



# Safe in East Sussex

## In Focus – Modern Slavery

May 2017

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Modern Slavery can take many forms including the trafficking of people, forced labour, servitude and slavery. Children (those aged under 18) are considered victims of trafficking, whether or not they have been coerced, deceived or paid to secure their compliance.

They need only have been recruited, transported, received or harboured for the purpose of exploitation. It is an international crime, affecting an estimated 29.8 million people around the world. It is a global problem that transcends age, gender and ethnicity. It is not an issue confined to history or an issue that only exists in certain countries. It is something that is still happening today, and it happens here in the UK.



The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is supported by the Safer East Sussex Team, made up from Community Safety staff from Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service and East Sussex County Council

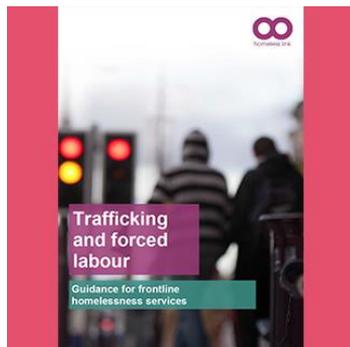
## Different Forms of Modern Slavery

### Sexual Exploitation

Sexual exploitation is the most common form of modern slavery reported by potential victims in the UK. Victims are often forced into prostitution, escort work or pornography. Albania, Romania, Nigeria and the UK are the most common countries of origin of potential victims of sexual exploitation. Many foreign national victims report being brought to the UK expecting legitimate work, often recruited by boyfriends, spouses or close associates, only to find out they will be sexually exploited after they arrive. Victims are coerced, often under the threat of violence to them or their family, and can end up debt bonded and under the control of those who exploit them. Criminals also use the UK as a transit point to traffic victims, particularly women from Nigeria, to other countries across Europe.



### Labour Exploitation



Labour exploitation is the second most common form of modern slavery exploitation in the UK. Victims are forced to work against their will, often working very long hours for little or no pay in dire conditions and under verbal or physical threats of violence to them or their families. Traffickers and slave drivers are known to target vulnerable men, such as those with drug and alcohol dependency, or with learning or mental health difficulties. They frequent homeless shelters, soup kitchens and rough sleeping areas to recruit 'workers'. Labour exploitation takes place in many sectors of our economy, from mining to tarmacking, hospitality and food packaging.

Some victims are kept in 'debt bondage' (also known as bonded labour), an arrangement where a person is forced to pay off a loan with direct labour in place of currency over an agreed or often obscure period of time.

### Criminal Exploitation

Victims are also forced to commit crime, such as pick-pocketing, benefit fraud, shop-lifting, cannabis cultivation and drug trafficking. In 2013, around one-third of potential victims of criminal exploitation identified by the Strategic Assessment reported they had been forced to commit benefit or financial fraud, while around one-fifth had been forced to work on cannabis farms.

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## Domestic Servitude

Domestic servitude involves trafficking individuals for the purpose of working as a household servant and it is often perpetrated by individuals or families. Victims are forced to carry out housework and domestic chores in private households with little or no pay and often restricted movement, very limited or no free time and minimal privacy, in addition to often being forced to sleep where they work. As it takes place in private households it is a deeply hidden form of exploitation.

## Child Victims of Modern Slavery

We know that perpetrators deliberately target children, preying on their vulnerability, and as a result children account for a large proportion of victims. and the abuse of children for the production of child abuse images/videos. Almost one-third (32%) of all potential child victims referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) in 2013 reported having been subjected to sexual exploitation and there has been an increase in the number of child victims from the UK since 2009. Thirty-nine per cent of all child potential victims of sexual exploitation referred to the NRM in 2013 were UK nationals.

This increase in referrals may reflect the increased awareness of child sexual exploitation that has come to light in the wake of the Operation Yewtree investigations and more recent cases of organised child sexual exploitation in Rotherham, Oxford and Rochdale.

## Other forms of Modern Slavery

Include forced begging; forced benefit fraud; forced marriage, illegal adoption and organ removal. The World Health Organization estimates that as many as 7,000 kidneys are illegally obtained by traffickers every year as demand outstrips the supply of organs legally available for transplant. Several International standards are in place on trafficking for organ trade.



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## Duty to Notify the Home Office of Potential Victims of Modern Slavery

From 1 November 2015, specified public authorities have a duty to notify the Secretary of State of any individual encountered in England and Wales who they believe is a suspected victim of slavery or human trafficking.

It is estimated that there were 10,000-13,000 victims of modern slavery in the UK in 2013, but only 1,746 potential victims were referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) in the same period. In 2015, this figure rose to 3,266 potential victims.

**DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE  
COME INTO CONTACT WITH A  
VICTIM OF MODERN SLAVERY?**

**It is important to notify the Government  
to help build a clearer picture of this  
hidden crime.**

**This duty is intended to gather statistics and help build a more comprehensive picture of the nature and scale of modern slavery.**

The 'duty to notify' provision is set out in Section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, and applies to the following public authorities in England and Wales at the time of publication (additional public authorities can be added through regulations):

- a chief officer of police for a police area,
- the chief constable of the British Transport Police Force,
- the National Crime Agency,
- a county council,
- a county borough council,
- a district council,
- a London borough council,
- the Greater London Authority,
- the Common Council of the City of London,
- the Council of the Isles of Scilly
- the Gangmasters Licensing Authority.

For further information:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508817/Duty\\_to\\_Notify\\_Guidance\\_Version\\_2.0\\_.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508817/Duty_to_Notify_Guidance_Version_2.0_.pdf)

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## National Referral Mechanism

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking or modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support. The NRM is also the mechanism through which the Modern Slavery Human Trafficking Unit (MSHTU) collect data about victims. This information contributes to building a clearer picture about the scope of human trafficking and modern slavery in the UK.

The NRM was introduced in 2009 to meet the UK's obligations under the Council of European Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. At the core of every country's NRM is the process of locating and identifying "potential victims of trafficking".

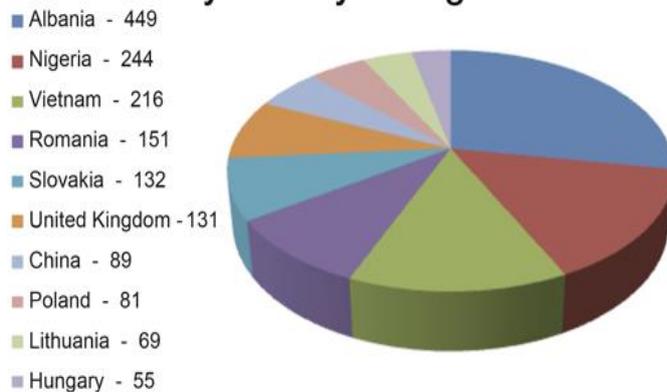
From 31 July 2015 the NRM was extended to all victims of modern slavery in England and Wales following the implementation of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Modern Slavery encompasses:

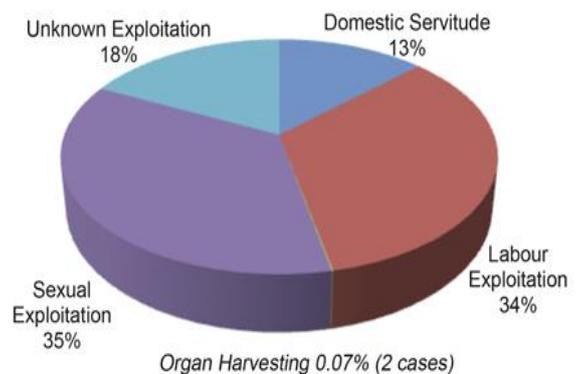
- Human trafficking
- Slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour

From 31 July 2015, in all UK referrals, the Competent Authority (trained decision makers) must consider whether the person is a victim of human trafficking. In England and Wales, if someone is found not to be a victim of trafficking, the Competent Authority must go on to consider whether they are the victim of another form of modern slavery, which includes slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.

Number of NRM referrals by country of origin 2014\*



Types of exploitation of NRM referrals 2014\*



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The NRM grants a minimum 45-day reflection and recovery period for victims of human trafficking or modern slavery. Trained decision makers decide whether individuals referred to them should be considered to be victims of trafficking according to the definition in the Council of Europe Convention. In England and Wales, further consideration is made to those who do not meet the definition of trafficking. Their cases are then considered against the definitions of slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.



**The Salvation Army Specialist Support Programme** is designed to preserve the dignity of victims, protect, and care for them in safe accommodation, and provide access to confidential client-based support services to give victims the space to reflect, recover and rebuild their lives. Those who don't need accommodation but still need support have the same entitlements as someone living in a safe house. The Salvation Army will therefore provide victims of modern slavery with access to confidential client-based support services, including:

- Material assistance
- Access to psychological support
- Access to legal advice and assistance
- Counselling
- Emergency medical treatment
- Translation and interpretation services when appropriate
- Education for children

Salvation Army case workers are in regular contact and only a phone call away. They often accompany victims to important meetings and work alongside other key professionals such as solicitors and local authorities. They work with victims to develop supportive links within the community and help them have access to training opportunities and secure employment.



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## What do the Salvation Army provide?

### Support and a listening ear to victims and the emergency services

“We are often asked to attend reception centres for victims of modern slavery, mostly following police raids”.

“We will primarily be called upon to assess the victims’ welfare needs and their suitability for the service, but are also asked to provide additional direct support at the centre. We may offer people something to eat and drink and essential things like toiletries and clothing. We offer a listening ear and support to victims as well as law enforcement staff who have been working on the operation. Sometimes Salvation Army buildings are used as reception centres”.

“Through our networks across the UK we provide teams of people on standby to transport victims from reception centres or wherever they have been rescued and bring them to a place of safety. They are often taken to a safe house in another part of the country to remove them from the area where their traffickers operate or to find the most appropriate support service for their particular needs”.

Call their helpline if you suspect someone is

- a victim of modern slavery and are in need of assistance, or
- you are nominated to make referrals to Government services for victims of modern slavery, or simply a concerned individual, who comes into contact with some-one you suspect may be a victim of modern slavery and in need of assistance

Please call the 24-hour confidential Referral Helpline on 0300 3038151 available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



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# Update on the 5<sup>th</sup> year of The Salvation Army's Victim and Care Coordination Contract

## Supporting adult victims of Modern Slavery

In July 2011 The Salvation Army was awarded the Adult Human Trafficking Victim Care and Coordination contract. Through this it has been responsible for the oversight of delivery of specialist support services to adult victims of human trafficking identified in England and Wales.

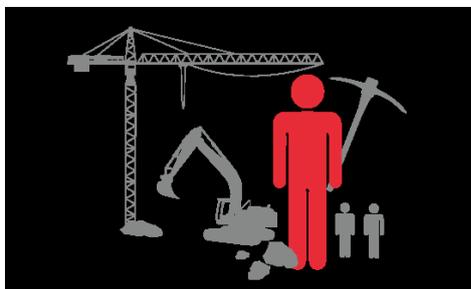
The contract, jointly funded by the Home Office and The Ministry of Justice, was initially awarded for a period of two years. It was subsequently when it was announced that The Salvation Army had been successful in its bid to retain the management of support of victims of modern slavery on behalf of the Government through a new Victim Care and Coordination Contract for adult victims of modern slavery.



The Victim Care & Coordination Contract can provide transport to a place of safety, accommodation in safe houses where required, and a full range of specialist services to meet the needs of each individual.



Data in this report refers to victims of modern slavery who entered The Salvation Army's care in Year 5 of the contract, the period between July 2015 and June 2016. A total of 4,314 clients have been supported by The Salvation Army and partner organisations during this time.



The 20 page report can be found here:  
[https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/year\\_5\\_report\\_1.pdf](https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/year_5_report_1.pdf)

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## Human Trafficking Prevention and Identification and the East Sussex Response

6<sup>th</sup> July 9.30 – 12.30

Lansdowne Hotel, King Edward's Parade, Eastbourne

This training aims to educate front line professionals about the issue of human trafficking, how to identify victims and how to respond and communicate appropriately with them.

After attending the 3 hour training participants will:

- Have a good understanding of the issue and the different types of exploitation
- Know what signs/indicators to look out for
- Know how to respond and communicate appropriately and effectively with victims of trafficking
- An understanding of what is 'Missing' and 'absent'

This training is being jointly commissioned by the LSCB and East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). It can be accessed via the East Sussex Learning Portal. <https://www.eastsussexlearning.org.uk/cpd/portal.asp>

**The Care Act 2014 is a major step forward in safeguarding adults who are experiencing or are at risk of abuse or neglect, and are unable to protect themselves. Modern Slavery is a type of abuse within the Care Act 2014.**

**In illustrating the types of abuse the Sussex Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures include additional categories of abuse: organisational, modern slavery, and domestic abuse.**

<http://sussexsafeguardingadults.procedures.org.uk/>

**To report suspected abuse of an adult at risk contact East Sussex Health and Social Care Connect on 0345 60 80 191**

Last year 3,266 people were identified in the UK as potentially trafficked. These figures have increased annually in the UK since records began. Yet it remains that the UK has no reliable information as to what exactly happens to victims beyond the statutory 45 days recovery and reflection period and no system to make sure that survivors from slavery don't fall back into exploitation.

The UK has done much to improve its response to the dreadful crime of Modern Day Slavery - one of the great Human Rights issues of our time. The Prime Minister's recent pledge to put Britain at the forefront of defeating this evil is an important step forward.

The logo for the Human Trafficking Foundation. It consists of three stacked rectangular boxes on a yellow background. The top box is black with the word 'Human' in white. The middle box is white with the word 'Trafficking' in black. The bottom box is black with the word 'Foundation' in white.

The UK spends millions each year to provide housing and support to victims of modern day slavery during a 45 day "National Referral Mechanism (NRM) recovery and reflection period – the period when the Home Office makes a decision on whether a person is trafficked or not. After that decision, Home Office support ends.

A new report from the Human Trafficking Foundation exposes how victims of modern slavery and human trafficking rescued in the UK are abandoned after 45 days.

You can read it here:

<http://www.humantraffickingfoundation.org/sites/default/files/Human%20Trafficking%20Foundation%20Report%202016%20Day%2046.PDF>

The recommendations from this report:

1. **Sustained access to suitable accommodation-** ensure survivors of trafficking are prioritised
2. **Continued provision of specialist support and advocacy** as is the case in Scotland
3. **Continuity of care** as recommended in the Home Office's 2014 'Review of the National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Human Trafficking'.
4. **Provision of leave to remain-** recognition as a refugee through the asylum system grants an initial five years of leave to remain in the UK, followed by the opportunity to apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain. Yet recognition of a victim of trafficking through the NRM, by contrast, carries no right to remain for even a month.

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**The Work and Pensions Committee published its report on Victims of modern slavery last month. In this report the Committee says failures in the UK's system for dealing with modern slavery are allowing the "inexcusable" scenario of victims reduced to destitution while their abusers go free because they are not adequately supported to testify against them.**

Front line support is weak and uncoordinated and instances where a person is re-trafficked are not even recorded. This helps to explain the country's appalling conviction record.

It is estimated there are between 10,000 and 13,000 slaves - victims of modern slavery - in the UK, but the current mechanism for identifying and supporting them out of slavery means that victims, once identified, have no automatic formal immigration status or rights and are often faced with a total lack of understanding or even recognition of their situation.

### **Key Findings**

- The lack of awareness, training and understanding, and lack of proper support for victims is having a negative impact on the number of successful prosecutions of slave masters.
- No data is collected on victims once they leave the NRM and the collection and recording of data is "generally substandard".
- All confirmed victims of modern slavery should be given at least one year's leave to remain with a personal plan for their recovery

The aim of the report is to begin the development of stage two of the UK's counter-slavery policy that builds on the 2015 legislative framework. This report is concerned with the creation of a world-leading structure of services that cares for and protects, as effectively as we can, the victims who have escaped from slavery.

Report summary and further information can be found here:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/work-and-pensions-committee/news-parliament-2015/report-victims-modern-slavery-16-17/>

## 'Victims of modern slavery do not wear a label'

Modern slavery is an appalling crime. It can affect men, women and children – many of whom are British. It is happening right now, often under our noses, and it impacts across every level of society. The Telegraph has teamed up with the Home Office to raise awareness of the UK's hidden shame

The well-dressed couple at Sheffield railway station decline to take a leaflet from The Salvation Army volunteer raising awareness about modern slavery. *“No thank you,”* they say. *“Slavery doesn’t happen here. Not where we live.”*



The truth is different. Slavery is everywhere – today, across modern Britain, in backstreets and upmarket suburbs alike. It is likely that the same couple encounter the victims of this appalling crime every day, without realising it. Slaves are working in nail bars, car washes, as domestic help, in factories, in the catering industry – and all too often remain invisible to those whose attitude is: “not where we live”.

That couple might be dining out at a smart restaurant where the potatoes on their plates were picked by men who earn little or nothing, often bound by a “debt” to their trafficker, and sleep in groups in freezing shipping containers. The debt that slavers impose on victims is often excessive and impossible to pay when the worker’s wage is pitiful or even non-existent.



Our couple’s glasses may have been washed by a vulnerable young woman whose manager gives her leftovers from customers’ plates but no money. Their taxi home may have just dropped off men at an upmarket brothel offering British girls for sale.



More about this awareness raising article in The Telegraph:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sponsored/lifestyle/modern-slavery-britain/11196766/modern-day-slavery-britain-cases-on-rise.html>



This film, produced by the Home Office tells you how to spot potential victims of slavery in Britain: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sponsored/lifestyle/modern-slavery-britain/11096711/Victims-of-modern-slavery-do-not-wear-a-label.html>

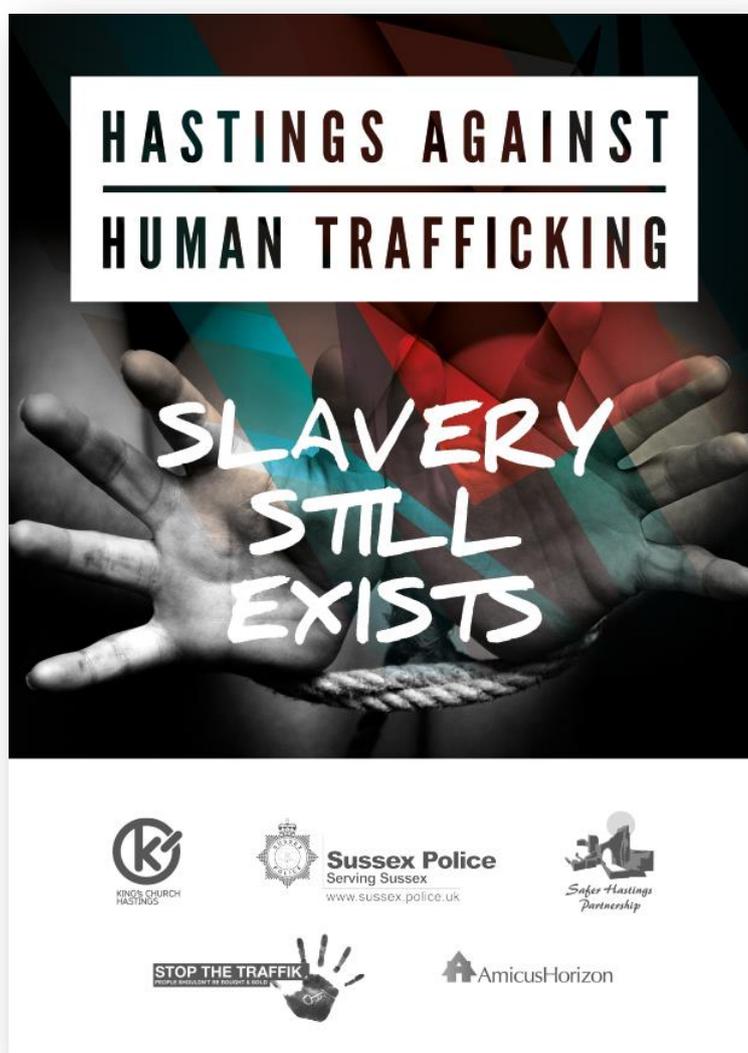
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## Hastings Anti Trafficking Hub

The Hastings Anti-Trafficking Hub (HATH) was borne out of one of East Sussex resident's passion to see victims of modern slavery rescued and restored. HATH, as it is known, has been running for two years and is now a thriving partnership between Sussex Police, Hastings Borough Council, AmicusHorizon, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, King's Church Hastings, and an increasing number of organisations from across the county.

It was started by Anna Wilson, a member of King's Church in Hastings, who founded **Stop the Traffik Hastings** in partnership with the national charity of the same name. Back then, statutory agencies were beginning to grapple with their responsibilities under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and we were keen to support them in any way we could.

King's offered to provide training for frontline staff to raise awareness of the issue. Working with police and partners in Hastings, we initially set out to train around 20 police officers, but demand was so high that 94 people signed up for it! That first round of training, delivered by **Stop the Traffik**, attracted delegates from not only Sussex Police, but also every district and borough council in East Sussex, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service and over a dozen officers from AmicusHorizon. When the training was repeated in January this year, a further 103 people came along.



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The next step after the first training event in February 2015 was to set up the Hastings Anti-Trafficking Hub, which meets quarterly to discuss how to keep raising awareness and what we can do to support victims and apprehend perpetrators. From this we have delivered 'train the trainer' events, where senior staff from statutory agencies receive training that they can cascade down through their organisations. We've also held a big public awareness



raising event in Priory Meadow, where members of HATH spoke with hundreds of shoppers, giving out flexi-cards about how to spot the signs of trafficking. Two firm pieces of intelligence came from that event that local police were able to act upon.

One of the highlights for HATH over the last two years has been hearing about how its work has had a tangible impact on the way the police tackle slavery and respond to victims. For example, two police officers who attended the training we delivered at the start of the year soon realised just how equipped they had been when two victims of labour trafficking came to Eastbourne Police Station asking for help. The officers said they were able to put into practice what they had learned and that it made a difference to how they handled the situation.

The HATH continues to work behind the scenes gathering information about the scale of the problem locally. We're developing posters in different languages to inform victims that help is available and have been approached by several organisations across Sussex and the south-east about how we can help them to set up similar partnerships. We will be delivering more training later this year, both awareness-raising and train the trainers, and welcome contact from other organisations that would like to join us or find out more about what we are doing.

Natalie Williams (HATH Chair)

For further information please contact Anna at [antitrafficking@kingshastings.org](mailto:antitrafficking@kingshastings.org).

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The scale of modern slavery in the UK is significant. Modern slavery crimes are being committed across the country and there have been year on year increases in the number of victims identified. A large number of active organised crime groups are involved in modern slavery. But it is also committed by individual opportunistic perpetrators. HM Government's Modern Slavery Strategy estimates the current number of potential victims of trafficking in the UK to be between 10,000 and 13,000. This includes both victims trafficked into the UK, as well as British adults and children.

The [National Referral Mechanism](#) (NRM) is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking or modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

**The Key Points from the End of Year Summary 2016 are:**

- 3805 potential victims were submitted to the NRM in 2016; a 17% increase on 2015.
- Reporting showed potential victims of trafficking from 108 different nationalities in 2016.
- Albanian, UK and Vietnamese nationals are the most commonly reported potential victims.
- The most common exploitation type recorded for potential victims exploited as an adult was labour exploitation, which also includes criminal exploitation.
- The most prominent exploitation type recorded for potential victims first exploited as a minor was labour exploitation, which includes the sub category of criminal exploitation, such as cannabis cultivation.
- Of the 3805 potential victims referred to the NRM in 2016, 150 were from Scotland, 123 from Wales and 33 from Northern Ireland. The remaining 3499 were referred from England.
- Minor exploitation referrals in the UK increase 30% to 1278 in 2016, compared to 982 in 2015.
- To put this into context for Sussex the NRM report also includes referring agency totals. However the only figure that is broken down into Sussex data is that for Sussex Police. In 2016 11 referrals were made, of these 10 were adults.

Modern Slavery is a priority for the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership as one of the areas as high risk due to the severe and long-term impact that it has upon the vulnerable, the high level of public expectation and the need for a multi-agency response to tackling it effectively.



Modern Slavery is a type of abuse within the Care Act 2014 that provides the statutory footing for adult safeguarding responses. The Partnership is working in collaboration with the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board and Local

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Safeguarding Children's Board to ensure that information is effectively shared in order to protect vulnerable adults and children from harm.

As Modern Slavery is a complex crime, with victims and perpetrators moving across local authority boundaries a Pan Sussex Modern Slavery Network has been established.

The Sussex Modern Slavery Network is a framework for bringing together all the organisations across Sussex that are committed towards tackling modern slavery, prosecuting perpetrators and assisting the victims. East and West Sussex County Councils, Brighton and Hove City Council, Sussex Police, East and West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, Clinical Commissioning Groups, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, SEECAM, the Gang masters and Labour Abuse Authority and Immigration Enforcement are represented within the network.

An action plan is being developed the objectives of which are to:

- **Prevent** - *'Prevent people from engaging in slavery'*
- **Prepare** - *'Reduce the harm caused by slavery through improved victim identification and enhanced support'*
- **Pursue** - *'Prosecute and disrupt individuals and groups responsible for slavery'*
- **Protect** - *'Strengthen safeguards against slavery by protecting vulnerable people from exploitation and increasing awareness of and resilience against this crime'*



Actions to implement these objectives will include:

- Understanding the picture of Modern Slavery across Sussex
- Improving awareness and availability of information on slavery
- Developing a Sussex Care Response Pathway
- Developing and delivering a consistent anti-slavery training programme for Sussex
- Learning from activity at a local level e.g. the Hastings Anti-Trafficking Hub

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There have been a number of Partnership Achievements in this area:

In March 2016, the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB), in partnership with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership, hosted a conference that was open to any professional working with children and/or adults.



The **event**, held in Eastbourne, focussed on '**Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Missing People**', and included speakers from Sussex Police and UK charities 'Missing People1' and 'A211'. Over 130 delegates attended, representing a broad range of agencies supporting vulnerable adults and children.

Materials from the event can be downloaded here:

<http://www.eastsussexsab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Modern-slavery-human-trafficking-and-missing-people-presentation-2-March-2016.pdf>

In February 2017, four **workshop sessions** were hosted and delivered in partnership with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, East Sussex Safer Communities, East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board and the Borough and District licensing teams. These events were open to all **licensees** across East Sussex.

The training sessions provided a valuable opportunity for licensee's, including taxi drivers and B&Bs, to increase their awareness of a number of forms of vulnerability. These included signs and indicators of child sexual exploitation, the identification and prevention of serious sexual assault in the night time economy and an introduction to the signs and indicators of modern slavery. Delegates were provided with information about how to report their concerns.

The partnership will continue to build upon these links to ensure the local license trade feel confident to identify and respond to children and vulnerable people

**Our next Newsletter will be published in July and will focus on Offending**

If you have any articles or information you wish to share please email [lucy.spencer@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.spencer@eastsussex.gov.uk) by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

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