

# Enforced Criminality

Aarti Kapoor



**Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre**

**Making every child matter ... everywhere**

# Who are we?

Child Exploitation and Online  
Protection Centre

[www.ceop.gov.uk](http://www.ceop.gov.uk)



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# Criminal Exploitation

- Petty theft / Pick-pocketing
- Drugs trafficking / dealing
- Begging
- Fraud
- **Cannabis cultivation**



# Cannabis Cultivation

- Organised Criminal Networks
- International operations
- Residential houses
- Hydroponic Equipment
- Est £70,000 per 3 months



# Awareness on trafficking and re-victimisation

- NGO referrals
- Police
- Youth Detention Centres
- Media reports
- Scoping Assessment



# P's Case

- 14 year old girl
- Clandestine entry
- Missing from Care
- Recovered from a farm
- Charged, prosecuted and sentenced
- Missing from Care



# Findings

## Children arrested for Cannabis Cultivation



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# Overview

- January 07 to January 08
- 42 cases (England and Wales)
- 39 children
- 10 to 18 years of age
- 34 males
- 4 females





# Issues arising



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# Response

- Referral to Children's Services
- Arrested but not charged
- Initially charged but later withdrawn
- Arrested, charged and granted bail
- Arrested, charged and remanded in custody



# Consequences

- Convictions and sentencing
- Re-offending
- Missing



# Other details

- Entry/ Arrival to the UK
- Seeking Asylum
- Age disputes
- Family connections



# Recommendations

- Victim Identification and Risk Assessment Protocols
  - Early
  - Protection
  - Screening
  - Age assessment
  - Translations
  - Monitoring



# Recommendations cont.

- Awareness Raising and Training
- Best Practice Guidelines
- Further review
- Debriefing
- Support Source country Criminal Justice Initiatives
- Continued monitoring



# Thank you for your attention

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