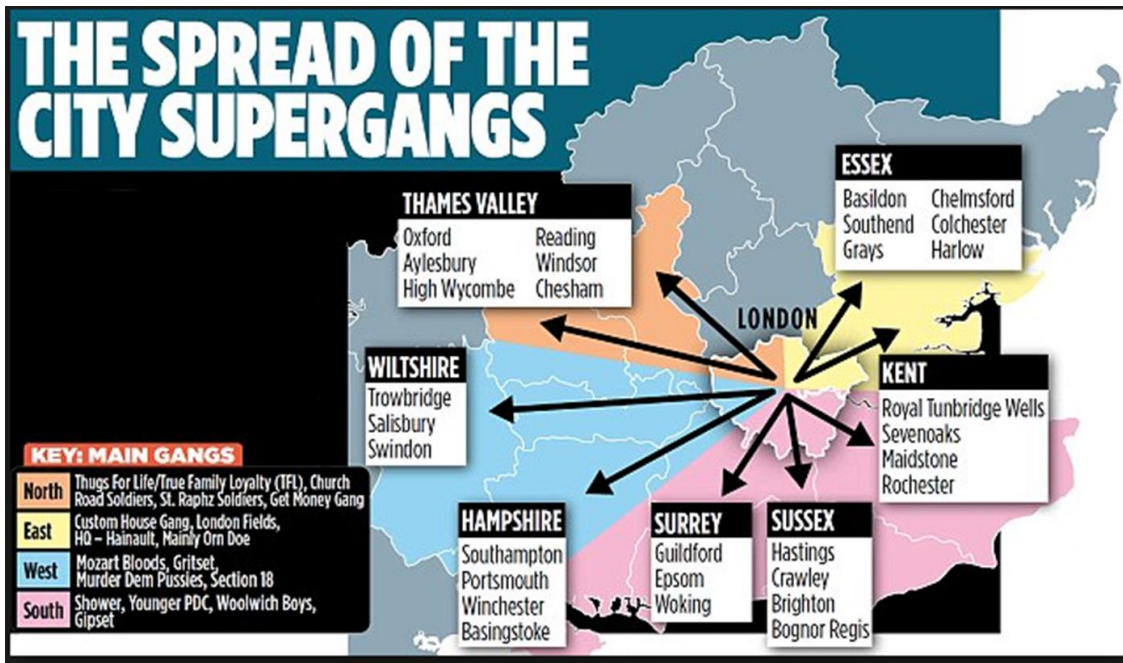


Identifying and Tackling “Cuckooing” in Surrey

Jo Grimshaw

ASB Manager – Surrey Police



What is cuckooing?

Cuckooing is a form of crime in which [drug dealers](#) take over the home of a vulnerable person in order to use it as a base for drug dealing.

The crime is named for the [cuckoo's](#) practice of taking over other birds' nests for its young.



Exeter drug dealer was 'aggressively cuckooed' by London gang

William Cornah sold drugs to undercover police because of threats from a violent gang

Teenaged drug dealer forced to take over woman's home jumps from third floor to escape police

Martins tried to escape twice but was found by members of the drugs gang at Cheltenham Train Station

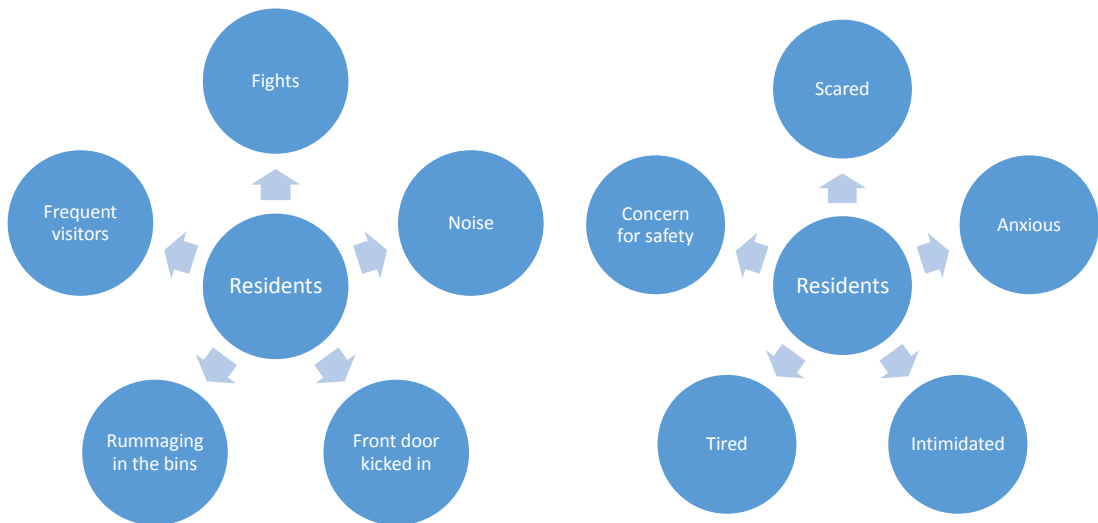
The Llandudno flat used by 'cuckooing' drugs gangs from London and Merseyside

Visitors have now been banned from the property - which is near a school - in a bid to stop the problem

Does this happen in Surrey?



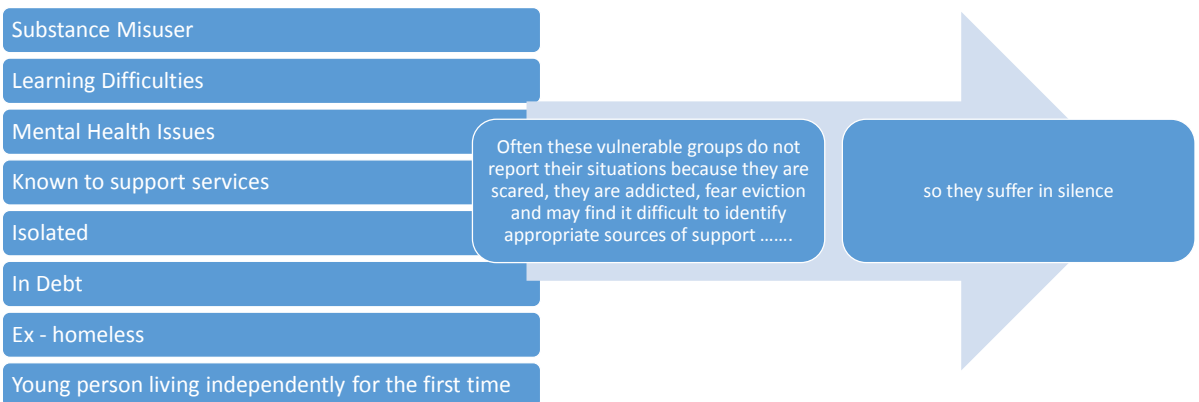
Community Experience



Dave's Story



Who is at Risk?



Increase in ASB activity in and around the property.

An increase in the number of coming and goings.
 Extra littering taking place or rubbish bins overflowing
 Criminal Damage/Noise Complaints

Tenants not seen coming in or out of their house

When they do leave they are never on their own
 Tenants seem more downtrodden or unhappy
 Disengagement with support services

Professionals visiting may be aware of new unidentified persons in the property

Make shift beds in the property
 Offenders will often have new vehicles outside the property or hire cars



If you think you have a cuckooed property.....

Safeguard the tenant
 and
 the community

- Contact the MASH
- Referral to the local CHaRMM or CIAG
- Contact the Police

Collect Evidence

- Diary Sheets
- Complaints
- Impact Statements
- Photos

Enforcement Options

Property Closures	• Full or partial
Criminal Behaviour Orders	• Exclude the Offender
Injunctions	• Exclude the Offender
Community Protection Notice	• Sets out boundaries

Homework

- Does our agency have a “cuckooing” policy and procedure?
- Are you currently dealing with an issue that you now think may be linked or caused by cuckooing?

