Overall Quarter 4 Observations

- Calls were received from all four UK Countries and spanned 34 police forces across England and 4 police forces in Wales.
- As has been consistently reported, Romanian was the highest recorded potential victim nationality for England (50). Quarter 4 also saw a higher proportion of potential victims in England indicated of Chinese nationality (30).
- As the UK entered a second national lockdown in November 2020 in the fight against Covid-19, the Helpline saw a drop in contacts made. However, webforms and app submissions increased significantly in December 2020 as compared to the previous month.

Overall, 2020 saw fewer calls, webforms and app submissions made to the Helpline than in 2019, as a direct result of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions. This is because modern slavery became less visible as businesses closed and people stayed at home. However, the Helpline understands that while slavery may have been driven underground, it may have in fact increased in this period.

In 2020 overall, July saw the highest recorded number of Modern Slavery cases, whereby one or more clear indicators of modern slavery or human trafficking were identified. July also saw the second highest number of potential victims indicated, behind January. The patterns of the year clearly show the impact of the pandemic in the ability of members of society to identify and report modern slavery concerns.
Modern slavery cases reported to the Helpline may be from various locations in the UK or even abroad and may not be city or town specific. Callers can choose their level of anonymity when contacting the Helpline and may not wish to give specific location information. Consistently, around 20-25% of non-modern slavery cases concern issues of labour abuse. This includes cases where poor work practices have been reported, such as a lack of PPE (including heightened Covid-19 PPE where appropriate), non-adherence to health and safety, and non-payment of national minimum wage.

The types of exploitation recorded in Q4 2020 are reflected in similar proportions to Q3 2020. Consistently, labour exploitation comprises the highest percentage of modern slavery cases, where the type has been identified. This includes labour exploitation occurring in all sectors and at all levels of society. The Helpline continues to see a significant minority of sexual and criminal exploitation cases, as well as domestic servitude. In 29% of cases where the Helpline identified one or more indicator of modern slavery, the exact type of exploitation was unknown. This includes calls from First Responders working with a potential victim.
Referrals made by the Helpline include those of modern slavery cases, but also non-modern slavery concerns where there is a related criminal or safeguarding issue. The Helpline also makes referrals to appropriate first responder where a potential victim would like to enter the National Referral Mechanism (NRM).

The gender of potential victims is recorded by the Helpline where this is provided by the caller. If the caller is unable to specify the gender of indicated victims, ‘unknown’ is recorded.

The majority (51%) of modern slavery cases involved a report with someone in direct contact with a potential victim. Callers in direct contact with a victim may include an NGO, friends or family of the potential victim, health professional, police, or social services. Indirect contact is recorded where the caller knows of the situation or the individual involved. ‘Observation of suspicious activity’ refers to third party tip offs, where often limited information is known. 22% of modern slavery cases in Q4 were reported by a potential victim themselves.

Potential victims’ ages are recorded based on caller information. If the caller does not know the age of the victim, ‘unknown’ is recorded. In all cases, the Helpline seeks to establish if a minor is involved in a situation.
England

**558** Calls relating to cases in England

**204** Online Reports  **1** App Submissions

**211** Cases of Modern Slavery

**405** Potential Victims of Modern Slavery

The Helpline may receive multiple calls about one case. Calls relating to cases of modern slavery reportedly occurring in England are recorded above, even though the caller may be calling from another country. Sometimes callers speak in general terms about cases in England but may not specify a particular area or location.

Along with calls on modern slavery cases, the 558 calls reported to occur in England may also be for non-modern slavery or general information cases with a reported caller location of England.

Q4 saw an increase in the number of web reports made to the Helpline regarding situations occurring in England as compared to Q3 (204 vs 200).

The instances of criminal exploitation cases also rose slightly, making up 21% of modern slavery cases in England for Q4, as compared to 18% in Q3. As is seen elsewhere, labour exploitation makes up the largest majority of cases reported in England.

**117** Referrals to Police forces

**8** Referrals to Local Authorities

on modern slavery cases
The nationality of 249 potential victims was recorded as unknown.

Single potential victims of the following nationalities were also reported from: Austria, Ukraine, Trinidad and Tobago, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Mauritius, Maldives, Kosovo, Indonesia, Brazil and Bangladesh.
Quarter 4 2020 shows a 25% increase in the number of modern slavery cases reported in Scotland as compared to Quarter 3 2020. As is seen in previous quarters, the majority of potential victims indicated are of Romanian nationality. However, an increased number of nationalities were also indicated in this quarter.

The nationality of 5 potential victims was recorded as unknown.

Single potential victims of the following nationalities were also reported from: Albania, England and Poland.
# Wales

**23** Calls relating to cases in Wales

**9** Online Reports  
**0** App Submissions

**12** Cases of Modern Slavery

**46** Potential Victims of Modern Slavery

## Potential Victim Nationalities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The nationality of 33 potential victims was recorded as unknown. Single potential victims of the following nationalities were also reported from: Indonesia.

A larger number of potential victims were indicated in reports made to the Helpline regarding potential modern slavery in Wales in Quarter 4. A significant number of these were of unknown nationality, but almost a quarter were indicated to be Romanian. This quarter also saw a significant increase in the number of calls made in Wales (23 vs 14 in Q3).

**9** Referrals to Police forces  
**2** Referrals to Local Authorities

### Victim Demographics: Age, Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Adult (Unknown)</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
<th>Male (Minor)</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female (Unknown)</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Only one case of potential modern slavery was reported in Northern Ireland in Quarter 4 2020, as compared with 3 cases in the previous quarter. One potential victim was indicated within this case.

0 Referrals to Police on modern slavery cases
### Referrals to UK-Wide Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total # of Modern Slavery Case Referrals</th>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Sexual</th>
<th>Criminal</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>Various</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
<th>Total # of Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GLAA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UKVI</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border Force</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summary of Contacts Outside the UK or Unknown Location

The below is a summary of contacts and cases the Helpline has received in the previous quarter where the location was recorded as being outside the UK or where the country location was reported as unknown. Some of these contacts may have been reported in the UK, but the caller kept this information confidential.

- **858** Calls relating to cases outside the UK or an unknown location
- **242** Online Reports
- **19** App Submissions
- **140** Cases of Modern Slavery
- **167** Potential Victims of Modern Slavery

### Disclaimer:

This report represents a summary of the calls received into the UK-wide Modern Slavery Helpline and Resource Centre between October and December 2020. It is not intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of Modern Slavery in the UK. The number of potential Modern Slavery cases and victims indicated are based on the information provided to the Helpline at the time of the contact. The Helpline does not corroborate or seek to prove the information provided.

Outside of the modern slavery cases shown in the table, the Helpline also received calls regarding general information and non-MS cases from various countries. The number of modern slavery cases or PVs when summed by country may not equal the total number of modern slavery cases, because a single case (or victim) may report exploitation in multiple countries.