles on its official website titled *“Muslim grooming – ignored by the police for years”*<sup>35</sup>, *“Another media blackout - 47 alleged Muslim groomers due at Liverpool Crown Court”*<sup>36</sup>, *“Muslim Grooming Scandal: “White Girls to Blame” Muslim Public Tells BBC”*<sup>37</sup> and *“Muslim Grooming Gangs: BBC Censors Derek Adams on Politics Show as another Nine Arrested in Neighbouring Rochdale”*<sup>38</sup>. Two of these articles refer to the trial at Liverpool Crown Court of Muslim men accused of grooming and sexually exploiting white British females in Rochdale. Nine of the men were found guilty in May 2012; however Greater Manchester Police and the Crown Prosecution Service apologised to the victim and the public after admitting they failed to bring the case of the first victim - Girl A - to trial following her cry for help in August 2008. Complaints to social workers and the police were ignored because they were "petrified of being called racist", former Labour MP for Keighley Ann Cryer said.<sup>39</sup>

CSE in the West Midlands gained national coverage in February 2012 when The Times newspaper ran a story on a trial at Birmingham Crown Court involving two teenage girls being lured from their home town of Telford, Shropshire to Birmingham where they were sexually abused over a 36 hour period.<sup>40</sup> Six males were charged with 14 sex offences including seven counts of rape, attempted rape and five sexual assaults. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. All six males were Pakistani-Muslim males who resided on Birmingham East LPU.

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.bnp.org.uk/news/national/muslim-grooming-ignored-police-years>

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.bnp.org.uk/news/national/another-media-blackout-47-alleged-muslim-groomers-due-liverpool-crown-court>

<sup>37</sup> <http://www.bnp.org.uk/news/muslim-grooming-scandal-%E2%80%9Cwhite-girls-blame%E2%80%9D-muslim-public-tells-bbc>

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.bnp.org.uk/news/muslim-grooming-gangs-bbc-censors-derek-adams-politics-show-another-nine-arrested-neighbouring->

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/9253250/Rochdale-grooming-trial-Police-accused-of-failing-to-investigate-paedophile-gang-for-fear-of-appearing-racist.html>

<sup>40</sup> The Times Newspaper, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012, page 16, article by Andrew Norfolk

Reference	PIERO	Details
32	Intelligence	Liaise with Greater Manchester Police to ascertain what community tension issues, if any, they have experienced from the trial.
33	Prevention Intelligence Enforcement	Contact Key Individual Networks and Community leaders in the most vulnerable areas of the West Midlands where offenders have been identified to ascertain whether they are aware of such criminality existing in their communities. These leaders should then be engaged in an attempt to explore prevention and enforcement opportunities.
34	Intelligence	Community tensions to be managed locally by LPU staff through CTAs and CIAs, with all intelligence products being shared with Force PPU intelligence.

## 7.0 LPU Overviews

The following is an overview of the situation with regards to CSE victims on each LPU. Greater detail on individuals and operations can be found in Operational Intelligence Assessments, Network Charts and Network Analysis reports produced by the PPU Intelligence Team.

### 7.1 Coventry

Coventry LPU have not provided a current risk-assessment of how many vulnerable individuals they have from CSE. This is mainly due to the LPU not having a recognised Missing Persons Co-ordinator in post. The previous Problem Profile identified a gang of Asian-Pakistani males known as the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These males were identified as creating relationships with vulnerable young girls to facilitate their sexual exploitation. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The full extent of the problem was difficult to ascertain as the hotels which were being used were either unaware of these parties or unwilling to get the police involved unless other offences such as criminal damage occurred. [REDACTED]

### 7.2 Sandwell

Sandwell LPU has identified two vulnerable young females as being at high risk from sexual exploitation. It is believed that these females are being groomed for, or are already being sexually exploited. [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

### 7.3 Dudley

Dudley LPU has identified two young females who are at high risk from sexual exploitation. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### 7.4 Walsall

Walsall LPU has identified six young females that are believed to be at high risk from sexual exploitation. [REDACTED]

<sup>41</sup> [REDACTED]  
<sup>42</sup> [REDACTED]





Wolverhampton has two groups of young women who have been classified as being at high risk of sexual exploitation.

[REDACTED]

## 7.6 Birmingham East

Birmingham East LPU have identified seven victims that are believed to be at high risk of CSE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]











[Redacted]

Reference	PIERO	Details
35	Intelligence	MISPER co-ordinators to conduct up to date risk assessments on all CSE victims to ascertain their current risk level.

## 8.0 Conclusion

This problem profile has found that CSE where vulnerable victims are subjects of on-street grooming is still happening in the West Midlands. Contrary to the popular hypothesis, the largest proportion of victims (44%) do not reside in children’s homes and actually live either in their parental home or with family members. Victims of CSE are also frequent MISPERs, which suggests the force and partners need to improve the effectiveness of early intervention into missing episodes.

Offenders use a variety of locations to commit their offences with hotels, parks, derelict buildings and residential dwellings proving popular. Certain hotels appear as repeat locations for offences but it is unclear why. It may be as simple as the rooms are cheap or these hotels are located in close proximity to where the offenders live or where they meet their victims. However; it is also possible that the offenders may know people that are employed at these locations who help them get rooms or may turn a blind eye to their criminal activities. The analysis indicates that offenders arrange to meet victims at business premises and car parks, which [Redacted]

[Redacted]

The most common offender profile has been of a Pakistani male aged between 16 and 26. The ethnicity of the offender is similar to previous findings, however the age range is lower (previously 20-39). Work has been conducted nationally on this form of criminality with researchers warning of the dangers of racial stereotyping amid claims of a widespread problem of British Pakistani men exploiting under-age white girls. Authors of the first independent academic analysis said they were concerned that data from a small, geographically concentrated, sample of cases had been "generalised to an entire crime type".<sup>49</sup> Similar to the findings found in this profile, the researchers in the independent paper found that perpetrators were predominantly, but not exclusively, from the British Pakistani community but there is a concern that the data used in this analysis may be extended "to characterise an entire crime type, in particular of race and gender". Although the majority of victims have been white, so is the ethnic makeup of the West Midlands. As victims are not exclusively white, and figures for ethnicity of victim’s is consistent with census data for the ethnic demographic of the West Midlands, this suggests that convenience and accessibility may be the prime drivers for those looking for victims rather than their race.

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<sup>49</sup> <http://www.guardian.co.uk/law/2011/jan/06/child-sex-trafficking-racial-stereotyping>



Elements of the media, politicians and community leaders are quick to point the finger at the Pakistani community and make statements such as 'Pakistani men view white girls as easy meat'<sup>50</sup> or Pakistani men believe 'white girls are worthless and can be abused'.<sup>51</sup> Using such language not only increases community tensions but marginalises a whole community. The root causes of the abuse of young girls needs to be addressed and investigations must only focus on the ethnic origin and religion of offenders if they are reasonable, necessary, justified and proportionate.

This report has found that CSE in the form of on-street grooming is a product of deprivation, poverty, abuse and bullying which has led to victims to devalue their own self-esteem so much that some young teenagers feel that the risk to their lives is inconsequential. It may be true that some Pakistani gangs are particularly active in CSE, but due to the existence of these other causes, if these gangs vanished overnight, CSE would still remain.<sup>52</sup> The idea that men come along, identify vulnerable girls and exploit them has some truth in them, but it also masks a deeper reality of children whose lives are a state of such emotional confusion that affection, abandonment, violence, love and abuse become fused into a single experience of life-long neglect and exploitation.<sup>52</sup> Believing Pakistani males are targeting victims due to the colour of their skin and cultural differences does not fully explain the reasons why these people become victims in the first place.

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<sup>50</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-derbyshire-12141603>

<sup>51</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-17996245>

<sup>52</sup> <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/2011/12/02/child-sexual-exploitation-uk/>