2015/16
YEAR IN REVIEW
UNITED KINGDOM
What is our vision?

To live in a world free from slavery.

Hope for Justice exists to bring an end to modern slavery by rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society. Our professional staff and passionate supporters work across the UK, in your local area and around the world to eliminate modern slavery for good.

Change lives. End slavery.
Thank you for your incredible support this year. I can say without a doubt that together we’re changing the lives of trafficking victims for the better, and delivering victories in the world-wide fight against modern slavery. Whether you’re new to Hope for Justice or a long-time champion there’s so much for us to celebrate together. I particularly want to draw your attention to the phenomenal work that’s happened in the UK. It’s been a year of growth and expansion of our programmes and through these we have served even more people. Throughout the year, our teams on the frontline have been working with record numbers of victims. Now I know that statistics are helpful, but I am sure you agree that when dealing with people each individual life is precious and each family reunion something to be treasured. So, whilst we delight in the increased numbers we are reporting, we cherish as individuals the people we have been privileged to rescue.

Besides our work in the UK, check out the highlights from our work around the world, they’re available on our website. It’s truly a special thing you’re doing – stepping up to be a force for good in our world. Wherever you look, the pioneering programmes you make possible are bringing hope, freedom and restoration to those who need our help. Following all of our successes this year, we’re positioned to do even more in the years ahead. I cannot thank you enough for your continued support. Today we’re one step closer to achieving our vision: to live in a world free from slavery.

Ben Cooley
CEO, Hope for Justice
“Hope for Justice is among those organisations taking the lead in addressing the issue of modern day slavery in today’s Great Britain. Their organisation is the only NGO working from the point of rescue right through to advocacy.”

Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer
Devon and Cornwall Police
National Police Lead for Modern Slavery
Hope for Justice trains frontline professionals such as the police, social services and homeless shelter staff to spot the signs of modern day slavery.

Our training and resources are delivered to professionals who are most likely to come into contact with victims of human trafficking, often without even realising it. Participants learn how to identify victims and to understand the circumstances that stop people coming forward for help.

Our training works. Potential victims are referred to us by recipients of training that we have delivered. We can often use the information that potential victims provide to identify and rescue further victims and to play our part in disrupting criminal networks.
Frontline Professionals Trained

3,236

1,673 Local Authorities, 878 NGO's, 421 Police, 126 Crown Prosecution Service, 124 Corporate, 14 NHS

We rescued 117 victims as a result of referrals made by individuals and agencies we trained to identify human trafficking.
West Yorkshire, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Cleveland, Northumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Humberside, Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, West Mercia, South Wales, London Metropolitan

We've worked with 47% of Police Forces in England and Wales:

relaying intelligence, providing victim care on major raids, supporting prosecutions, providing training and offering expert advice based on our own frontline experience and success.
“Our training leads to increased levels of identification, a key part of our broader operational strategy. This work is changing the landscape of anti-slavery efforts in the UK.”

Sara Squires
Training Manager (UK)
John’s Story

John* had a respected job until a serious assault left him with life threatening injuries.

John could no longer do his current job and was battling to support himself when he saw an advert in a local newspaper for work in a food packing factory in the UK. On arrival he worked hard but because of his recurring health problems, he had to leave his job and ended up homeless.

An acquaintance from home contacted John on social media and offered him labouring work in Scotland. He was taken in by a family but his life turned into a nightmare. John worked 12 hours per day, 7 days a week and wasn’t paid. He was forced to live in a filthy caravan and was given barely anything to eat. The family forced him into petty thefts, threatening violence if he didn’t comply, which left him afraid to go to the police. This went on for months before he finally escaped.

Homeless again, with no money to return home and no-one to trust, he accepted a job on a vast commercial farm in England. This time, he thought, the work would be fairly paid, but sadly, it was not to be. He was pressed to work long hours of back-breaking manual labour on the farm, every day, for no pay. Kept in squalid conditions, his every move was watched, and eventually he fell ill. After almost a year of exploitation, the police raided the farm and in the panic, John ran away, scared for his life.

Last year, exhausted and utterly defeated, John walked into a homeless shelter in Manchester where the staff had been trained by Hope for Justice and our team was called in.

Hope for Justice investigators built enough of a picture of his story to make sure he was accepted into safehouse accommodation. After this intervention, John received much needed medical care and support and his health started to improve. While at the safehouse, our team visited him regularly to build trust and piece together his memories. Painstakingly, the full picture was established and John felt confident enough to go to the police. Our team travelled across the country with him – for what would have been an intimidating and practically impossible trip for a vulnerable person still learning English – to help him report the crime in full.

When John left the safehouse our Survivor Support team was ready to help him find longer-term housing and a job, to create stability and rebuild his self-worth.

Several months on, John now has his own flat and a job. He’s connected within the local community and shares his story with others to raise awareness and encourage others who have suffered hardship.
“They are people with a heart, they are on my side.”

John* rescued from forced labour, describes what it means to have Hope for Justice supporting him.

*Name changed to protect identity
With so many victims arriving from countries with disreputable policing, and so many others wilfully instilled with a terror of UK police, the need for a third party is distinct and urgent.

Hope for Justice builds bridges of trust between police and victim, and acts as a conduit for intelligence that would otherwise never see the light of day.

Our Regional Investigative Hubs respond to intelligence received from NGOs and community groups we’ve trained to recognise the indicators of trafficking. This enables them to rescue victims from situations of exploitation and transfer them to aftercare providers.

Intelligence is submitted to the police and can form part of the picture to help them identify where a larger organised crime culture exists.

Investigation & Rescue: Victims in plain sight.
134 Rescues.

82% Increase in rescues since the financial year 2014/15

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<th>Victims Rescued</th>
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<tr>
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"Hope for Justice has been invaluable in many aspects of this case. Without this I am sure that our investigation would not have reached court. I was also impressed with the level of ongoing support and advice that Hope for Justice provided...

From my experiences I strongly believe that Hope for Justice is an organisation that provides a wonderful service for very vulnerable people. It is evident that all of those from Hope for Justice involved in this case really care about what they are doing. This has shown throughout my investigation and has resulted in keeping two very vulnerable girls on board with the Police investigation."

Detective Constable John Graham, West Yorkshire Police
What do you mean by the term 'rescue'?  

We use the word ‘rescue’ when the intervention of our specialist staff directly removes a victim of human trafficking from a situation of exploitation or profound vulnerability to exploitation. Rescues can be long term surveillance operations spanning months that develop into contact with a victim and their safe removal from their situation of exploitation. Alternatively, it might mean attending a homeless shelter to meet a victim, referred by staff who’ve been trained by Hope for Justice and arranging that individual’s entry into safehouse accommodation. No matter how we get to the point of meeting that victim, we celebrate their rescue once it’s happened. Our expert intervention means a life changed and another step taken towards ending slavery for good.
Hope for Justice awarded Assistant Chief Constable’s Commendation

In autumn 2014, our investigators supported the Economic Crime Unit of West Yorkshire Police to recover potential victims of human trafficking for the purposes of forced labour and benefit fraud. During ‘Operation Geltre’, our team joined with police and multi-agency staff and visited police-informed addresses to speak to suspected victims. One agreed to engage with our team and was entered into safehouse accommodation.

Early in 2015, the Economic Crime Unit requested further assistance in the case. As a result of partnership between West Yorkshire Police and Hope for Justice, ‘Operation Geltre’ led to six adult and seven child victims being entered into safehouses and to the arrest and extradition of the main perpetrator to face charges abroad.

“This is a perfect example of the need for an alternative, independent route for potential victims to be assessed even where a police force is highly engaged and educated on trafficking”

Neil Wain,
European Programme Director
Hope for Justice European Programme
Director, Neil Wain accepting the commendation award from West Yorkshire Police Temp. Chief Constable, Dee Collins
Our Legal Team advises and supports survivors on matters ranging from criminal complaints against their trafficker to housing, employment and welfare issues.
Our specialists are victims' champions and their work is wide ranging. Our work can be both strategic and individually focused. We contributed to two successful public law challenges that will shape the experience of future survivors and, throughout the year, supported between 58 and 77 clients with advocacy services at any one time.

In addition, to seek a measure of justice and help survivors get back on their feet, we supported 35 victims of trafficking to pursue compensation for the trauma and injury suffered.

Victims of trafficking can struggle with exploitation for a significant period of time following their rescue as they work through issues relating to trauma, mental health needs or substance misuse. Others are well enough to work but struggle to find opportunities. This year, we supported 27 people to access the welfare assistance to which they are entitled, putting food on the table and a roof over their heads as they recover more fully. Each of those cases involved hours of work from our specialists to navigate a complex landscape of government agencies on behalf of highly vulnerable survivors.

Our proactive and reactive advocacy to support these 27 people included; 65 complex legal representations, 17 interventions providing extended advocacy by phone or in person and 10 referrals to third parties for assistance. Our advocacy saw 15 negative decisions for welfare access overturned at review stage, and supported two clients to successfully appeal their claims all the way to First-Tier Tribunal.

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<td>Ongoing criminal cases being supported</td>
<td>Cases of compensation pursued</td>
<td>Referrals to third parties for welfare assistance</td>
<td>Negative welfare decisions overturned</td>
<td>Successful Tribunal appeals</td>
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Convicted: Husband and Wife Who Kept Man as Slave for 24 Years

Doctor Emmanuel Edet and his wife Antan, a senior nursing sister of Haymill Close, Perivale, were found guilty of holding a person in slavery or servitude, child cruelty, and assisting unlawful immigration in November 2015. They took the victim from his home in Nigeria, to the UK, without his family’s permission, when he was just 13 years old. They controlled every aspect of his life.

24 years later, the victim saw media reports about modern slavery, realised the life he was being made to lead was wrong and contacted Hope for Justice for help.

“I wish I had known about Hope for Justice years ago. Maybe then I’d have been out of the house a long time ago.”

Ofonime Inuk, rescued from domestic servitude in a joint operation with the Metropolitan Police
Mohammed Rafiq, a businessman from Kirklees, has been sentenced to two years and three months imprisonment after becoming the first business owner in the UK to be convicted of human trafficking offences in February 2016. The investigation stemmed from the imprisonment of two traffickers in May 2014, for supplying forced labour to the factory. This came to light after Hope for Justice made contact with a victim – who turned out to be the first of many.
Our Survivor Support team provides a vital point of consistent contact, and signposts survivors to services that can make all the difference in their recovery.

We connected six clients into counselling, six into alcohol support and 12 into Social Services or higher level mental health support.

Where clients fell through the gaps between services or were waiting for new provision to begin, we provided 68 emergency food parcels and covered necessities like gas/electricity top-ups, basic clothing and toiletries on 31 occasions when it was needed most.

It’s not enough just to survive, we want our clients to overcome their experience and live full, independent lives. That’s why we work so hard to connect them to meaningful employment, which begins with improving their employability.

We accessed English classes for nine clients whilst others chose to study independently.

We helped 10 clients with employability support or into carefully selected volunteering placements – a first step towards holding down paid, full-time employment. 14 of our clients entered employment this year, an incredible achievement that reflects their strength of character as much as our team’s dedication.

Whilst not providing aftercare accommodation in the UK, we work closely with those who do, to assist in the protection and rehabilitation of victims.

“Now I am working, I can feel my muscles again. I like tough work. I am strong, strong like a bull!”

- Davit*, survivor of forced labour assisted by Hope for Justice
6 Clients receiving counselling

68 Emergency food parcels provided

12 Clients into Social Services or mental health support

6 Clients in alcohol support

31 Clients essential living needs supported

9 Clients given access to English classes

10 Clients given employability support

14 Clients entered employment

*Name changed to protect identity*
"Thank you for not giving up on me...

Thank you for your kindness, care and love.

Thank you for not giving up on me and believing in me!"

Roza*, rescued from sex trafficking by Hope for Justice
"We want to increase and strengthen our partnerships with local police forces, prosecute more perpetrators, identify more victims, train more organisations, and ensure even more men, women and children are rescued from modern day slavery and no longer live in fear and darkness.

The results of increased victim identification in each area we have planted a hub, proves that this strategic model delivers lasting impact and shows just how crucial these key partnerships are at bringing substantial change.”

Ben Cooley,
CEO, Hope for Justice
After our West Yorkshire Hub opened, the number of victims identified and rescued by local police almost tripled.

In 2013

190%

Increase in victim identification in West Yorkshire

At the end of 2015 we’ve seen the pattern repeated in the West Midlands: a year after our Regional Investigative Hub opened there

In 2015

127%

Increase in victim identification & referral to safehousing in West Midlands

Source: 'NCA Strategic Assessment: The Nature and Scale of Human Trafficking in 2013' (UKHTC) and 'National Referral Mechanism Statistics; End of Year Summary 2015' (UKHTC)
Can a charity do more to combat the scourge of human trafficking than the police?

Slash budgets are forcing police forces around the UK to rethink how they can programme training and outreach visits. Do we need a whole new approach to the issue of human trafficking? Or is it something that charities and other organisations have a role to play?

**Paul Reaney, Crime Correspondent**

The stocky middle-aged Polish man was sweating nervously when he turned up at the soup kitchen in Birmingham with no possessions and an Englishman who looked just like him.

Workers at the homeless centre initially suspected mental illness. With the aid of a translator and a series of anti-anxiety therapy, the man finally revealed that he had been brought to Britain, had not been in the country for several years.

The police always suspected that he was an illegal immigrant, but the man denied that he had ever been to England before the weekend.

The Polish man was eventually arrested and charged with fraud.

**A man claims to have been targeted by traffickers after being targeted for his organs by police.**

The incident is one of many that illustrate the complexities of human trafficking.

The issue of human trafficking is becoming more widespread, with reports of children and adults being trafficked for organ harvesting.

The police force in the West Midlands is investigating the case of a 16-year-old girl who was targeted by traffickers after being targeted for her organs.

The girl was targeted because she is from a country where human trafficking is more common.

The police force in the West Midlands is working with immigration officials to try to track down the traffickers.

The police force in the West Midlands is also working with the National Crime Agency to try to prevent similar crimes from happening.

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**TfL's new report on human trafficking**

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**The Independent Newspaper, Thursday 25 October 2015**
Awareness

Our work with national and local television, radio and print outlets raised awareness of human trafficking and shared what can and is being done to fight it.

Hope for Justice featured in profile pieces and in stories on key topics, including major convictions made possible by our work, the public conversation around slavery in supply chains and our partnership working on police operations.

Key outlets included:

**Television**
- BBC 2
- BBC Look North
- BBC South East Today
- ITV Calendar
- Granada Reports
- BBC Kent
- BBC WM
- BBC Midlands Today

**Radio**
- BBC Radio 5 Live Breakfast
- BBC Radio 2 Breakfast
- BBC Radio 4 You and Yours
- BBC Radio London
- BBC Radio Sussex
- BBC Radio Lincolnshire
- BBC Radio Leeds
- KMFM Kent
- Heart (Midlands)

**Online**
- BBC News Online
- Hello! Magazine Blog
- Huffington Post Online
- Buzzfeed News
- Policing Today

**Newspaper / Magazine**
- The Daily Mail
- Financial Times
- Coventry Telegraph
- Yorkshire Post
- The Independent
- Walsall Advertiser
“I am free today, because someone decided to support Hope for Justice. They have given me so much genuine and real support”.

Natasha*, rescued from trafficking in the UK

*Name changed to protect identity