



Parliamentary Question – Modern slavery in agriculture

Date: 21 November 2018

Ref: 194014

Asked by:

Diane Abbott

**(Hackney North and Stoke
Newington)**

Question:

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to combat modern day slavery in agriculture.

Response:

In the UK, the Gangmasters Labour and Abuse Authority (GLAA) licenses businesses which provide workers to the farming, food processing and shellfish gathering sectors to make sure they meet the employment standards required by law; and carries out inspections and enforcement activity.

The GLAA has been given police powers to investigate serious cases of labour market exploitation across the entire economy in England and Wales, and in 2016/17 the GLAA directly intervened on behalf of 4,691 workers to prevent them from exploitation. The GLAA also partner with businesses, such as Sainsbury's, to deliver training sessions to their suppliers, so they can better identify and manage risks in their supply chains.

Through the Home Office's Modern Slavery Innovation Fund, we are currently funding Stronger Together to deliver 34 workshops to over 560 workers and employers in South Africa's fruit and wine industry, so that they are better equipped to identify and address modern slavery.