

County Lines or Forced Drug Dealing

In 2024, cases of county lines or forced drug dealing made up 40% of all criminal exploitation concerns for adults.

Keep an eye out for the following indicators:

- Has the person withdrawn from normal activities and interests?
- Does the person have unexplained items such as white powder, cling film/foil, debit cards in unknown identities, knives, excessive cash, mobile phones or sim cards, condoms and Vaseline (used for 'plugging'), train tickets, or balaclavas.
- Are there extreme changes in the person's appearance and speech – from smart to 'street'?
- Is the person using coached responses such as 'right to remain silent' or 'no comment'?
- Does the person have an obsession with postcodes & 'boundaries'?
- Does the person become extremely distressed if plans are disrupted, or they cannot respond to texts or calls?
- Does the person deny their situation as it appears – despite evidence to contrary?



If the answer to any of these questions is yes, you could have identified modern slavery. Please refer the concern via our website and consider contacting the police and adult social care.