

Operation Scorpion

November 2023 summary

Op Scorpion

South West



#NoPlaceForDrugs

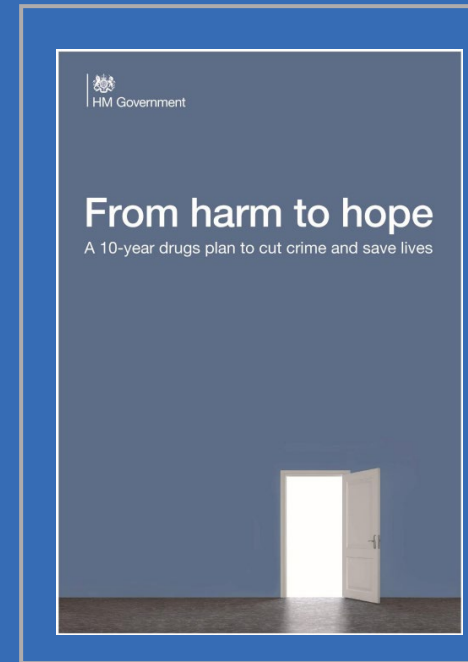


PCC

Office of the Police and
Crime Commissioner
Devon and Cornwall

Background

- In 2021 the Government published its From Harm to Hope plan, 'a 10-year plan to cut crime and save lives'. It required Combatting Drugs Partnerships to be established. Four were created in the South West, the OPCC is represented in each.
- In October 2021 Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables from five forces committed to regional activity to make the South West a hostile environment for drug supply as a response to the plan and demand from their communities.
- Co-ordinated activity would take place regularly across all force areas at a regional and local level, with each iteration of Operation Scorpion targeting a different drugs supply issue.
- Multiple partners, including CrimeStoppers, British Transport Police, the Regional Organised Crime Unit and Ministry of Defence Police would join forces.





Phase one – March 2022

Focused on county lines dealing, this resulted in **109** arrests. **Four** children and **34** adults were safeguarded.

Police seized

- **£90,000 in cash**
- **33kg of drugs**
- **Two firearms**

528
Disruptions

Phase two – July 2022

Focused on community-related drugs issues like antisocial behaviour, this phase resulted in **127** arrests and **237** adults and young people being safeguarded.

Police seized:

- **613 cannabis plants**
- **10,401 ecstasy doses**
- **£180,000 in cash**



1,165
Disruptions



Phase three – December '22

Focused on the evening and night-time economy. It led to **70** arrests. **12** children and **10** adults were safeguarded.

- **Police seized 5kg of drugs**
- **One firearm**
- **£51,000 in cash**

649
Disruptions

Phase four – April 2023

Focused on drugs-related violence. **162** arrests were made, **34** adults and children were safeguarded:

Police seized:

- **11kgs of drugs**
- **15 firearms**
- **£514,065 in cash**



523
Disruptions





Phase five – July 2023

This round focused organised crime groups (OCGs) involved in cannabis cultivation. Across the region there were **58** raids on commercial cannabis growing operations. It led to **67** arrests. Police seized:

- **Cannabis worth £6.5 million (164kg)**
- **A 9mm handgun**
- **£73,000 in cash**

109
Disruptions



Phase six – October 2023

Timed to coincide with the national County Lines Intensification Week. This round led to **94** arrests. **26** children and **32** adults were safeguarded. Police seized:

- **Drugs worth £245,699**
- **Three luxury watches**
- **£45,774 in cash**
- **Four cars**
- **Five laptops**
- **22 mobiles**

298
Disruptions

Operation Scorpion results to date

Total disruptions	3,272
Total arrests	629
People safeguarded	350+
Firearms seized	19
Drugs seized	>213kg
Cash seized	>£950,000

Phase seven

Operation Scorpion Seven will take place in Spring 2024 and be led by Dorset Police.

Any questions?



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