



Modern Slavery and **Human Trafficking Unit**

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How can this happen in 2018 ?



The Exploiters Accommodation....



Victims Accommodation



22 people in a terraced property.....



A victims bed.....



MSHTU - Tactical Advisors – what we do

- 4 Tactical advisors, 3 in Birmingham, and 1 in Bristol.
- All experienced in trafficking investigations, and NCA officers hold full powers.
- Provide a 24/7 on call service.
- They offer advice on a variety of issues, principally where a victim has been identified and real time issues are present.
- Working with SIO's and Lead Officers, advice on best evidence/operational practice, Risk Assessment and Management, victim care, and the NRM.

Criminal

63 Spanish Steps- 281



un drugs

NCA County Lines Threat Assessment 2017 - Headlines

- 100% returns from forces
- Evidence of County Lines activity in 38 forces
- 5 forces (12%) reported no activity)
- 32 forces (74%) report exploitation of vulnerable people
- 16 forces (37%) exploitation of persons with mental health
- 5 forces (12%) exploitation of persons with physical health issues
- 28 forces (65%) report exploitation linked to children
- Virtually all forces report individuals involved carrying weapons. Knives – 85% of forces, firearms – 75% of forces
- At least 720 lines across England and Wales

Statutory Defence & Duty to Investigate

- S45 Defence - Modern Slavery Act 2015
- Human Rights;

Article 2 - Right to Life

Article 4 – Right not to be held in slavery or servitude

Article 5 – Right not to be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment

Agencies are being sued for failing to investigate Modern Slavery allegations.....

Vietnamese Trafficking for criminal exploitation



Indicators of Modern Slavery

- Debt Bondage
 - Hours & pay
 - Houses of Multi Occupancy – labour exploitation
 - Living Conditions – unsanitary, overcrowded, hot water, electricity, heating
 - ID cards and financial cards withheld
 - Others controlling and speaking for people
 - Injuries
 - Children – in education/registered with a GP/Proof of relationship adult & child
 - Victims wont disclose in the place of exploitation – take them to an environment conducive to disclosure.
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- What does your 'GUT' tell you?

If it doesn't FEEL right it probably isn't'.....take ACTION



National Crime Agency

Protecting the public: leading our fight against serious and organised crime

UK Picture - Increase in NRM referrals

2013 – 1745 referrals (47% increase)

2014 – 2340 referrals (34% increase)

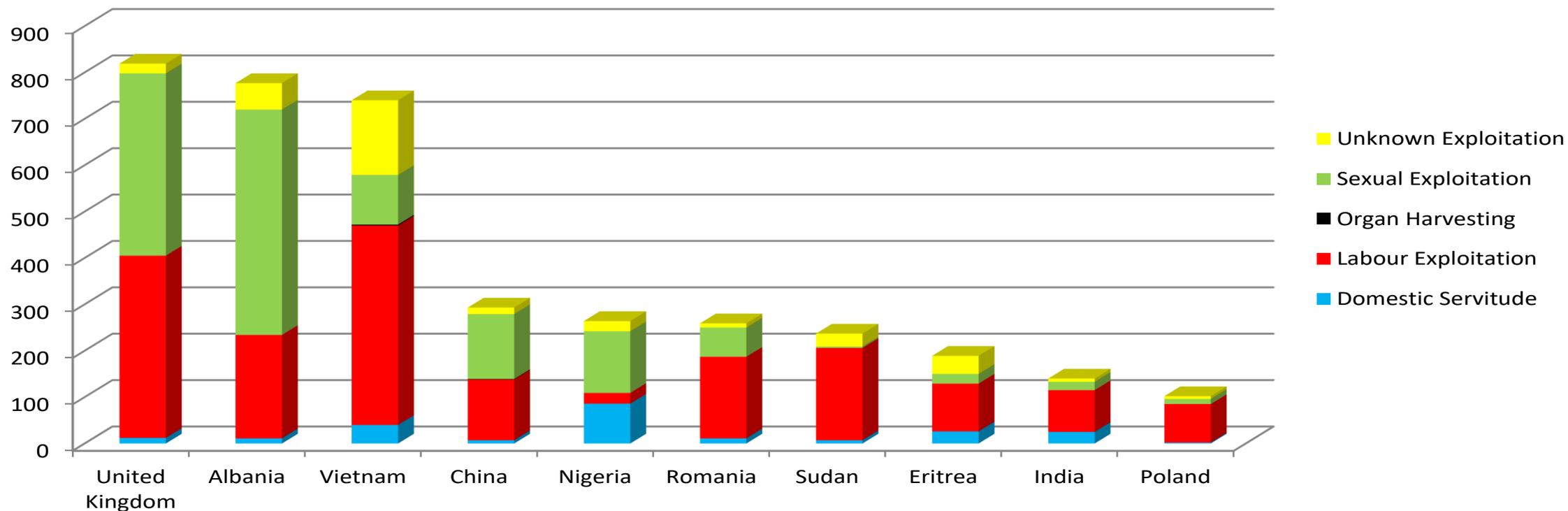
2015 – 3266 referrals (40% increase)

2016 – 3805 referrals (17% increase)

2017 – 5045 referrals (35% increase)

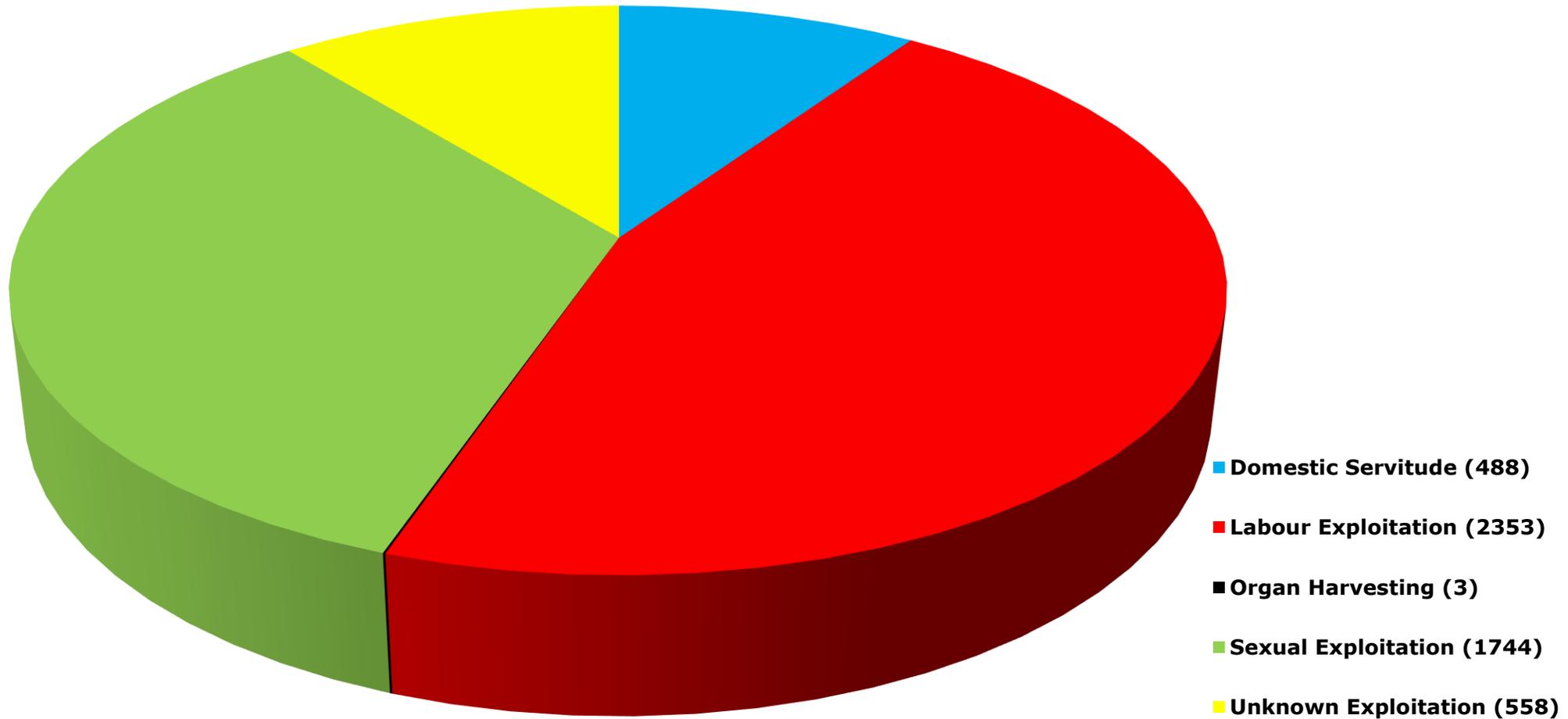
Government estimate – 10 to 13,000 victims of Modern Slavery

2017 NRM Referrals - Top 10 Nationality - Claimed Exploitation Type



Claimed Exploitation Type - 2017 NRM

What Types of Exploitation do we see victims Forced into



Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation

Josephine IYAMU



Josephine IYAMU

- AKA: Madame Sandra
- Date of Birth: 12/09/1966
- Place of Birth: Liberia
- British Citizen: Since 2009 (extra territorial jurisdiction)
- Employment: Registered NHS agency nurse

- Address: London (Property worth £300,000 +)

Arrests - UK & Nigeria

- 24/8/2017 - Arrest of Madam Sandra, Josephine Cassandra **IYAMU**
- 25/08/2017 – Arrest of OCG member in Nigeria



Property in Nigeria

NCA INTERNATIONAL REACH



Recruitment

- 5 victims recruited in Nigeria with help of OCG member 'in Nigeria'
- Offered a better life and financial benefit
- Subject to JU JU ceremonies
- Told the cost of travel would be 37,000 euros
- Travelled horrendous and highly dangerous journey across the desert, the Med and into Italy

Victim accounts....

- They travelled from Benin City to Agadez then on an overcrowded bus to Libya.
- All the people on the bus were being trafficked.
- From Agadez it took five days to reach the Libyan connection house.
- During that journey the bus was shot at, they travelled through desert, at times by foot, and they had limited food.
- Some women were raped – one victim fell pregnant as a consequence.
- Once in Libya they waited for a period of time for an inflatable boat to take them to Italy.

JU JU to control victims

- A Juju priest is highly respected across West Africa and is used to take control of the victims spirit.
- They exert a level of insidious control many experts describe as more powerful than chains.

Ju Ju Ceremony

- Madame Sandra introduced the victims to the Juju (voodoo) priest - who they visited more than once and stayed for a period of time in his shrine.
- There they were put through a Juju ritual involving an oath taking ceremony
- They were given blood containing worms to drink;
- A chicken was used to hit them on their naked backs and chests;
- They ate the heart of the chicken which had been killed;

- The priest would cut their skin with a knife or razor blade and rub black powder in to their wounds;
- They were told that if they betrayed Madame Sandra the juju would impregnate them, water would flow from their vaginas and men would run away from them;
- They were told they could not send money home until they had repaid the money owed to Madame Sandra; if they broke their promise the voodoo would impregnate them.

Debt Bondage

- After the oath taking they were made aware of the cost of the journey to Europe - €37,000! Having no idea of the value of a euro they agreed.
- The women knew they were going to be working as sex workers but believed they would earn a lot of money.
- It was only subsequently when in Germany that they realised their low earning potential and the enormity of the debt.

- A 'revocation' ceremony was conducted in Nigeria giving confidence and reassurance to the victims. The ceremony removed the oath and freed those subjected to it.
- The Juju priest handed himself in to the Nigerian authorities and is currently under investigation.
- All victims gave evidence at trial
- On 4th July 2018 at Birmingham crown court IYAMU was found guilty of all Modern Slavery offences charged.

18 years imprisonment



The National Referral Mechanism



Purpose of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

- The NRM was set up to implement the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.
- NRM commenced on 1st April 2009.
- The NRM is a victim identification and support process - established to protect and assist victims of human trafficking.
- Modern Slavery Act 2015 – NRM extended to all victims of Modern Slavery in England and Wales

Role of the NRM Team

The MSHTU receives all referrals from **First Responder** organisations.

The UK has two linked but separate **Competent Authorities**:

- **NCA – MSHTU – EEA Cases (approx 25%)**
- **Home Office – UKVI - Non EEA**

What happens next to a Victim?

- 45 day reflection and recovery period
- Safe Accommodation
- Support Worker
- Counselling
- Education
- Assistance – next steps

Referrals sent to Police Forces

- Every NRM Referral received is shared with the police.
- The police are required to record the NRM referral as a crime or a CRI.
- Approximately 2600 referrals (received between April – Nov 2016) shared as a bulk dissemination.
- Over 2100 referrals shared individually since Dec 2016.

Duty to Notify

- “Duty to notify” provision - set out in Section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015
- Duty to notify the Secretary of State of individual encountered in England and Wales who are suspected victims of MSHT
- Specified public authorities:-
 - Home Office (UKVI, UKIE and UKBF)
 - Police Forces
 - NCA
 - Local Authorities
 - Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA)

NRM Reform – Update April 2018

- Pilot areas – Post NRM (Positive CG) – Work with those who have recourse to public funds
- Digitalised Referral Process
- One Single Competent Authority
- Drop In centres

HELP LINE NUMBERS

- MSHTU – 0844 778 2406 – NRM and Tactical Advice
- Modern Slavery Helpline – 08000 121 700
- CTAC – Child Trafficking Advice Centre and help line (NSPCC) 0808 800 5000 – Qualified social workers

There can be Happy Endings.....

