Police statement following sentencing of men accused of involvement in organised crime

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Following the sentencing on Monday 22nd January at the High Court in Glasgow of nine men accused of being involved in Serious Organised Crime, Detective Chief Superintendent Gerry McLean, head of Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism, said, "The nine men who have been sentenced today were involved in the most serious criminal activity, including firearms, drug dealing and extreme violence.

"They were responsible for bringing fear and misery to communities across Scotland and we welcome the fact that they have been brought to justice and will no longer to able to continue their criminal activities.

"I would like to thank the victims of this gang for their bravery in providing crucial evidence which led to the group submitting guilty pleas, such was the weight of the evidence placed on them. Today, collectively, they are facing in excess of 80 years in prison which demonstrates the seriousness of the crimes they were involved in.

"Serious Organised Crime has no place in society and I want to reassure people in all our communities that Police Scotland will continue to disrupt anyone involved in this type of activity on a daily basis, shutting down their illegal businesses and locking up those responsible.

"I welcome the sentence handed down today and I also want to

pay tribute to the team of dedicated police officers, working closely with prosecutors, whose professionalism and tireless efforts helped bring these nine dangerous men to justice."