



Ref: FOI 19-20 07	Date issued: 06 June 2019
Subject: Warehouse inspections	
Question(s) asked and answer(s): <p>Regarding the third Parliamentary Report (2016-2017) about Employment practices at Sports Direct, it is mentioned that:" The extended remit of the newly-named Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, in October 2016, will include warehouses such as Shirebrook and retail outlets such as the Sports Direct shops. We recommend that the GLA seriously considers looking into employment practices at Sports Direct, both in the shops and in the warehouse, to ensure that they are compliant with the relevant legislation". I searched in your website, but I was not able to find any evidence of the above argument. Can you confirm that until today you have not included warehouses in the retail industry in the list of industries which require GLA licensing?</p> <p>GLAA response</p> <p>We can only inspect a business if it is required to hold a licence. Licensing relates to the provider of the labour not the business where labour is provided to. Warehousing is not currently in the scope of licensing.</p> <p>Outside of the licensed sector the GLAA's new powers allow it to investigate allegations of forced labour or other labour maker offences (s3(3) Immigration Act 2016. However, these are criminal investigations. The GLAA has no power to enter and inspect a premise where there is no requirement for the labour to be supplied by a licensed operator or there are no allegations of labour abuses.</p>	