



Vulnerability Knowledge & Practice Programme Briefing

Report Date: 1st June 2020 (covering the period up to 29th May 2020)

Compiled on behalf of CC Simon Bailey.

Produced by Analysts, Op HYDRANT Name Redacted

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Vulnerability Knowledge
& Practice Programme

**OPERATION
HYDRANT**

Coordinating the response
to non recent sexual abuse

Data Summary

Data Summary

Data Feed:	Status:
Op TALLA weekly data - Police	Data on DA CSA/E, missing and mental health available and included in this report.
Op TALLA daily intelligence briefings - Police	Online - daily briefing feeds coming through
Op TALLA Data Feeds	Op HYDRANT Analyst can now access the data via Power Bi.
Weekly meetings and ongoing correspondence with staff officers	Online - weekly meetings happening, feeds coming in and more gradually coming on line.
NCA National Injuries Database	Data feeds discussed and ongoing progress being made.
3rd Sector data/ insight collection	Online - Collated by VKPP Staff
Wider vulnerability – VPP chief officer inputs	Not yet online but request sent 20 th April
NCA – NAC briefings (county lines and online CSA only)	Online
Sharing of internal force performance/ intelligence reports	Some additional reporting received from a small number of forces on DA and missing. We would continue to welcome any additional sharing of product already being produced locally which can enrich this assessment

[DateTime]

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Executive Summary

SUMMARY

- New initiatives were discussed in relation to domestic abuse and child abuse at the Hidden Harms Summit on 21st May 2020.
Source: UK Government Website.
- Domestic abuse has increased by 7% when compared to the same 4 week period in 2019.
Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020
- Child sexual abuse related offences have reduced by 24% when compared to the same 4 week period in 2019.
Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020
- There have been 8 cases of child death believed to be due to familial homicide since March 2020.
- There have been 34 serious incident notifications to the National Panel, of which 29 relate to the triggering event for the referral having happened since 26th March 2020.
Source: VKPP National Coordinator Safeguarding Children Reform email dated 19th May 2020
- The reporting of neglect and sexual offences against children decreased by 41.6% for the weekending 24th May 2020.
Source: IIOC & CSA data from CPAI Working Group email dated 24th May 2020
- The incidents of Zoom-bombing do not appear to have slowed despite widespread media coverage and security measures.
Source: COVID-19 ROCU Network Update 19th May 2020 - Source: Op TALLA Daily reporting 15th – 27th May 2020.
- Missing persons incidents have reduced by 36% when compared to the same 4 week period in 2019.
Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Report dated 24th May 2020
- Mental Health Incidents and Sect. 136 detentions have both reduced by 5% when compared to the same 4 week period in 2019.
Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Report dated 24th May 2020
- Recent reporting from County Lines suggest that Class A drug supply is impacted to varying degrees both within and across force areas, with price increases and reductions in quality.
Source: NCLCC Assessment of Changing Thread dated 26th May 2020



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KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Date	Details
27 th May	<p>The government announced that the new NHS Test and Trace service will launch Thursday 28th May across England.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Test and Trace service to form a central part of the government's coronavirus recovery strategy. • Anyone with symptoms will be tested and their close contacts will be traced. • New guidance means those who have been in close contact with someone who tests positive must isolate for 14 days, even if they have no symptoms, to avoid unknowingly spreading the virus. <p>Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-nhs-test-and-trace-service Press release Published 27th May 2020</p>
24 th May	<p>The Prime Minister confirmed that primary schools will welcome back children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from 1st June. Secondary schools, sixth forms and colleges will also provide face-to-face contact for Year 10, Year 12 and equivalent 16-19 further education students to help them prepare for exams next year. It is expected this will begin from 15th June, with around a quarter of these secondary students in at any point.</p> <p>Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-confirms-schools-colleges-and-nurseries-on-track-to-begin-phased-reopening Press release Published 24th May 2020</p>
21 st May	<p>New measures to support vulnerable people ahead of Hidden Harms Summit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister to open virtual Hidden Harms Summit in Downing Street to drive action to tackle domestic abuse, sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and modern slavery. • Government plans to introduce a new 'Codeword' for domestic abuse victims who are seeking immediate help. • Multimillion-pound boost to law enforcement to tackle child sex offenders operating on the dark web and increase support for victims. <p>Source: Hidden Harm Press release dated 20th May 2020</p>
18 th -24 th May	<p>Mental Health Awareness Week. Hosted by the Mental Health Foundation and the theme this year is kindness.</p> <p>Source: www.mentalhealth.org.uk</p>
10 th May	<p>Prime Minister announces some relaxation of Lockdown and gives brief details of 'conditional plan' to begin lifting England's coronavirus lockdown.</p>
4 th May	<p>Youth Endowment Fund' announced a new £6.5m COVID-19 grant round to fund and evaluate work which supports vulnerable young people in at risk of youth violence, and which can be delivered whilst adhering to UK government social distancing and stay-at-home guidelines. Closing deadline is: 12pm Wednesday 3rd June 2020. More details can be obtained from: www.youthendowmentfund.org.uk</p>

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Date	Details
4 th May	<p>HMG/DCMS have announced the total amount of funding being distributed by departments to charities. Department of Education are distributing £26.35m to vulnerable children and HO are distributing £7.8m to vulnerable children. Which organisations this funding will ultimately go to has not yet been announced, and departments are rapidly working that up.</p> <p><i>Source: Jenny Shaw, Tackling Exploitation and Abuse unit, Home Office</i></p>
30 th April	<p>CPS spokesperson: “We want victims of sexual violence to come forward with confidence that whenever the legal test is met, we will bring charges, no matter how challenging the case. “Prosecuting rape continues to be a CPS priority, and we remain committed to the ongoing cross-Government review.”</p> <p>https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/cps-data-summary-quarter-3-2019-2020</p>
24 th April	<p>24th April 2020 – Vulnerable children most at risk of neglect, violence or exploitation will benefit from extra support to keep them safe during the Coronavirus outbreak. More than £12 million will be spent on 14 projects across the country to tackle the increased risk some children and young people are facing as they stay at home to reduce the spread of coronavirus. The package includes work on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adolescent exploitation. • Domestic abuse support. • Children in care. • Mental health support. <p><i>Source: Department for Education and Vicky Ford MP statement on Gov.uk website dated 24th April 2020</i> https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-support-for-vulnerable-children-during-covid-19</p>
22 nd April	<p>Only a tiny fraction of vulnerable children in England are taking up emergency school places kept open for them. Department of Education data shows only a maximum of 5% of the most needy children have been at school during the Coronavirus crisis.</p> <p><i>Source: Hannah Richardson BBC News Education Reporter, article 22nd April 2020</i></p>



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VKPP Business Area – Data & Intelligence

- An increase in domestic abuse is being monitored to establish if this is a bank holiday driven increase or the onset of an increase in reporting as restrictions are eased.
- New data to be added to the Op TALLA report includes domestic abuse related homicide and domestic abuse related offences.
- Terms of Reference for the 'deep dive' project are awaiting feedback with 5 forces taking part (Met/ Sussex/ D&C/ North Yorks/ South Wales Police). There are tight timelines with early findings to be presented in July.
- Feedback from the charity Refuge suggests that forces are not recognising and responding effectively when COVID-19 is being used by perpetrators as a weapon and part of coercive control. This has been fed back to the regional representatives.
- The Domestic Homicide initial police assessment pilot is progressing with the template for returns being mostly completed. There is liaison with the various portfolio leads involved and a legal disclaimer is being sought with lawyers.

Source: Cross Vulnerabilities Meeting 28th May 2020

Hidden Harms Summit

- The government will spearhead a new 'Codeword' scheme for domestic abuse victims, which will allow people in urgent or immediate danger to get help from shop workers by using a specific phrase that staff will be trained to identify.
- £2 million funding boost for domestic abuse charities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Commissioning further work to identify the best law enforcement responses to domestic abuse by analysing data and intelligence on incidents during the lockdown period – working with police forces and leading academics, this will ensure a deeper understanding of emerging trends, such as the nature of offending and perpetrators – to encourage forces to share best practice the government will convene a further ministerial roundtable on domestic abuse with academics, police and other key stakeholders.

Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-announced-ahead-of-hidden-harms-summit?utm_source=8c8ef27b-b814-43c8-9e2a-522d3eea1c25&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

DOMESTIC ABUSE

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE

- Recorded domestic incidents have increased by 7% over the last 4 weeks compared to the same period in 2019. Overall DA incidents have remained closely aligned with trends in 2019 with increases above 2019 levels reported on bank holiday weekends. The last four weeks have seen consistently higher reported incident volumes than were recorded in 2019.

Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020



Domestic Incidents in 4 week period, compared to same period in 2019

	2019	2020	% change
27th Apr - 24th May	79,696	84,990	7% increase

Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020

- Of 41 forces providing data, 29 (71%) have seen an increase in domestic abuse incidents with just 12 (29%) showing a decrease. Further expansions to Talla data collections are underway to enable trends at a national level to distinguish between crimes and non crime which current data does not allow.

Source: NPoCC Online Data Research by Op HYDRANT analysts 27th May 2020

- The majority of incidents reported with a COVID-19 link continue to relate to verbal arguments and abuse between couples and family members (including children) confined to the home and disputes with ex-partners over access to children within shared custody arrangements. The most common triggers include breaches of social distancing guidelines by a family member and the stress of being confined to the house, particularly with extended families / ex-partners that have moved in together for the duration of restrictions. These incidents are often exacerbated by anxiety and stress, mental ill health, behavioural issues, alcohol and drug dependency, and escalating financial pressures.
- The use of social media to report family members breaching restrictions as a trigger to incidents has been noted and forces may see an increase in its use as restrictions continue.
- Where information was provided in domestic incident reporting by forces, verbal arguments outnumbered those involving physical assault by almost 2 to 1.

Source: Op TALLA National Daily Update and Assessment papers dated 16th – 29th May 2020

- Five forces submitting information additional info relating to domestic abuse reported as below:
- 3 forces provided information relating to "Domestic Incidents" and all 3 reported an increase.
- 1 force provided information relating to "Domestic Abuse Crimes" and that they had seen an increase in the weekly average when compared to the weekly average of 2019.

Source: Police Force submissions direct to Op HYDRANT.

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3rd SECTOR DATA

- The Helpline is still reporting a higher number of concerned friends, family and neighbours (third parties) calling, and overall increases from pre-lockdown across calls and Webchat. Increased calls for refuges.

Source: National DA Helpline

- Call volume fluctuates with increases of up to 49% in the period.
- Increased diversity of calls including child to parent/older violence.
- Increase in the severity of abuse reported, also increased complexity, anxiety, mental health.
- Helpline support workers reporting survivors stating they plan to leave once lockdown is eased, suggesting increase in demand as anticipated. This reflects other periods spent at home such as Christmas.
- Still low levels of contact from statutory services. This drop in calls has been replaced by calls from the public focused on survivors and concerned others.
- Average call duration has doubled since March.
- While most Refuge services experienced an initial decrease in referrals, this has increased over the lockdown period for most.

Source: Local Women's Aid charity

Easing of Lockdown

- Services have raised concerns regarding women with NRPf following the pandemic and the removal of access to emergency funds.
- Sexual violence services have reported they anticipate and are planning for 6-12 month peak/increase in accessing support as survivors of sexual violence take on average 6 months or more to access support services based on evidence that survivors often access support sometime after the incident.

Source: VKPP 3rd Sector Briefing dated 26th May 2020

DATA FINDINGS

WIDER POLICY/RESPONSE UPDATES

- An external poster around CSA and exploitation has now been released. The poster targets key workers, neighbours etc. on what signs to look out for.
- There has been lots of work to recruit and train analysts for each region.

Source: Cross Vulnerabilities Meeting 28th May 2020

Hidden Harms Summit

- Launching a £2.8 million child sexual abuse Support Services Transformation Fund to improve support available for children and young people affected by sexual abuse.
- A pledge of £3.7 million to continue support for 11 local authority-led projects in England through the Trusted Relationship Fund, to support young people identified as at high risk of sexual or criminal exploitation

Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-announced-ahead-of-hidden-harms-summit?utm_source=8c8ef27b-b814-43c8-9e2a-522d3eea1c25&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE

- CSA/E flagged offences have reduced by 24% with all forces having provided data.
- Trends are not consistent between forces.

Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020

- 77% of the reporting forces recorded a decrease in CSAE/ Offences when compared to same 4 weeks in 2019.
- 23% of the reporting forces recorded an increase in CSAE/ Offences when compared to same 4 weeks in 2019.

Source: NPoCC Online Data Research by Op HYDRANT analysts 27th May 2020



CSA/E Offences in 4 week period, compared to same period in 2019			
	2019	2020	% change
27th Apr - 24th May	7,255	5,506	-24% decrease

Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE

CSA and Neglect data

- For the 4 week period ending 24th May 2020, the reporting of sexual offences against children (identified by specific HO crime codes) decreased by 38.8% and neglect decreased by 3.4%

The following is a breakdown of the trends when compared to the equivalent 4 week period in 2019:

- Rape (19D, 19E, 19G, 19H): Decrease of 42.3%
- Sexual Assault (17B and 20B): Decrease of 36.3%
- Sexual Activity (21, 22B, 23): Decrease of 37.7%
- Sexual Grooming (88A): Decrease of 24.6%

Source: IIOC & CSA data from CPAI Working Group updated 4th June 2020

- Serious incident notifications in the child safeguarding system remain at low numbers.
- There have been 8 cases of child death believed to be due to familial homicide since March 2020. One case has a marker that financial pressures due to COVID-19 might have been a contributing factor. There are insufficient details in the cases at this time to draw any conclusions regarding triggers and future opportunities for preventions. (NCA Op MARSHALL)
- Between 6th April and 3rd May there have been a total of 34 serious incident notifications to the National Panel, of which 29 relate to the triggering event for the referral having happened since 26th March, of those 15 relate to deaths, leaving 14 cases relating to serious harm. Again it is too early to draw any learning from these cases. (Dept. of Education Serious Incident Notification System)

Source: VKPP National Coordinator Safeguarding Children Reform email dated 19th May 2020

Sextortion - Exploitation

- Nationally there has been an increase in sextortion offences – these being whereby vulnerable people are being exploited to share sexual images and then blackmailed for return of the images.

Source: Exploitation trends and themes - GMP Exploitation Operational Group dated 12th May 2020

Several sources are predicting an increase in reporting following removal of some restrictions and children going back to school (Source: COVID-19 ROCU Network Update 19th May 2020, NCA COVID-19 Weekly SOC System Threat and Response Update dated 26th May 2020).

3rd SECTOR DATA

- The Lucy Faithful Foundation has recorded a 44% increase in callers seeking help during lockdown. It is highly likely that the majority of people are first time callers. It is likely that many of these commenced offending during lockdown. The fact that currently there is no major LFF campaign indicates that these callers sought help voluntarily.

Source: NCA COVID-19 Weekly SOC System Threat and Response Update dated 26th May 2020

- Average weekly users for the Get Help homepage have increased from 248 (8 Jan – 18 Mar) to 357 (19 Mar – 13 May) a 44% rise.
- The percentage of new users continue to increase and are currently at 64% of total users.
- New visitors number some 380 per week over the past 4 weeks with returning visitors at around 200

Source: Lucy Faithful Foundation/Stop It Now

- Childline provided 4,488 counselling sessions between 11th and 17th May – a 9 % increase on the previous week.
 - Counselling sessions about emotional abuse increased by 48% from 90 to 133 (week 11th-17th May).
 - Calls regarding emotional abuse have increased from 10% to 16% since lockdown. (Adult helpline)
 - Counselling sessions about physical abuse increased by 35% from 110 to 148 (week 11th-17th May).
 - Counselling sessions about sexual abuse decreased by 11% from 156 to 139 (week 11th-17th May).
 - Sexual abuse (contact) has decreased from 11% to 7% since lockdown.
 - Contacts about contact sexual abuse have increased 20% this week from 104 to 125 (week 11th-17th May – adult helpline).

Source: Childline and NSPCC Helpline

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3rd SECTOR DATA

- A summary of some of the key themes from survivors and victims on the telephone support line week commencing 11th May included:
 - More cases of callers/siblings having gone through childhood abuse within the family.
 - Continued increase of callers disclosing their abuse for the first time, and choosing to disclose to NAPAC. Lockdown is giving victims and survivors time to reflect and make sense of what happened.
 - Continued increase in callers struggling with anger issues (particularly male callers).
 - First disclosure to family and dealing with the fallout in lockdown.
 - Callers currently coping with abusive relationships (marriage and partners).

Source: NAPAC Telephone Support Line Data w/c 11th May 2020

Demographic Breakdown of NAPAC Website Visitors

	11th-17th May	18th-24th May
Female	67.70%	64.50%
Male	32.30%	35.50%
Aged 18-34	45.70%	45.82%
Aged 35-54	33.68%	34.72%
Aged Over 55	20.62%	17.46%

Source: NAPAC Website Weekly Data w/c 11th May and w/c 18th May 2020

- A summary of some of the key themes from survivors and victims on the telephone support line week commencing 18th May included:
 - More first disclosure calls, continuing the trend seen in recent weeks.
 - Frustration from callers that more support is not available.
 - Distress that therapy has stopped mid-flow, meaning callers feel abandoned again.
 - More sibling abuse cases being disclosed by callers.
 - Callers saying they have disclosed to family during breakdown.
 - Memories coming back during lockdown, memories that are normally blocked out by keeping very busy.
 - Callers upset because relationships have ended due to pressure of lockdown.
 - Frustration that help from various services is dependent on where you live and what is available there.

Source: NAPAC Telephone Support Line Data w/c 18th May 2020

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Indecent Images Of Children (IIOC) data

- The reporting of IIOC offences decreased by 20% for the 4 week period ending 24th May 2020 when compared to the equivalent 4 week period in 2019.

Source: IIOC & CSA data from CPAI Working Group updated 4th June 2020

- Online offending was, on the whole, predicted to increase with the move to home working and schooling, and indeed some ROCUs have reported that their UCOL and other cyber-capabilities have been stretched over the period.
- ROCU previously reported that online child activist groups (OCAG) largely adhered to social distancing guidelines. In their recent report they note that in certain areas groups have "enthusiastically resumed activity".
- The NCA also predicted an increase in online offending under the COVID-19 restrictions, including children targeted by offenders and those sharing self-generated imagery.

Source: COVID-19 ROCU Network Update 19th May 2020

- Online offending continues as expected, with offenders making use of now-popular websites and social apps.

Source: COVID-19 ROCU Network Update 26th May 2020

- The incidents of Zoom-bombing do not appear to have slowed despite widespread media coverage and security measures – this is supported by Op TALLA data for the current period with reports from several forces.
- There has been a recent departure from the usual trend whereby a zoom meeting was hijacked with right wing imagery and racist speech.

Source: COVID-19 ROCU Network Update 19th May 2020 - Source: Op TALLA Daily reporting 15th – 27th May 2020.

ONLINE ABUSE

DATA FINDINGS

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE continued....

- There has been no increase in the overall CSA threat reporting. The levels of CLICKCEOP public reporting have returned to the levels seen at the start of May and these are slightly higher compared with those in the same period 2019.
- The overall number of postings on the Dark web child abuse forums remain stable.
- CSA offenders who were absent from dark web forums pre COVID-19 have returned, it is a realistic possibility that COVID-19 has disrupted their normal non-offending routines but now with more time to revisit these forums and a likely need to be active in CSA.
- In week ending 25th May, there were 173 public reports, of which 80 were from children, with 64% of reports from children graded as High Risk. This is an increase back to levels seen at the start of May and slightly higher to the comparable period in 2019, however, the high-risk reports from children remain higher (+20%).

Source: NCA COVID-19 Weekly SOC System Threat and Response Update dated 26th May 2020

3rd SECTOR/CHARITY DATA

- The Lucy Faithful Foundation reports that users of the offender-focused 'Get Help' section of the website, which is for those who may have concerns about their own online behaviour towards children, is seeing a sustained increase since lockdown. Average weekly users for the 'Get Help' homepage have increased from 248 (8th Jan-18th Mar) to 357 (19th Mar-13th May) a 44% rise.

Source: NCA COVID-19 Weekly SOC System Threat and Response Update dated 26th May 2020

"At this moment our work is more important than ever. We know that criminals are already looking to exploit the opportunities for serious crime; cyber criminals are using coronavirus related emails and websites to infect computers in order to steal data or to deploy ransomware. Fraudsters are looking to trick people into buying non-existent virus related products and we are already gathering intelligence that paedophiles are planning to target children who are online more during the day..."

Steve RODHOUSE – Director General Operations – National Crime Agency

MISSING PERSONS

DATA FINDINGS

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE

- Missing persons incidents have reduced by 36% in 2020 as compared to 2019. all forces have provided data and all report reductions.

Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Report dated 24th May 2020



Missing Person Incidents in 4 week period, compared to same period in 2019

	2019	2020	% change
27th Apr - 24th May	28,754	18,531	-36% decrease

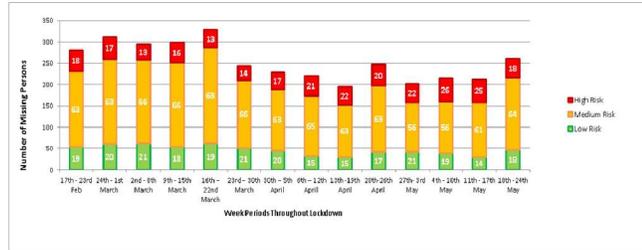
Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020

- 34 forces have submitted data for missing incidents for the period 03.05.20-24.05.20. All show a decrease in 2020 when compared to the same period in 2019..

Source: NPoCC Online Data Research by Op HYDRANT analysts 27th May 2020

- The reports of missing persons (for longer than 48 hours) continues to rise but it is not yet back to pre-lockdown numbers.

Source: NCLCC Assessment of Changing Thread dated 26th May 2020



Source: NCLCC Assessment of Changing Thread dated 26th May 2020
Date provided by the National Missing Persons Unit

3rd SECTOR DATA

- Missing episodes continue to show **increased length of time children are missing.**
- Increased use of Deprivation of Liberty (DOLs) and some residential care settings keeping children incessantly occupied (including long car journeys) to avoid them going missing.

Source: Catch 22

[Date/Time]

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DATA FINDINGS

WIDER POLICY/RESPONSE UPDATES

- There is still a reduction in reporting to police, although charities are seeing an increase in numbers, which is positive as it means people are accessing the most appropriate services.

Source: Cross Vulnerabilities Meeting 28th May 2020

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE

- All forces have provided Mental Health data and the trends are not consistent between forces.
- There are also some inconsistencies in the data that make interpretation problematic.
- Overall the trend in S136 detentions is consistent with that observed in 2019.
- Taken together this data continues to suggest that forces are not facing an increase in mental health related demand as a result of COVID-19, although trends suggest that demand may be beginning to increase.

Source: Op TALLA Service Delivery Update 24th May 2020



Mental Health Incidents/S136 detentions in 4 week period, compared to same period in 2019			
Mental Health Incident	2019	2020	% change
27th Apr - 24th May	45,112	42,992	-5% decrease
S136 Detentions	2019	2020	% change
27th Apr - 24th May	1,693	1601	-5% decrease

S136 Detentions

- 46% of reporting forces recorded an decrease in S136 detentions when compared to same 4 weeks in 2019.
- 50% of reporting forces recorded an increase in S136 detentions when compared to same 4 weeks in 2019.
- 4% of reporting forces recorded same number of S136 detentions when compared to same 4 weeks in 2019.

Source: NPoCC Online Data Research by Op HYDRANT analysts 27th May 2020

British Transport Police S.136/297

- 2020 Year to date totals show a 41% decrease on same period in 2019.

BTP PP&V Weekly Data is shown separately as it does not appear to be included in the Op TALLA Service Delivery Update.

BTP PP&V Weekly Data is for England, Wales & Scotland

Source: BTP PP&V Weekly Reporting dated 19th to 25th May 2020

British Transport Police: PP&V Weekly Reporting Data - S.136/297				
Week Period	2020 year to date total	2019 year to date total	2020 to 2019 Year to Date % Comparison	Weekly Total
19th to 25th May	561	952	-41%	30

Source: BTP PP&V Weekly Reporting dated 19th to 25th May 2020

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3rd SECTOR DATA

- Demand for the week ending 17th May was nearly 40% higher than the pre-lockdown benchmark.
- Increased contacts from frontline/ keyworkers following the government announcement, worried about a second peak and what they might face.
- There has been a lot of confusion regarding new guidelines, this is leading to increased anxiety coupled with frustration from some and an intense desire to get back to normal.
- Anxiety about returning to work for many, including teachers as a group that are particularly concerned.

Source: CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably)

- Childline data for the period between 11th and 17th May :

- Contacts about parental mental health have increased 11% this week from 62 to 71 (week 11th-17th May – Adult helpline).

Source: Childline and NSPCC Helpline

COUNTY LINES

DATA FINDINGS

WIDER POLICY/RESPONSE UPDATES

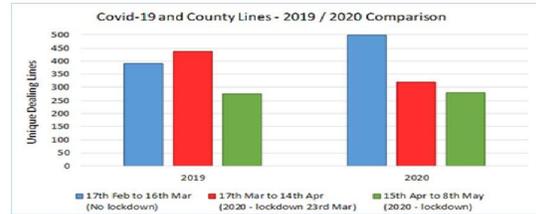
- There are early discussions around the creation of a National Performance Framework to report on activity carried out by forces.
- With the relaxation of lockdown there is some change with lines reverting back to previous methods.

Source: Cross Vulnerabilities Meeting 28th May 2020

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE

- Recent reporting continues to suggest that Class A drug supply is impacted to varying degrees both within and across force areas, with price increases and reductions in quality. There is some intelligence that the cost of Cannabis is also increasing.
- Whilst some suppliers are employing more drug users to deal, in the belief they are less conspicuous, there is some indication the reduced restrictions have allowed greater movement for suppliers, allowing activity to return near normal.

Source: NCLCC Assessment of Changing Thread dated 26th May 2020



- The amount of information available has remained fairly minimal over the last week and has slowed down since the initial lockdown period began.
- Reports indicated increases in prices in Class A drugs, namely Heroin and Cocaine.
- Reports suggest suppliers continue to adopt innovative methods to evade Police detection.
- Information suggests that drug lines are operating as normal with changes in delivery method. However, there is recognition that the quality of the product available is reduced.

Source: NCLCC Assessment of Changing Thread dated 19th May 2020

Reporting from Op TALLA

- NPoCC assess there is a realistic possibility of renewed gang violence as COVID-19 guidelines are eased and gangs are able to act on any raised tensions during the restrictions. One force reporting issues between OCG's with a realistic possibility of violence.
- Reports of drug dealers wearing face masks, NHS badges and high visibility vests to avoid detection.
- One example reported that drug users are being used as runners as they are struggling to fund their own purchases because of limited opportunities for acquisitive crime due to COVID-19 situation.

Source: Op TALLA Daily reporting, summarised by Op HYDRANT analysts

National Trends – Tackling Exploitation Programme

- BTP have seen an increase in younger children being seen on transport and people wearing key worker uniforms such NHS uniforms or high visibility jackets. They have had a reduction in referrals for children of 8% and an overall reduction of 30% in referrals for children and adults.
- Some areas reported an increased use of disused hotels and B&B's for selling drugs.
- There are reports that young people may be being forced to sell drugs in their local areas so they don't attract attention from parents or police for breaching lockdown.
- One Local Authority reported that some young people residing in residential homes who usually go missing are no longer going out because the pull factors are not there, but due to them being in their placement more often and being disruptive other young people are now going missing.

Source: Exploitation trends and themes - GMP Exploitation Operational Group dated 12th May 2020

3rd SECTOR DATA

- High proportion of CYP referred for CCE support have learning needs or are on an EHCP.
- London appears quieter with less evident gang activity and violence. Reduction in referrals. YP who do engage are engaging more than ever, but by phone as face-to-face not possible. This may be because they are more available but also there is no risk of other people knowing they are engaging with the programme (no visits from strangers with lanyards, no chance of being spotted in a cafe etc.) For YP leaving YOIs, delays in sorting housing as boroughs are under extreme pressure currently. People released under early release scheme not receiving the support they should.

Source: Catch 22

CROSS CUTTING VULNERABILITIES

DATA FINDINGS

WIDER POLICY/RESPONSE UPDATES

Hidden Harms Summit

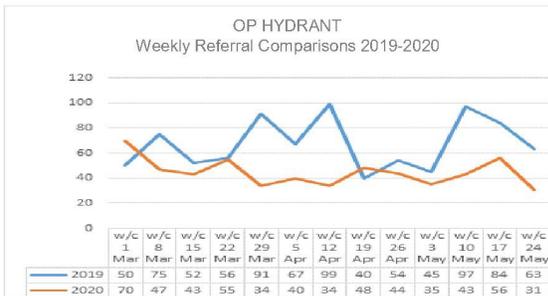
- The policing session focused on understanding the threat picture, particularly around online CSA and DA, and how to work with other agencies.
- The Safeguarding session focused on how to use statutory services and reaching out to wider partners to better identify hidden harms and support.
- The third session was on listening to victims.
- The safeguarding leaflet is being sent out on 29th May with the message that safeguarding is everyone's business and what to look out for.

Source: Cross Vulnerabilities Meeting 28th May 2020

POLICE DATA / INTELLIGENCE

- OP HYDRANT has seen a decrease in referrals in the week commencing 24th May after an increase since 3rd May. Referrals continue to be lower when compared to 2020.

Source: Op HYDRANT Referral Update 17th May 2020



Source: Op HYDRANT Referral Update 24th May 2020

3rd SECTOR DATA

- Childline data for the period between 11th and 17th May :
 - Calls regarding parent/adult health/behaviour has increased from 19% to 23% since lockdown.
 - Bullying dropped out of the top 10 main concerns for the first time in Childline's history (week 11th-17th May).

Source: Childline and NSPCC Helpline

[DateTime]

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - NOT FOR CIRCULATION

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DATA AND INTELLIGENCE TO BE SUBMITTED BY 11am FRIDAY
FOR INCLUSION IN THE FOLLOWING WEEKS BRIEFING TO:

Irrelevant & Sensitive

PLEASE QUOTE 'VKPP' IN SUBJECT HEADER