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THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GRAVITY

Norfolk Constabulary is continuing to crack down on drug-related activity, thanks to **Operation Gravity**.

But would you know how to spot the signs of drug dealing in your local community?

Could you identify someone vulnerable to exploitation by drug dealers?

Here is your ten-point guide to help you, help us stop drug related crime in Norfolk.

ONE DEALING WITH COUNTY LINES



'County Lines' is the operation of an urban criminal gang travelling from London to smaller locations, such as Norwich, Great Yarmouth and Kings Lynn, to sell heroin and crack cocaine.

These gangs identify a vulnerable customer base in remote areas and aim to exploit them.

Do you know someone who has started to visit London or is having visitors that you are concerned about?

TWO DEALING DIFFERENTLY



We're no longer talking about traditional drug dealers, who would be well-known to police and dealing locally. These are now highly professional and experienced gangs who are intent on producing a high-quality product for huge profit.

Often the runners are younger people who are trying to establish themselves as part of the gang. As a reward from transporting the drugs they are often given clothing, jewellery or cash. They are also likely to carry more than one mobile phone.

Do you know someone who has started to have more access to cash, clothing or phones?

THREE DEALING WITH GANGS



Urban based dealers can have a number of county lines operating between London and Norfolk at any one time, which can mean multiple dealers carrying the drugs into our county. Those dealers will then recruit local runners and dealers (who tend to be teens looking to make money quickly) to distribute drugs locally.

Have you heard people talking about gang names? Or using nicknames? These pieces of information are a good indicator that someone maybe involved in county lines.

FOUR DEALING WITH ANONYMITY



County line dealers from the London area use pseudonyms and they can be difficult to identify. Therefore it is vital we work with our partner agencies and the local community to gather intelligence around drug related activity.

Do you suspect someone is dealing? You don't need to give us your name – calls will be dealt with anonymously

FIVE DEALING WITH 'TURF WAR'



We know urban criminal gangs are prepared to use serious violence to secure a market share over other gangs and to reinforce debts or punish losses from users.

Have you heard about someone having "beef" with someone else? This term is widely used to describe drug related conflict. Do you know if someone is being threatened?

SIX DEALING WITH 'CUCKOOS'



Cuckooing is a term used when dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person and give them drugs to deal, as well as being a 'hub' for local drug dealers to use.

Identifying these early and shutting them down will help stop the problem developing.

Do you know someone who's house or flat has been taken over by drug dealers?

SEVEN DEALING WITH DEALING



As awful as it may sound, the practice of carrying drugs inside the body is common – and it is also extremely dangerous.

Vaseline, cling film and baby wipes are often indicative of large scale packing of drugs into body cavities.

If you suspect someone is transporting drugs this way or being exploited to do this let the police know, you may save a life.



EIGHT DEALING WITH THE ROUTE



Part of the reason that Norfolk is now a more popular place for urban criminal gangs to deal is because of the recent improvements to road and train networks.

Have you seen a vehicle you suspect is being used to transport drugs? Have unfamiliar vehicles been coming and going to an address where you believe drug dealing is taking place? If so, take down the registration number and contact the police.

NINE DEALING WITH THE VULNERABLE



Those people targeted by urban criminal gangs tend to be drug users or addicts and are therefore some of our county's most vulnerable.

Many of the local dealers being exploited are young people and we want to prevent them becoming involved in this cycle of crime.

Do you know someone who is being asked to deal? Do you know someone who is saying they have a drugs debt?

TEN DEALING WITH COMMUNITIES



Local people have a significant role in keeping their local community safe from drug dealing.

We have had an encouraging response from the public so far and we want people to continue to tell us what they know about drug related crime.

Seen something you think could be drug related but not sure? Just tell us what you know - even the smallest amount of information could be the piece of the puzzle we need.



GRAVITY
#TellUsWhatYouKnow

If you have information about drug dealing in your community, call Norfolk Police on **101**.

Alternatively, you can also contact Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555111**.

Anyone needing help and support are encouraged to contact the Norfolk Recovery Partnership on **0300 7900 227**.