

Parliamentary Question – Operation AIDANT Grouped Questions

Date: 23 April 2018

Ref: 137046, 137047, 137048

Asked by:

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Question:

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which agency is leading Operation Aidant; and between which agencies have partnership agreements been established.

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many arrests for illegal working have been made during Operation Aidant.

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many potential victims of trafficking have been (a) identified and (b) referred to the National Referral Mechanism under Operation Aidant.

Response:

Project AIDANT is the series of multi-agency operational intensifications to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking led by the National Crime Agency. During 2017 all UK territorial police forces, including the British Transport Police, took part along with other law enforcement agencies including the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, Immigration Enforcement, Border Force, Europol, DWP, HMRC and Regional Organised Crime Units. Activities under Project AIDANT were also supported by NGOs, Local Authorities and Fire and Rescue Services in some areas.

During 2017, over 560 potential victims were identified through Project AIDANT activity with 57 cases reported as having been referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and 77 to Duty to Notify (DtN). The number of potential victims includes victims encountered overseas during the operations who do not qualify for referral to the UK NRM and DTN.

Data on arrests for illegal working is not captured by the NCA.