

# Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking Exploitation & Organised Immigration Crime

Detective Inspector Gary Bee











- Overview
- Data 2019-2021
- Numbers of reported incidents recorded
- Geographical Profile / Location Analysis
- Information sources How are the crimes reported
- The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and Single Competent Authority (SCA)
- Challenges













Modern Slavery Encompasses Human Trafficking and /or cases of slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour



People trafficking is the movement of people by persons exercising control over them for the purpose of exploitation.









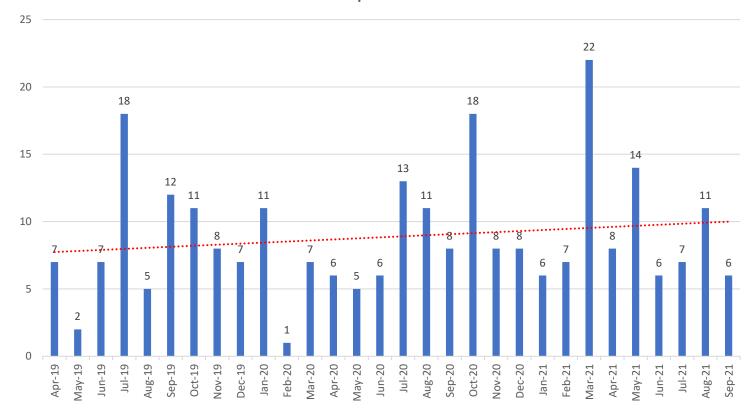








#### Total Number of MSHT Occurrences Reported Between 01.04.2019-30.09.2021





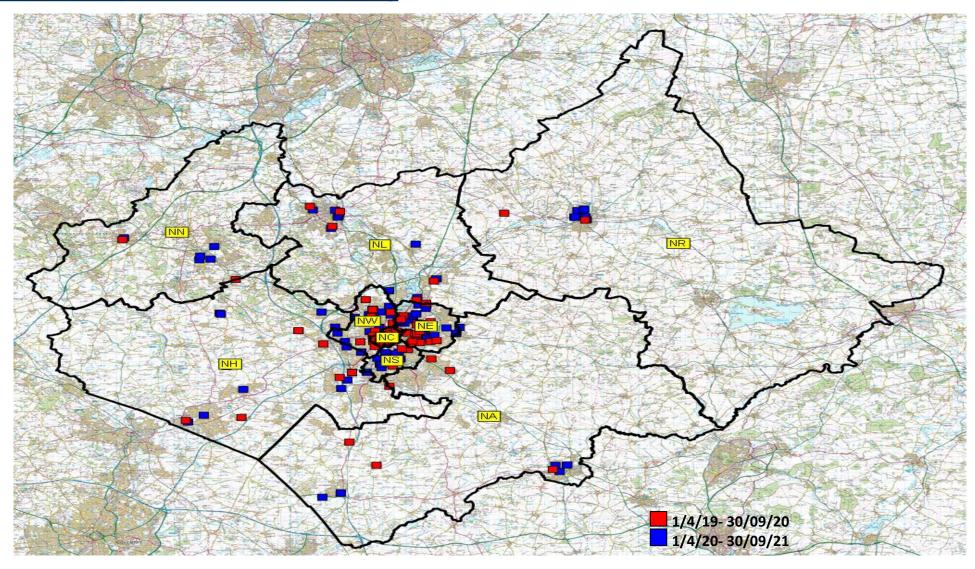
























#### Information sources – How are the crimes reported

Occurrence Call Source	01.04.2019-31.03.2020	01.04.2020-30.09.2021	Total
Ambulance service originated	0	3	3
Disclosed as part of an ongoing investigation	3	12	15
Discovered by Police	23	56	79
Email to the police	20	11	31
Emergency telephone call e.g. (999)	8	24	32
Fire service originated	0	1	1
Non-emergency telephone call e.g. (101)	19	25	44
Other 3rd party reporting	6	9	15
Parent, professional, carer 3rd party report	4	12	16
Police on-line reporting	0	4	4
Reported in person - Inside police station	6	2	8
Reported in person - Outside police station	0	6	6
Blank	7	5	12
Total	96	170	266













#### Challenges

Outcome	Total
1: Charged	4
10: Police - formal action not in public interest	
13: Named suspect but victim/key witness deceased or too ill	
14: Victim declines/unable to support action to identify offender	91
15: CPS - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	4
15: Police - named suspect, victim supports but evidential difficulties	32
16: Victim declines/withdraws support - named suspect identified	22
17: Suspect identified but prosecution time limit expired	
18: Investigation complete no suspect identified	121
20: Other body/agency has investigation primacy	
21: Police - named suspect, investigation not in the public interest	
22: Diversionary, educational or intervention activity, not in public interest to take further action	
9: CPS - prosecution not in public interest	
Cancelled/transferred	
UU unresolved	73
Blank	118
Total	541













The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and Single Competent Authority (SCA)

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) was introduced in 2009 as a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of MSHT in the UK. The core of every country's NRM is ensuring victims receive the appropriate protection and support.

The Single Competent Authority (SCA) was launched on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009 and is responsible for making decisions about victims referred to the NRM. The SCA will assess the circumstances of the referral and make an initial reasonable grounds decision.

Police Officers provide additional information from their investigations to the SCA. The NRM establishes a victim's eligibility for protection and support as a trafficked person. For adults, referrals can only happen if the person gives their consent, no consent is required to refer a potential victim who is a child.

















### Types of Exploitation











#### **Exploitation**

- Criminal exploitation is a cross cutting theme that occurs in many types of criminality, it will be referenced in Crime Types such as,
- County Lines Drug Dealing
- Cuckooing
- Child Criminal Exploitation
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Human Trafficking
- Organised Immigration Crime (OIC)













#### **County Lines Drug Dealing**

County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs.

The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where the drugs are taken to) are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes as a result of this trend.

A common feature in county lines drug supply is the exploitation of young and vulnerable people. The dealers will frequently target children and adults - often with mental health or addiction problems - to act as drug runners or move cash so they can stay under the radar of law enforcement.















#### **Cuckooing**

The County Lines drug dealing model often involves cases where the dealers will take over a local property, normally belonging to a vulnerable person, and use it to operate their criminal activity from. This is known as cuckooing.

Dealing from these locations is also known as "Trappin", Locations used to sell drugs from are aften referred to as "Trap Houses"

People exploited in this way will quite often be exposed to physical, mental and sexual abuse, and in some instances will be trafficked to areas a long way from home as part of the network's drug dealing business.

**Operation Vane** - Ongoing Leicestershire Operation in relation to this occurring in Loughborough

The reality is this is happening in every large town and city in the UK.













#### **Child Criminal Exploitation**

Children often don't see themselves as victim or realise they have been groomed to get involved in criminality.

It's important that we all play our part to understand county lines and speak out if we have concerns.

#### What to do if you have concerns

The best advice is to trust your instincts. 國 NCA Even if someone isn't involved in county lines drug dealing, they may be being exploited in some other way, so it's always worth speaking out.

You can speak to your local police by dialling 101, or in an emergency 999. If you would rather remain anonymous, you can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

















#### **Organised Immigration Crime (OIC)**

#### **What is Organised Immigration Crime**

- OIC is the illegal facilitation of migrants across borders by organised crime groups (OCGs). It covers a broad range of criminal activity, including:
- · Clandestine people smuggling,
- Production and supply of false/fraudulently obtained genuine documents,
- Abuse of legitimate means to enter or remain in a third country (Boats across the Channel)
- Facilitation of other illegal immigration (including air travel on false or fraudulently obtained documents)

#### **Smuggling vs Trafficking**

- People smuggling is a crime against the state where willing persons may pay considerable sums of money to have their entry to the UK facilitated.
- People trafficking is the movement of people by persons exercising control over them for the purpose of exploitation.













#### **Organised Immigration Crime (OIC)**

#### Op Melrose Essex 2019

- October 23, 2019, Grays Essex. Lorry driver Maurice Robinson makes a 999 call to the East of England Ambulance Service to say he had 39 people dead in the back of his Bulgarian-registered lorry on an industrial estate in Essex. Officers attend and Op Melrose begins.
- £3.6 million in cost to date to the public purse.
- 1500 officers working on the op at one point.
- It can happen anywhere!















## Questions?











