



County Lines, Gang & Knife Crime Safeguarding Training



SAFETY SOLUTIONS
TRAINING LIMITED

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Course Overview:

This course is a must for any professional working to support 'at risk' individuals in tackling this social issue.

A common feature in county lines drug supply is the exploitation of young and vulnerable people by drug gangs. Dealers will frequently target children and adults - often with mental health or addiction problems to act as drug runners or move cash so they can stay under the radar of law enforcement. In some cases dealers will take over a local property, normally belonging to a vulnerable person, and use it to operate their criminal activity.

People exploited in this way will quite often be exposed to physical, mental and sexual abuse, and in some instances will be trafficked to areas a long way from home as part of the network's drug dealing operations.

To protect themselves from the risks associated with drugs supply, young people and adults may feel the necessity to carry a knife and become affiliated to a gang.

Safeguarding and prevention is key to detecting victims and at-risk children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Trainer:

Vince Donovan served as a police officer with South Wales Police for thirty years. Having served in a variety of departments including community safety, crime prevention and hate crime roles, he served the last six years of his police career working with vulnerable individuals, groomed and attracted to various forms of violent extremism. Vince has delivered training to over 350 organisations, many of which provide support for vulnerable individuals with an array of challenging behaviours complicated sometimes, by substance misuse and mental health issues.

Learning Objectives

- Understanding 'County lines' and 'cuckooing' vulnerable individuals
- Appreciate the reasons why young people carry knives and the legal implications
- Appreciate the link between weapons and drugs
- Identify the vulnerability *push factors* that attract young people to street gangs
- Have an awareness of street gang affiliation, structure, membership and risks connected with leaving a gang
- Have an awareness of the role of young women in street gangs, criminality and sexexploitation
- Appreciate the relevance of 'drill' music, social media and video games in violent behaviour
- Recognise the impact on physical and mental health upon vulnerable individuals
- Recognising and reporting safeguarding concerns