

# **Markets!**

## **What's Our Problem?**

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# Markets are great!

- Important British tradition
- Bring economic and social benefits
- Popular family shopping destination
- Business opportunities for small businesses and traders

# However...

- Markets are not uniformly regulated
- They offer easy opportunities for illegal trading by conmen
- Tackling the problem in one region means it shifts to another
- When illicit traders move in, a whole host of problems follow





# Organised crime moves in

- Criminal gain from sale of fake DVDs in UK was £136 million in 2008\*
- £3 billion criminal gain from counterfeit clothing and footwear in UK\*\*
- The links between serious organised crime and IP theft are proven in courts across the country on a weekly basis.

\*IPSOS study Nov '08 \*\*Ledbury study Feb '07

**Benefit Fraud**  
**Money Laundering**  
**Offensive Weapons**  
**Drug Dealing**  
**Tax Evasion**  
**Credit Card Fraud**  
**Raising Children In Criminal Lifestyles**  
**Hard Core And Child Pornography**

# Market Facts

- Around 25% fake goods sales take place at markets and car boot sales
- The perception of counterfeiting and piracy as low risk, victimless and acceptable makes enforcement a low priority in many areas
- Unhealthy for local communities
- Gowers' Recommendation No 40
- Neither BIS nor Home Office have any plan to consult on market regulation

# Net Gain of Market Clean-Up

- Reduce levels of crime and intimidation
- Safer place to shop
- Confidence in merchandise on sale
- Level playing field for local retailers
- Businesses gain from more legitimate sales
- Positive knock-on effect for employment
- New revenue stream from POCA to Local Authorities can fund enforcement and also other community projects.