PREVENTING ORGANISED CRIME: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

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Dick Oldfield
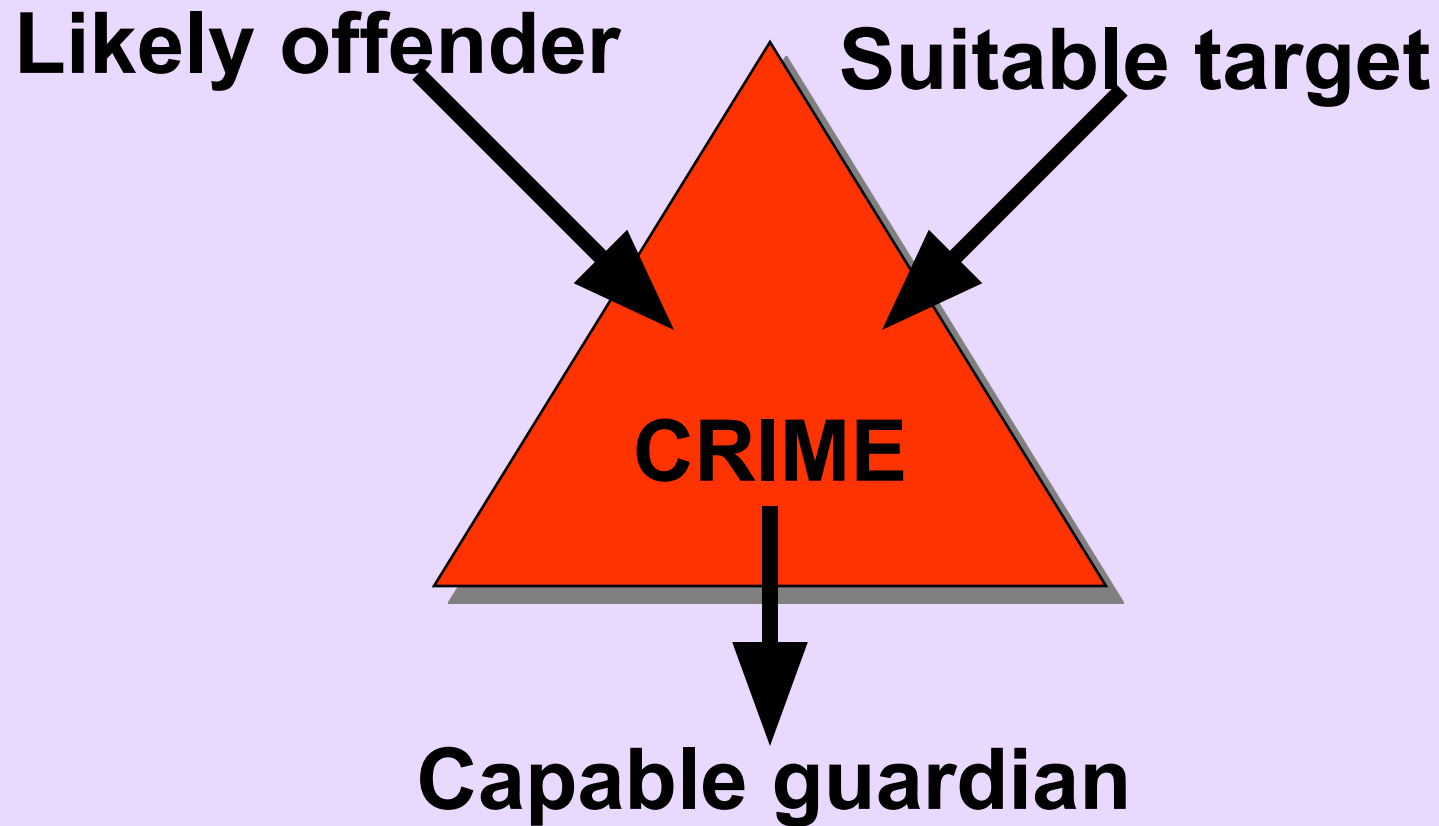**Mike Sutton**

Systematic crime reduction

Standard framework to:
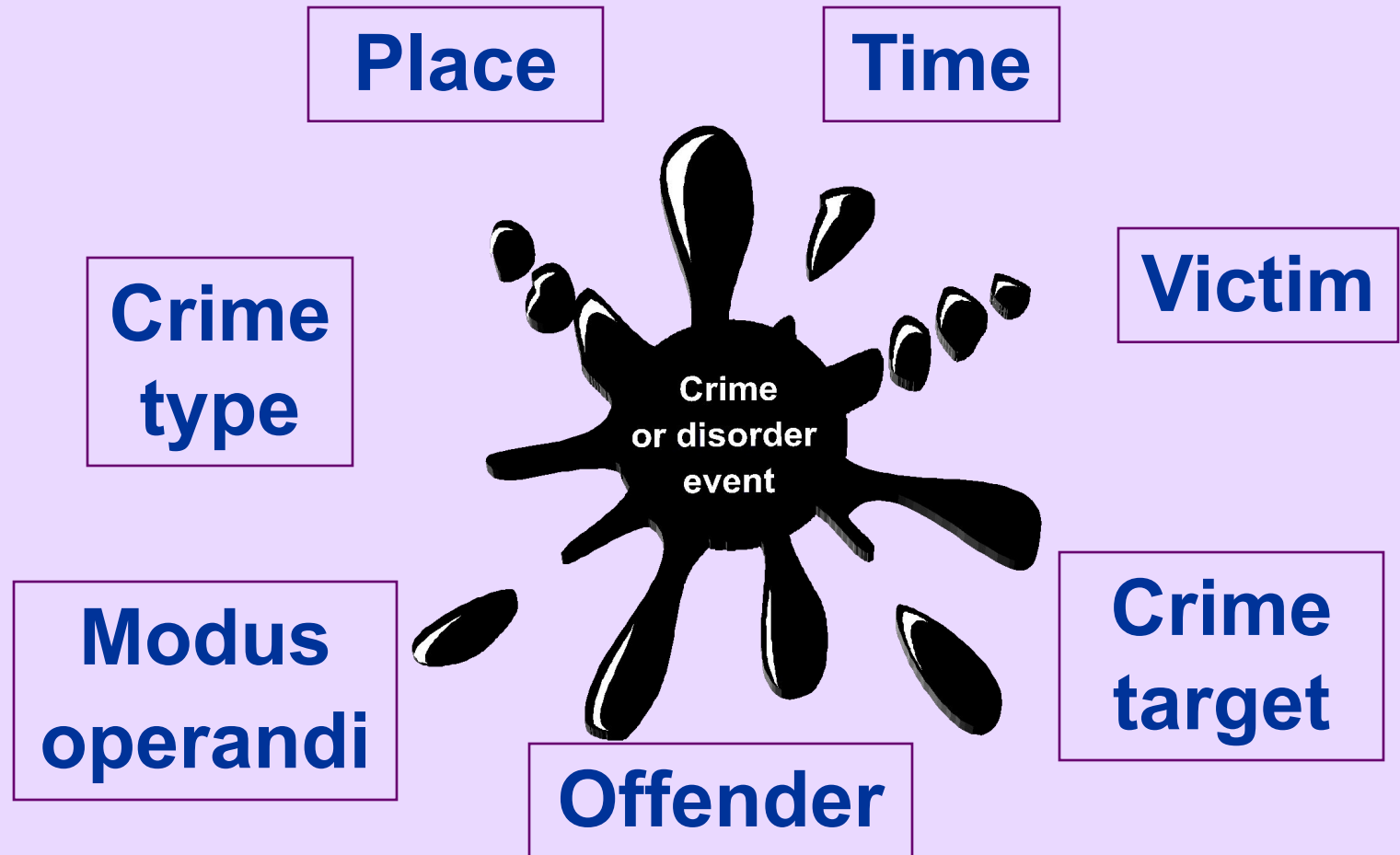
- **Describe the <u>crime</u> problem**

- **Understand <u>causes</u> of crime problem**

- **Find out how to <u>disrupt</u> the causes of the crime problem** (what works)

Beginnings: Predatory Crime

Likely offender **Suitable target**

CRIME

Capable guardian

Cohen and Felson (1979)

THE FRAMEWORK:

THE CONJUNCTION OF CRIMINAL OPPORTUNITY

Place

Time

Crime type

Victim

Crime or disorder event

Modus operandi

Crime target

Offender

Problem space:
a map of symptoms

Diagnosis space: the Conjunction of Criminal Opportunity

remote causes of crime or disorder event

Offender presence in situation

Target person or property

Target enclosure

Anticipation of risk, effort and reward

Resources for crime

Wider environment

Readiness to offend (motives/ emotion)

Absence of crime preventers

immediate precursors of crime or disorder event

Lack of skills to avoid crime

Crime promoters

Criminality (predisposition)

Crime or disorder event

SITUATION

OFFENDER

Diagnosis space:
the Conjunction
of Criminal
Opportunity

remote causes of crime or disorder event

immediate precursors of crime or disorder event

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SITUATION

OFFENDER

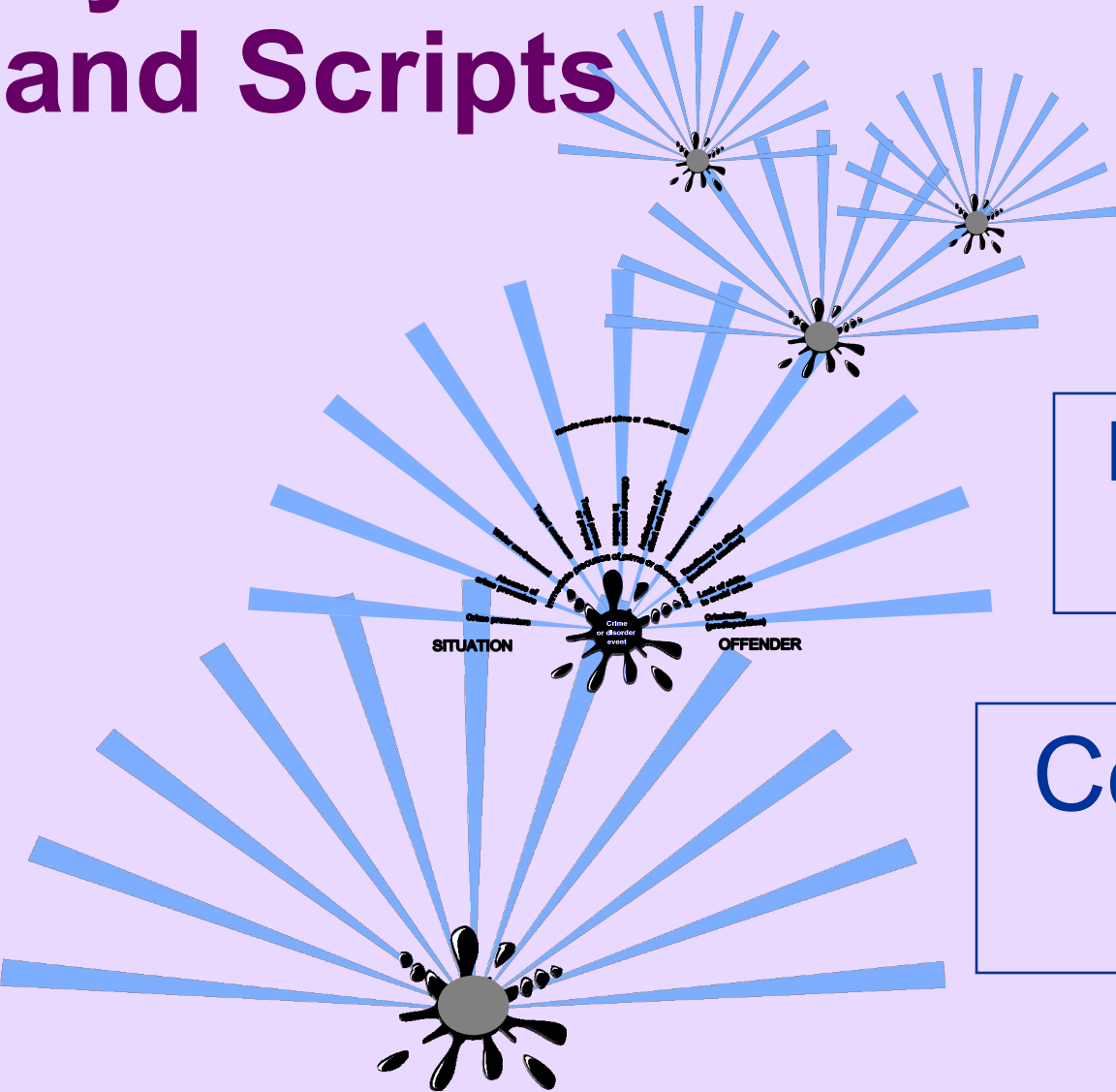# Dynamics of crime: Scenes and Scripts

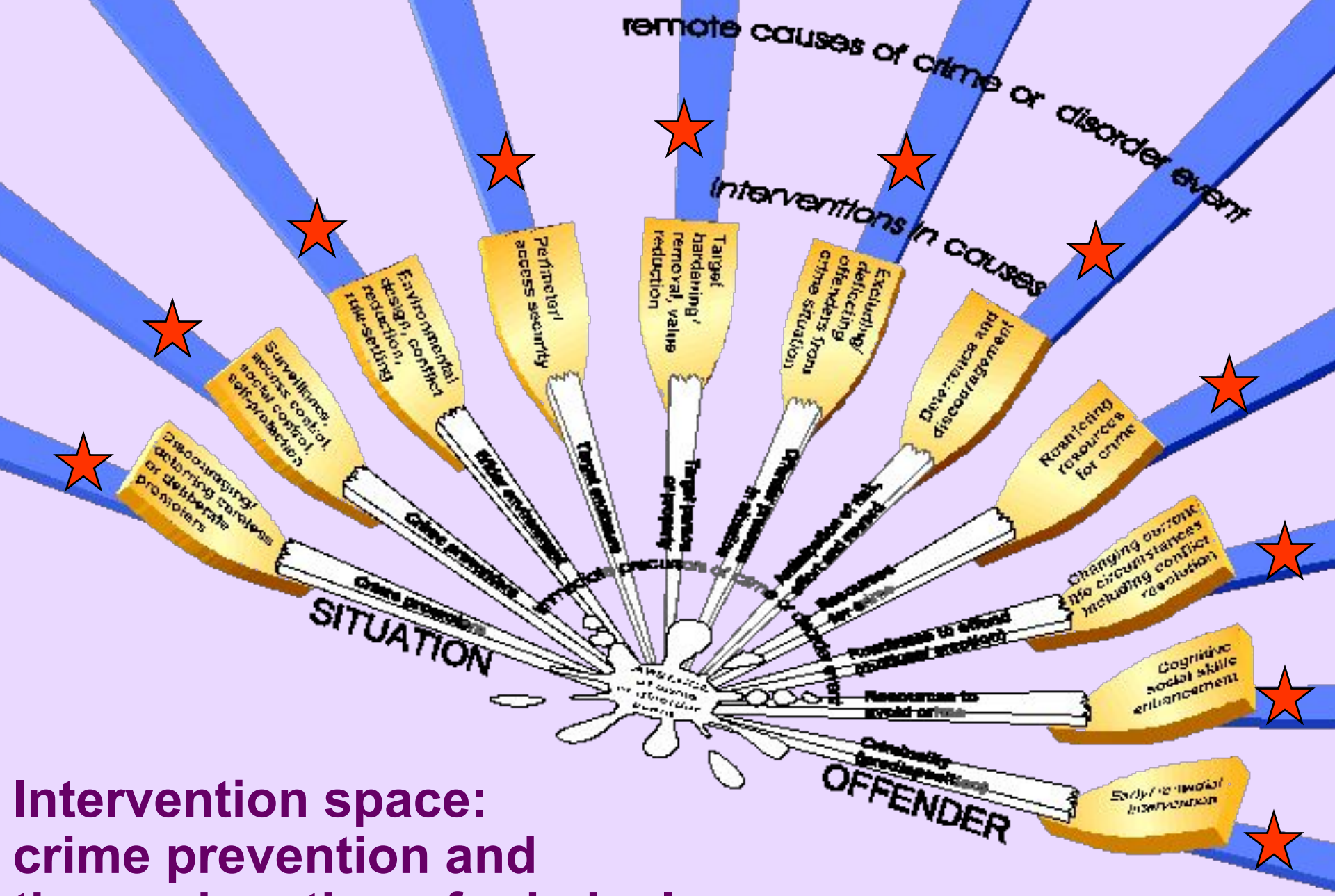Preparation for crime

Execution of crime

Consummation of crime

SITUATION

Crime or disorder event

OFFENDER

Intervention in cause

Disruption of Conjunction of Criminal Opportunity

Decreased risk of crime events

Reduced crime

Wider benefits

A crime prevention intervention

Environmental design, conflict reduction, rule-setting

remote causes of crime or disorder event

Wider environment

Target enclosure

Target person or property

Offender presence in situation

Anticipation of risk, effort and reward

Resources for crime

Readiness to offend (motives/ emotion)

crime preventers

immediate precursors of crime or disorder event

Resources to avoid crime

crime promoters

Criminality (predisposition)

ABSENCE of crime or disorder event

OFFENDER

SITU

Quality of life
Regeneration
Wealth creation

remote causes of crime or disorder event

interventions in causes

Surveillance; access control, social control, self-protection

Environmental design, conflict reduction, risk-setting

Perimeter/ access security

Target hardening/ removal, value reduction

Excluding/ deflecting offenders from crime situation

Deterrence and discouragement

Restricting resources for crime

Discouraging/ deterring careless or deliberate promoters

Changing outlook into circumstances including conflict resolution

Cognitive/ social skills enhancement

SITUATION

OFFENDER

Early remedial intervention

Intervention space: crime prevention and the conjunction of criminal opportunity

Intervention space: crime prevention and the conjunction of criminal opportunity

Strategic interventions: Beyond individual events/ transactions

- Level 1 - **individual scene**
- Level 2 - **logistical structure of scenes**
- Level 3 - **day-to-day operation of a criminal enterprise**
- Level 4 - **wider structures**
  - career **of the criminal enterprise**
  - niche
  - criminal network
  - markets **for stolen or illegal goods**
- Level 5 - **whole** ecosystem

Delivering preventive action (1)

The basics*:

- **<u>Intervention</u>** - in the causes of criminal events

- **<u>Implementation</u>** - of the preventive method to deliver the intervention

- **<u>Involvement</u>** - action at a distance - mobilising other agencies, institutions and individuals to implement, intervene, insert

  *from 5Is

https://crimeframeworks.com/5is-intelligence-intervention-implementation-involvement-impact/

Delivering preventive action (2)

Involvement:

- <u>C</u>larify the CR tasks **that need to be achieved**

- <u>L</u>ocate the preventive agents

- <u>A</u>lert & <u>I</u>nform **them**

- <u>M</u>otivate **them**
  - **Acceptance**
  - **Duty**
  - **Self-interest - incentives and sanctions**
  - **Regulations/ standards**

- <u>E</u>mpower **them - increase capacity through**
  - **Supply of operational resources**
  - **Legal powers, competence (including CCO), and technical aids**

- <u>D</u>irect them – laws, standards, regulations

CASE STUDY: STOLEN CARS

1   **Identification of crime or offender**

Suspected crime	**Detected crime**	Detection/discovery of active offender

Stolen vehicle identified at UK docks
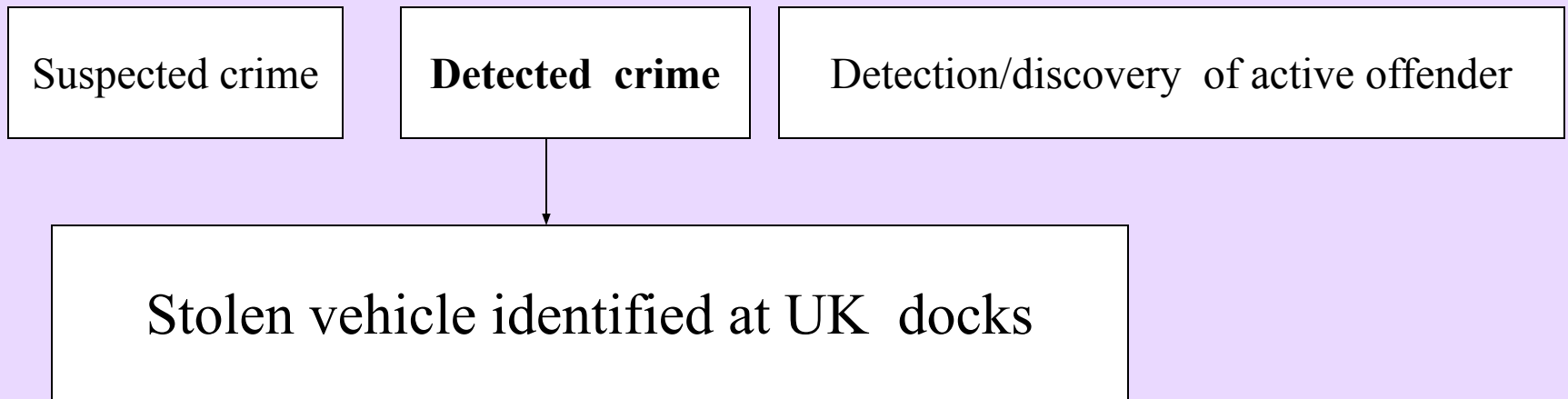
2   **Identify the key players and the aim of the crime. Investigate and determine the <u>objectives</u> and <u>strategy</u> of the offence.**

CRIME SCRIPT

Aim (the Plot)

- Find and steal an expensive car
- to sell it
- to make money

THE CONJUNCTION OF CRIMINAL OPPORTUNITY

Ekblom's CCO Model:
Diagnosis Space

Criminal Aim = *Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money*

Crime or disorder event:

- Criminal conspiracy
- Forgery
- Making counterfeit documents
- Obtain credit card by deception
- Steal car - theft - obtaining goods by deception
- Receiver handles stolen goods
- Courier handles stolen goods
- Illegal entry into UK with a false passport
- Shipper - aiding and abetting a crime
- Handling stolen goods - courier 2
- Handling stolen goods - new "owner"

The Players

Criminal

Organiser
Thief-hirer
Forger
Receiver
Courier
Shipper

Victim

Owner
Am. Express
Final buyer?

Promoters

Telephone Co.
Post Office
Licence plate makers
Container Co.
Transport Co.
Shipping Co.
Airport
Ferry Co.

Authorities

Export
Authorities
Customs
Police

Thinking about Crime Reduction - and Detection

Immediate precursors of crime or disorder event*

Situation and Offenders

SITUATION:
- Crime Promoters
- Absence of Crime Preventers
- Wider Environment
- Target Enclosure
- Target Person or Property

OFFENDER:
- Criminality Predisposition
- Lack of Skills to Avoid crime
- Readiness to Offend
- Resources for Crime
- Anticipation of Risk/Effort/Reward
- Presence in Situation

*From Ekblom's CCO model

Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money

Situation

1

Crime Promoters:
- Telephone Co.
- Post Office
- Licence plate makers
- Container Co.
- Shipping Co.
- Airport
- Ferry Co.

2

Absence of Crime Preventers:
- Post Office
- Container Co.
- Transport Co.
- Shipping Co.
- American Express
- Car Rental Co.
- Number Plate Makers
- Export Authorities

Next Slide

Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money

Situation

3

Wider Environment:
- Easy access to postal re-direction
- Easy access to fraudulent credit card
- Easy access to expensive rental car
- Easy access to forger
- Easy access to handler
- Easy access to thief-hirer
- Easy access to courier
- Easy access to corrupt shipping clerk

4

Target person/property:
- Tracking device located car

Crime detected!

Next slide

Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money

Situation

5

Offenders Presence in Situation:
- Organiser - able to recruit criminal team
- Each team member can be present at their crime scene

Next Slide:
the offender

Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money

The Offender

Criminality Predisposition:
- Organiser
- Thief-hirer
- Forger
- Receiver
- Courier
- Shipper

Organiser:
- Finances
- Leadership
- Connections- networking skills
- Business skills
- Distance from many scenes
- Capacity to implement violence
- Command of loyalty/fear/respect
- Legitimate cover?

Readiness to Offend

Resources for Crime:

Next Slide: Thief -hirer

Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money

OFFENDER: <u>RESOURCES FOR CRIME</u>

Thief-hirer:
- Driving ability
- Capacity to deceive
- Correct age/sex/appearance
- Acting ability
- Calmness
- British (if UK credit card)
- Reliable/trustworthy/punctual
- Courage
- Accessible (can be contacted)

Forger:
- Craft and technical skills/ training
- Access to raw materials and technology
- Secrecy
- Legitimate cover?
- Network connected
- Trustworthy/reliable
- Accessible

Next Slide: Receiver & Courier

Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money

OFFENDER: <u>RESOURCES FOR CRIME</u>

Receiver:
- Legitimate cover
- Finance
- Network connected
- Reliable/trustworthy
- Accessible
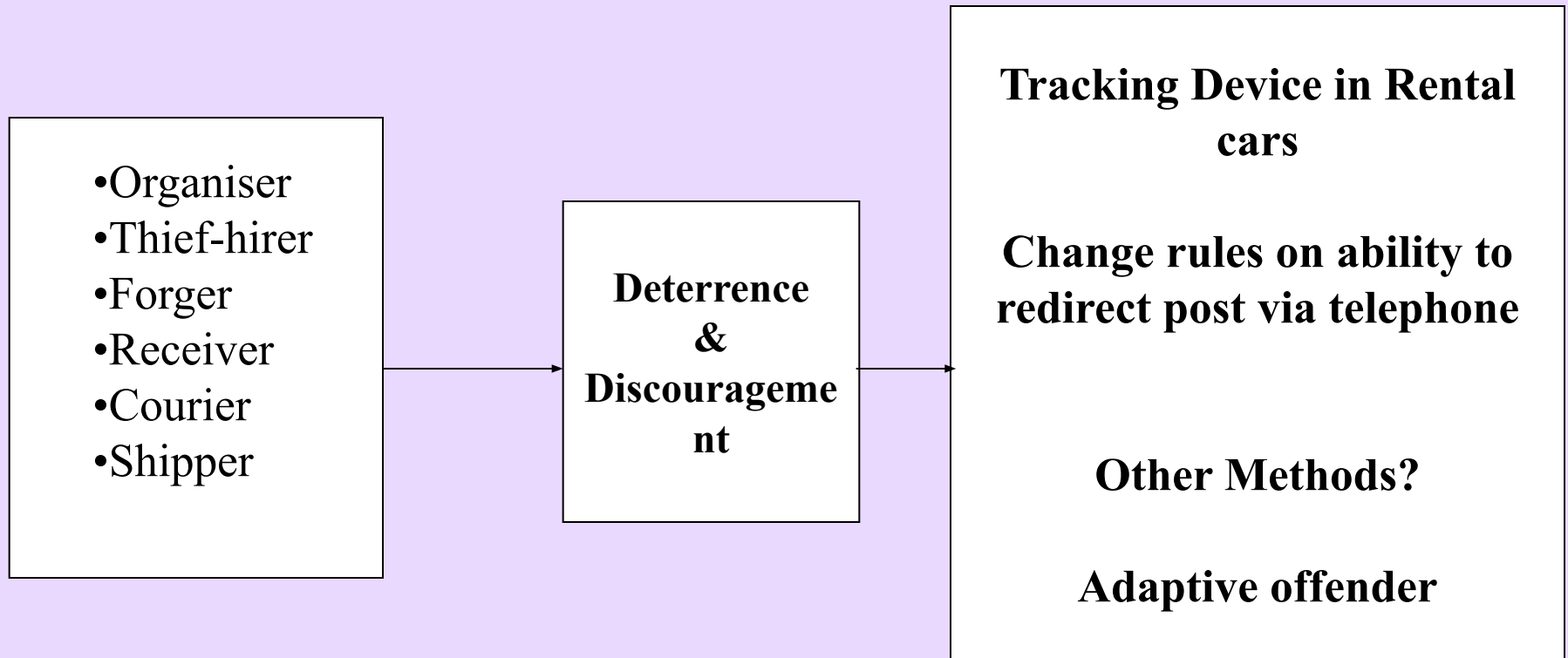- Suitable garage space

Courier:
- Driving ability
- Free time/flexibility
- Availability
- Trustworthy
- <u>Not</u> network connected
- Suitable age/appearance
- Courage
- Vulnerable to threats of violence

Shipper:
- Employment with shipping Co.
- Workplace independence/privacy
- Courage
- <u>Not</u> networked
- Wiley
- Vulnerable to intimidation

Find and steal an expensive car to sell it to make money

OFFENDER: ANTICIPATION OF RISK, EFFORT AND REWARD

- Organiser
- Thief-hirer
- Forger
- Receiver
- Courier
- Shipper

→

Deterrence & Discouragement

→

Tracking Device in Rental cars

Change rules on ability to redirect post via telephone

Other Methods?

Adaptive offender

Crime Scripts and Scenes

Preparation

Objective A: Recruit Criminal Team

Organiser

→

Recruit:
- thief-hirer
- forger
- courier (1)
- receiver
- corrupt shipper
- courier (2)

Crime Scripts and Scenes

Preparation

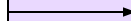<u>Objective B: Identify Crime facilitators</u>

Organiser or Courier	→	Identify: Ferry Co. Container Co. Transport Co. Shipping Co.
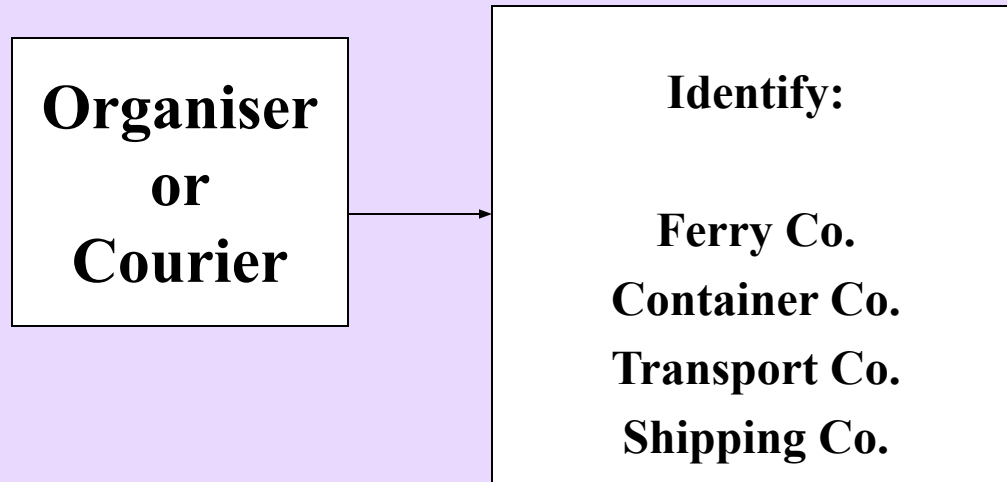
Crime Scripts and Scenes

Preparation

Objective C: Obtain documentation

Organiser or Courier →
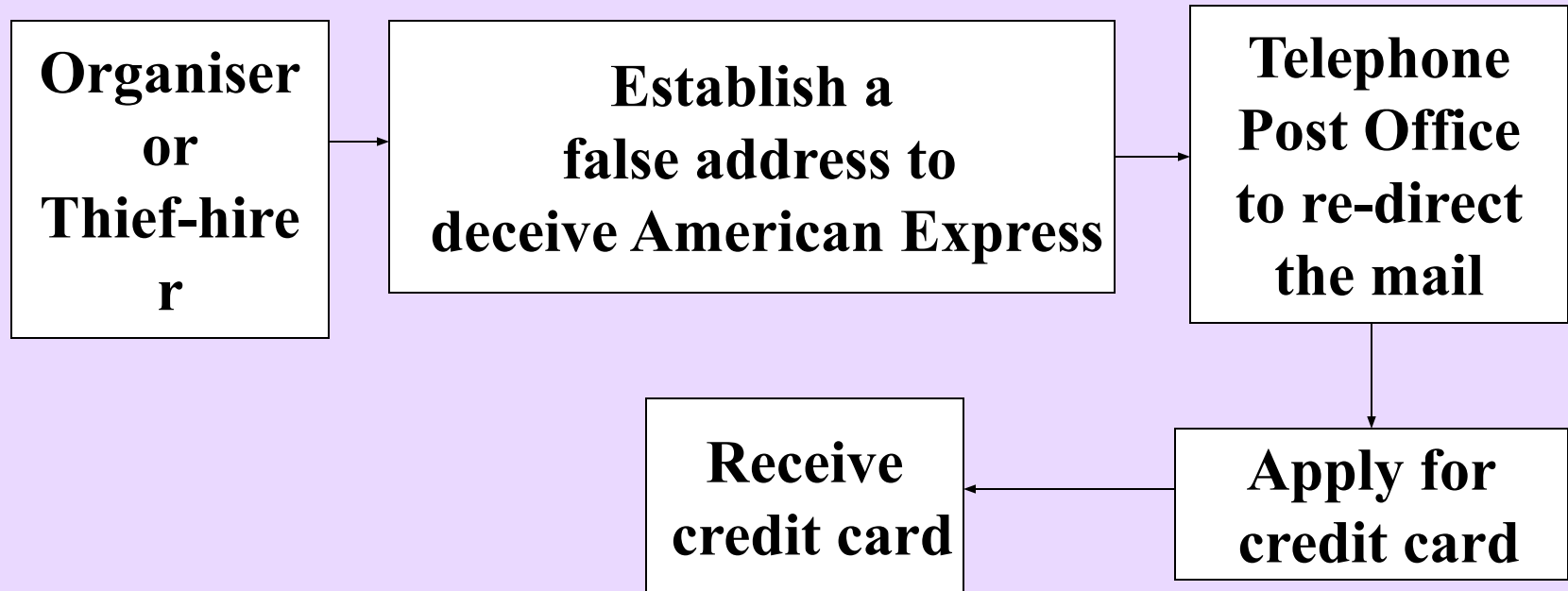
Obtain:

- Transport Document - container/ferry
- Bill of lading - Freighter
- Import Document - final destination
- Insurance document - final destination
- Number plate - final destination
- Registration - final destination

Crime Scripts and Scenes

Preparation
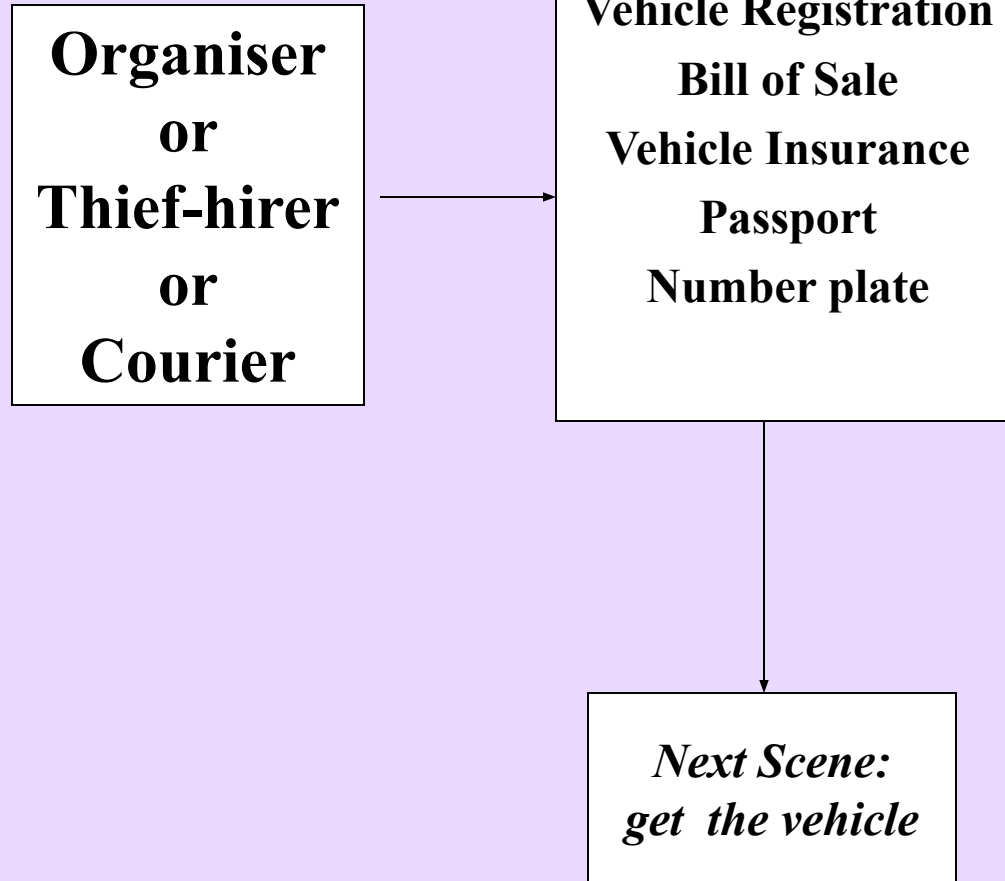
Objective C: Get false identity/credit to rent vehicle

Organiser or Thief-hirer → **Establish a false address to deceive American Express** → **Telephone Post Office to re-direct the mail**

Receive credit card ← **Apply for credit card** ← **Telephone Post Office to re-direct the mail**

Crime Scripts and Scenes

Preparation

Objective D: Get forged documents to transport vehicle

Organiser or Thief-hirer or Courier	→	Vehicle Registration Bill of Sale Vehicle Insurance Passport Number plate

Next Scene:
get the vehicle

Crime Scripts and Scenes

Get the vehicle and pass it on
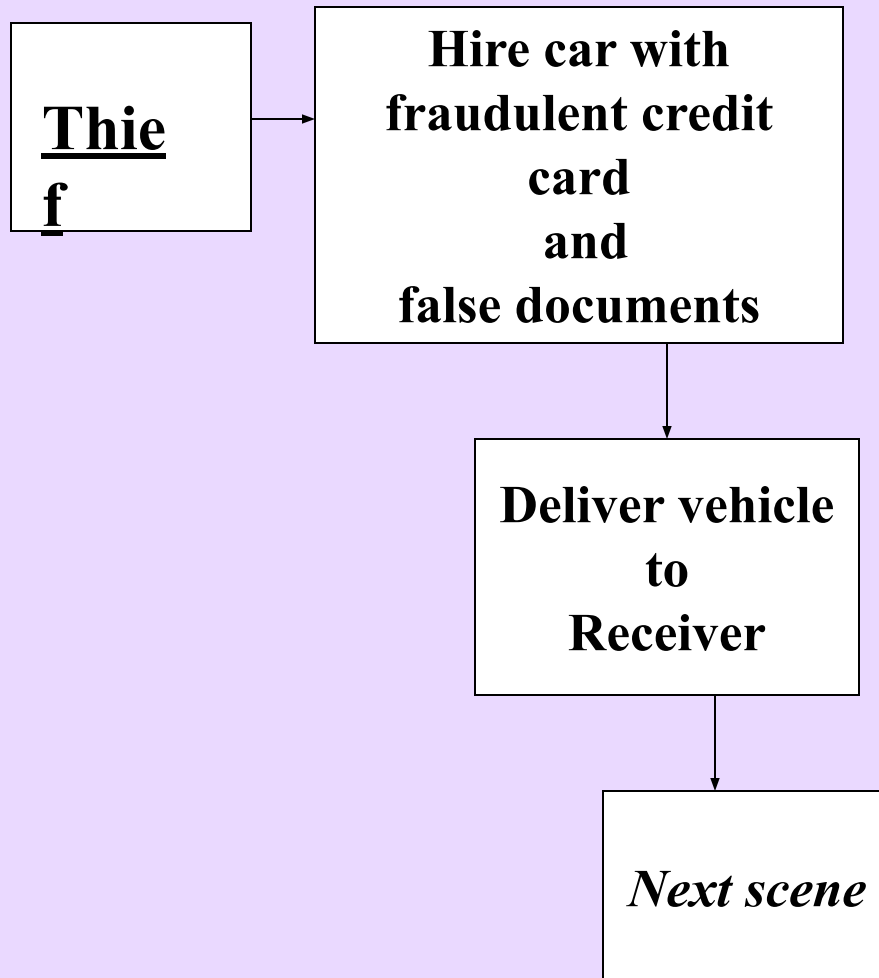
Thief → **Hire car with fraudulent credit card and false documents**

↓

Deliver vehicle to Receiver

↓

Next scene

Crime Scripts and Scenes

Pass the vehicle on and transport it

Receiver	→	**Arrange pick up by Courier**

Crime Scripts and Scenes

Pass the vehicle on and transport it

| Courier | → | **Courier picks up documents, keys and car** |

↓

Delivers car to Ferry

↓

Police Intercept Courier ←
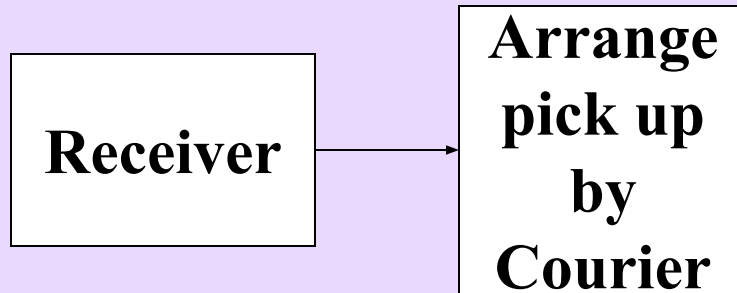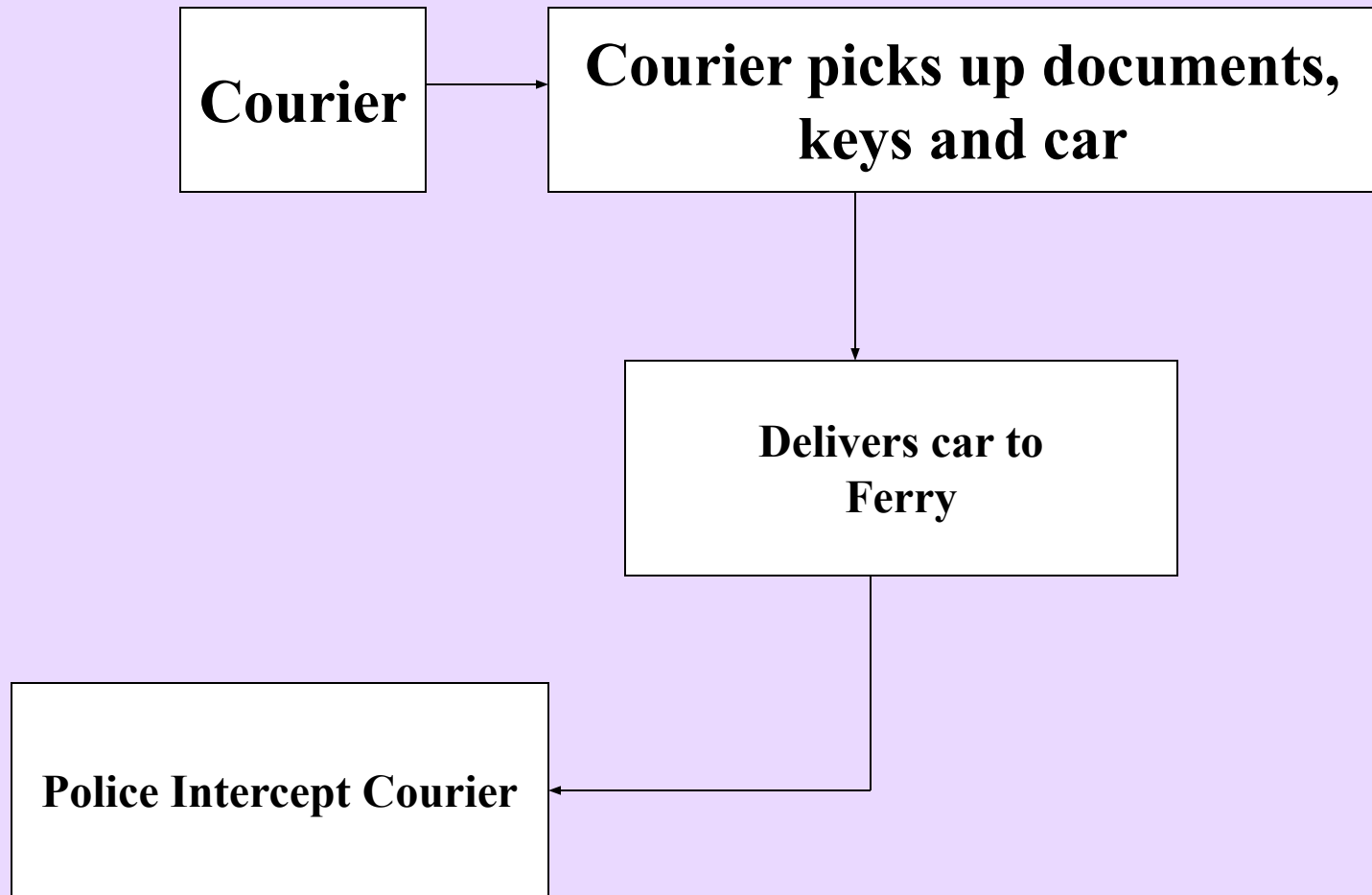
CONCLUSION: DOES THE CCO FRAMEWORK HELP?

- **The preventive process**

- **Anticipation**

- **Reaction**

Facilitating the Preventive Process

LINKS CURRENT CRIME PROBLEM TO SOLUTIONS

1   **IDENTIFICATION OF CRIME PROBLEM**

- *systematic description of problem/*

2   **DIAGNOSIS OF CAUSES OF CRIME PROBLEM** *specification of operational objectives*

- *generic map of causes*

3   **SELECTION OF SPECIFIC INTERVENTIONS, AND CREATION OF PRACTICAL OPERATIONAL SOLUTIONS**

- *generic map of intervention mechanisms*

4   **IMPLEMENTATION**

- *clear specification of methods, schemes, packages*

5   **EVALUATION/ RESULTS ANALYSIS AND ADJUSTMENT**
- *framework for selecting and mobilising other agencies*

- *attribution of cause*
- *accumulation of 'what works' knowledge*

Facilitating anticipation of crime

ANTICIPATES NEW CRIME PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

- crime forecast
- crime impact assessment

Facilitating reaction to crime

CID AND/OR FORENSIC INVESTIGATION

- Maps out immediate causes
- Means of systematically describing/ classifying MOs