

## NON-LEA OVERVIEW OF LIVE MODERN SLAVERY INVESTIGATIONS (MSID) IN UK POLICING March 2020

NATIONAL INSIGHT TEAM

23/04/20

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# Overview of Live Modern Slavery Investigations in UK Policing – March

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## Data & Confidence:

This update provides a monthly overview of live police investigations being undertaken by police/ ROCUs across the UK, including PSNI and Police Scotland. This only includes those investigations that the Modern Slavery Insight Team have been made aware of.

This report is based on data (correct as of the 2nd April 2020) submitted on live investigations, covering the period between 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020.

## Police Operational Information Summary:

- There are currently at least **1828** live Modern Slavery police investigations being undertaken across the UK. There are active operations across all policing regions.
- The **1828** investigations involve almost **2600** potential victims and almost **1800** suspects
- **580** of the **1828** investigations involve potential victims who were under the age of 18 at the time of the crime. Most investigations identified as modern slavery by forces involve adults.
- There remains a strong correlation between suspect and potential victim nationalities.

**Sexual Exploitation: 576 (32%)** investigations tackle sexual exploitation (as the primary exploitation). **603** investigations identify sexual exploitation at a primary level or otherwise.

**Criminal Exploitation: 655 (36%)** investigations primarily tackle criminal exploitation (county lines/cannabis cultivation/fraud/theft). **704** investigations identify ‘crime’ as an exploitation type, at a primary level or otherwise.

**Labour Exploitation: 430 (24%)** investigations primarily tackle labour exploitation within a range of sectors; the most frequently occurring are the food industry (preparation, service), car washes, factories, construction, health and beauty, agriculture and waste/recycling. **451** investigations identify labour exploitation at a primary level or otherwise.

**Domestic Servitude: 72 (4%)** investigations primarily tackle domestic servitude. **91** investigations identify exploitation through domestic servitude at a primary level or otherwise.

**Forced/Sham Marriage: 2** investigations involve tackling forced or sham marriages. **8** investigations identify forced or sham marriage as a type of exploitation at a primary level or otherwise.

### Suspect Profile Police Investigations

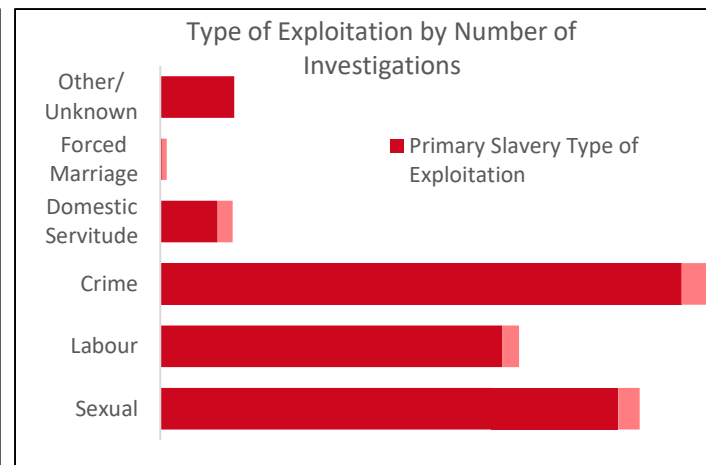
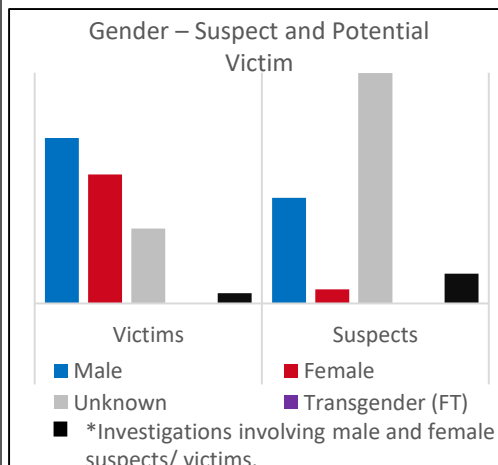
The most frequently identified suspect nationalities are:

- British
- Romanian
- Chinese
- Albanian
- Vietnamese
- Polish
- Lithuanian
- Hungarian
- Iranian
- Irish & Slovakian

### Potential Victim Profile Police Investigations

The most frequently identified victim nationalities are:

- British
- Romanian
- Chinese
- Vietnamese
- Albanian
- Polish
- Pakistani
- Indian
- Lithuanian
- Hungarian



# Modern Slavery within BF, IE and GLAA

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## BORDER FORCE – Update from March 2020

### Operations

Border Force supported Aidant 27/1 – 14/2:

Aidant saw joint working with police and IE to target and examine haulage vehicles and containers at ports.

Border Force teams at passengers' terminals also mounted activity to conduct welfare checks and check for indicators of human trafficking. Activity took place at Stansted Airport and Holyhead ferry port.

### Engagement

To mark FGM Zero Tolerance Day Border Force team held awareness raising events at ports across the UK. In the main Home Office building the Metropolitan Police joined Border Force to showcase the work done under Op Limelight and display the World Class Policing Award given for this.

## UK IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

- ▶ IE currently have **5** live operations across Heathrow (3) and London (2).
  - ▶ Of the **2** investigations which involve trafficking, **1** has been identified as labour exploitation.
  - ▶ **1** investigation involves a victim who is under 18 .
  - ▶ The most frequently occurring suspect nationality where known, is British.
  - ▶ Victim nationalities most frequently include: Indian, Vietnamese and Albanian.
  - ▶ Within the live operations there are at least **6** potential victims.
  - ▶ **2** NRMs were completed across all investigations.
- ▶ *\*This data is correct as of 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020.*

## GANGMASTERS AND LABOUR ABUSE AUTHORITY

### Overview of March Modern Slavery investigations:

- ▶ In March, the GLAA is leading 49 live investigations (and 1 paused) involving a combination of modern slavery offences.
- ▶ 7 of these investigations involve human trafficking.
- ▶ No investigations currently have any victims who are under 18 years old.
- ▶ Suffolk, Greater Manchester and Lancashire are the top harm locations where GLAA investigations are being conducted this month.
- ▶ The most frequent nationality for both victims and offenders is Romanian.
- ▶ GLAA are leading 6 compliance and inspection cases which feature potential Modern Slavery indicators.
- ▶ These compliance cases are occurring in the following regions: South East (3), South West (2) and North East (1).
- ▶ Of the 6 compliance cases, where offender nationalities are known these include Bulgarian (2) and British (1). Likewise, where victim nationalities are known these include Bulgarian (1) and Latvian (1).

### Updates on Investigations (sourced from GLAA website):

- ▶ The Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) has introduced a temporary licensing scheme to ensure critical food supply sectors are able to run as smoothly as possible during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Temporary licences for food production will be granted to businesses operating within the wider labour supply industry and who wish to support labour providers who currently hold GLAA licences. Decisions will be made by the GLAA on a case-by-case basis. A full report can be found [here](#).
- ▶ Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) CEO, Michael Rich, has asked partners to be vigilant and look out for signs of labour exploitation, in a video published this week. To watch this short video please follow the [link](#).

**Modern Slavery Helpline:  
08000 121 700**

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