



Human Trafficking in the UK

- 2,744 potential victims of human trafficking were encountered in the UK in 2013;
- 1,651 (60%) were adults, 602 (22%) were children (the age of 99 potential victims was unknown).
- The three most prevalent countries of origin for potential victims of trafficking were:
 - 1 Romania
 - 2 Poland
 - 3 UK
- Sexual exploitation (41%) and labour exploitation (27%) were the two most prevalent exploitation types reported.
- Criminal exploitation (9%), domestic servitude (8%), multiple exploitation types (5%).

Source: NCA Strategic Assessment: The Nature and Scale of Human Trafficking in 2013 (September 2014)

What is human trafficking?

The definition of human trafficking used in the UK comes from the Palermo Protocol and can be broken down into three parts.

All three elements must be present for human trafficking to exist:

The Act – WHAT is done e.g. recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons.

The Means – HOW it is done e.g. threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or position of vulnerability, giving or receiving of payments and benefits to control a person.

The Purpose – WHY it is done – to exploit victims e.g. in prostitution, other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery, servitude or removal of organs from a person.

Where the victim is a child only 'act' and 'purpose' need to be present to constitute human trafficking.