

**Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Human Trafficking**

**Meeting of Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2018**

**Attendance List**

Participants

Kevin Hyland OBE (Anti Slavery Commissioner)  
Dr Akilah Jardine (Rights Lab University of Nottingham Beacon of Excellence)  
Peter Hope-Jones (Scottish Government)

Attending

Ash Denham MSP  
Christina McKelvie MSP  
DCI Stuart Houston Police Scotland  
Kathy Betteridge Salvation Army  
Alister Bull Hope for Justice  
Chris Lusk University of St Andrews  
Bennett Collins Third Generation Think Tank  
University of St Andrews  
Wendy Henderson Edinburgh City Council  
Nadia Malony Unchained  
Lynn Maher Soroptimist International of Great  
Britain and Ireland  
Steph Chapman IJMUK  
Jim Laird Inverclyde Council  
Siobhan Murphy Legal Services Agency  
Eloise Savill  
Elizabeth Jamieson Soroptimist International  
Glasgow City  
Jane Stewart Edinburgh City Council  
Carol Roxburgh Soroptimist International  
Paisley  
Elaine Wishart Edinburgh City of Edinburgh  
Council  
Rebecca Erskine Church of Scotland  
Moirra McKinnon Glasgow City Council  
Aaron Slater SACRO  
Jen Ang JustRight Scotland  
Bella Orpen  
Bronagh Andrew Tara  
Gordon MacDonald

Ailean Beaton  
Tom Robinson  
Jill Sutherland (Secretary)

Apologies

John Ferrier  
Pan Cairns  
Sean Bell Edinburgh City Council  
Alexa Anderson  
Rebecca Wallace  
Megan Farr CYPSC  
Andy Bevan IJMUK  
Iain Whyte  
Kirsty Thomson JustRight Scotland  
Nicola Weir Thorntons LLP  
Sheila Murie Glasgow City Council  
Laura Wood Glasgow Anti Slavery Group  
Jacci Stoyale

## Agenda

1. Open

2. Adopt minute of meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017

3. Anti-Slavery Commissioner – Kevin Hyland OBE

- Update
- Q & A – NB COMMISSIONER MUST LEAVE AT 1830

4. Rights Lab University of Nottingham Beacon of Excellence – Dr Akilah Jardine

- Presentation
- Q & A

5. Update Scottish Government – Peter Hope Jones

6. Election of New Secretary

7. AOB

8. Close

## Minutes

1. Meeting Opened by Christina McKelvie MSP
2. Minutes from October 2017 adopted
3. Anti-Slavery Commissioner – Kevin Hyland OBE
  - Great interaction with Scotland on issue of human trafficking
  - Across 2014 – 340 referrals into referral mechanism – only 3 years ago
  - This year only 5045 increase
  - Increase nowhere else in the EU – identifying victims where not identified before.
  - 35 percent increase – through NRM.
  - Of 207, 2 nationalities show more than half – Vietnamese and Chinese
  - About building responses
  - Police Scotland are working with Vietnamese community and how they can work with Vietnamese police – putting support in place
  - Commissioner did a report last year about Vietnam and the issue in relation to Vietnam
  - Pushing for understanding from source to destination.
  - Vietnam to the UK– exploitation route – smuggled initially and exploitation starts to get worse and worse. Debts stack up and after going through France risk is very high.
  - Camp 45 miles inside Calais used as staging post.
  - Commissioner Identifying routes and identifying good opportunities which will lead to solutions.
  - Report Commissioner gave to Home Secretary was around NRM not being fit for purpose and responding to victims
  - Scotland is ahead of the game for putting in 90 days.
  - Strategy – used in presentation not just nationally but internationally, used as a model. Way created – hold government to account which is really refreshing – examples for others to follow – way to hold their strategy – reform to NRM – UK Government 90 days

- Access to NRM in review – case where police were having to use their own credit card for accommodation and local authorities use expenses. In 3 day period what will support look like and what does NRM mean.
- Agreed – about the Modern Slavery Act – getting into legislation – having a legal framework as to what standards should be there for victim- not where it needs to be yet – far from where it should be – Lord McColl.
- Care standards – guidance by human trafficking foundations and partners and what care standards should be.
- NRM has not been subject to inspections – recently met with care quality to see what inspections can be made.
- There needs to be some professionalisms across the UK
- NRM – UK Crime Agency or UKVI
  - How can this decision be made by someone miles away for someone who is a victim?
  - Will no longer be UKVI of UK Crime agency
  - Been decided Home Office – Ofcom wanted multi agency group
  - Refused people will go to multi agency panel
  - Very determined that this panel should have the power to say that the decision is wrong for whatever reason.
- Said that Scotland and Northern Ireland should be part of the group in relation to this. Very pleased that the support group is forming. Need to be sat at the table.
- Law enforcement second after victim care. Here in Scotland should be recognised, really good work going on, joint investigation by police Scotland. One seen as an outstanding result for Euro.
- Event between partners in many ways unique, something very positive. Of course, always asking law enforcement for more and they are asking for more themselves.
- Can't have victims slipping through the net, because of NRM.
- Created guidance for Royal College of Nursing – across UK - how to expand – spoke to Royal College of Nursing event in Liverpool – they want to take it into nursing Internationally.

Address our values across the world, particularly Philippines, Australia and USA have already agreed.

- UK influence Internationally is significant.
- Partnerships significant – rights Lab are here. Partnerships with Nottingham University.
- Partnerships and good partnerships are what we need, trusting partnerships on supports of victims, outcome of interventions.
- This afternoon met with Cosla – developed guidance for England and Wales, Local Government Authorities, Cosla is equivalent here – lighter enforcement, health and safety – part 3 of the strategy to make trafficking not viable. Ways to close-down nail bars and car washing using health and safety and environmental.
- Going to work on creating guidance across Scotland and want actors on the ground to be involved, so it actually means something.
- Very keen to push this across Scotland as well, the same for Northern Ireland.
- Met with Judicial Institute – Training in house – Met Sheriff Duff runs Judicial Institute for Scotland – last Lord Advocate Mulholland is taking on role for training – coming to event in Northern Ireland for training. High Court and Sheriffs and something for keen to develop. Very well respected judge to lead.
- Internationally – Commonwealth summit, protection of women and girls, recent reports - 72 percent of those who victims of bonded labour/slavery are women or girls and responses are not meeting their needs.
- Need to focus on where women in particular parts of world where 80 percent of girls don't get education. Where you education women and girls you stabilise the community and the nations – pushed by the UK and UK International Development.
- Australia now developing legislation in relation to transparency. France and Uganda developing based on UK models. Influencing global response and I can use work here in Scotland as a good example.
- Some really good examples of the private sector – co-op offering education to people, 40 percent of companies trading with government hadn't done slavery statements of top 100. I wrote to 27 companies in FTSE 100 and 40 or 52 FTSE which hadn't done statements at all. While there are great things there are people who are flouting the law.

- Need to ensure companies are compliant – 16 million are in legitimate economy as such, businesses. If we can get the private sector – met with Argentina – going out in July to meet with senior officials and president – how to get into G20 – so biggest economies have this as something which is not acceptable.
- Women and girls issue and private sector is a big chunk to focus on.
- Reports – migrant crisis and revisited France recently on two occasions, make sure the issues have been addressed effectively. Still looking at issues of migrant crisis. Went to Endo state 3 years ago and now it has it's own task force, local authorities, something that wouldn't have been seen in Nigeria before, prosecuting now.
- Going forward would like to see, do see it here, is professionalism of the response. It is in the heart of local authorities and police, police at 3am on duty in north Scotland or north London can respond to this like it is any other crime, nurses and our communities can respond.
- It has to be a crime so the responses change, doesn't have to be criminal justice. If you have a business where 2 – 300 people are in trafficking conditions they are victims of crime.
- Seeing it for what it is but not a criminal justice response.

## Questions

### Gordon MacDonald (Care)

1. Compensation for victims – do you know what percentage of assets seized in terms of proceeds of crime going on - compensation for victims and how to increase?
  - Reparation not been used
  - Criminal injuries compensation but using the legislation effectively hasn't been effective. Last check couldn't find any.
  - Proceeds of crime – one recently where good coverage and victims were given 76000 pounds. There needs to be a change. If a case where law enforcement investigating drugs etc would have a certain approach from the outset. Happening in Scotland, but not nationally. Finding where the money is gives you lead on investigation. Joint money laundering investigation team bringing banks together. Thomson Reuters – collaborations with bank. Reaction to human trafficking case from the outset, where has the money gone.
  - They do owe money by cash, people cheap, under 5 -10000, there are ways that they use which other criminals can't use but that doesn't mean can't be chased.

2. Nursing guidance – are you also working on guidance for working with organisations such as the GMC? A lot of professionals in the health sector nervous about breaches of confidentiality and reg bodies need clear lead.

Jim Laird (Inverclyde Council)

1. Case recently – 40000 from trafficker and prison sentence, wife returned to Bangladesh but no response from Crown for the men who had to pay all the money to get here and victims receiving compensation.
2. Once people are found to be victims and traffickers are back home, Immigration appeal processes, advice being given is that they should claim asylum, family back in Bangladesh, being asked to claim asylum and get accommodation on no choice basis and subsist on 35 pounds a week.

Answers from Commissioner

Issue about compensation is what I'm saying should be at every stage, that is why we are training Judges because they will be the people who can ask the questions. Then the prosecutors will be dealing with it as it is part of the process. In other cases, it is routine for compensation to be considered, that is why I'm talking about professionalism.

If you are a victim of a crime your immigration status has nothing to do with it. I have asked the NRM that every victim gets considered for discretionary leave, found to be *illegal* for what was in the police, compelling, over demanding on the victim. Change in the policy that victims can get support for immigration status, only recently been a change.

There will always be arguments that people are using this legislation to con the system. We don't create laws for other crimes and put barriers in place, if someone tries to buck the system they will be found out. We need a whole response to this.

Committee by Frank Field – following it up someone discretionary leave to remain – can go and get a job and access other services. If asylum seeker they are limited in what they can do.

Good talking to college of nursing – NHS education Scotland – way they have viewed human trafficking is how practice can be.

Way we want this – missed the GMC we haven't and we will – been looking at who trains physiologists and social workers, getting into their training, identifying groups, put into body of organisations as opposed to one of training here and there. Need to follow up on.

### Question

What are observations about figures for NRM process – what I've picked up is that in Scotland we pick up who has been trafficked and elsewhere it's the Modern Slavery Act. Are we underselling ourselves in relation to the figures in comparison to the rest of the UK?

### Answer from Commissioner

I would hope that people are referring in the wider scale is Palermo protocol, I haven't seen I referrals if missing opportunity, but I hope it does include percentage wise, it's on the national percentage.

I think Northern Ireland would be a bit lower on percentage per capita. Perhaps something we need to look at.

Update on Lord McCall – Legislation and support to victims, time period which they are supported, longer than the 90 days, looking at the needs which they have, putting into a legal framework the support they should be offered and what this should mean. Fact they should have healthcare and psychological care, all the things they need for a victim. All of the main elements.

Safeguard provisions of support, informed consent and looking at gender issues and vulnerabilities.

Creating a plan for each individual victim but putting into a legal requirement of the State at the moment more of a policy process. Able to hold someone to account if not properly addressed.

### Gordon MacDonald

Some of that included in the Scotland act – but as far as Scotland is concerned – Immigration – would be an opportunity for this group to raise concern with UK GOV about Immigration leave to remain issue – no proposal currently to cover Scotland.

### Christina McKelvie MSP

Would need a bill to consult Scottish parliament.

It is a non-devolved issue but would be best to consult only England and Wales.

Christina - Training for Judges – consistency for Lord Mulholland not treated as a defence. Kirsty Thomson did some work to put the lord advocate on the spot to say its only guidance and not a direction and said from tomorrow it will be a direction. Whether you can give us any insight as to whether it's happening already?

### Commissioner

This is something which is now in the heart of the judicial college.

Safeguard elements of training, statutory defence England and Wales, covers a victim should be treated, challenges victim will have and how evidence could be inconsistent. International Bar Association and some barristers and Helen Bamber Foundation. Raft of information to judges.

Also covered compensation – allows in England and Wales for compensation to be given ahead of proceeds of crime. One of the biggest things was about the victim and how the victim may present.

How to get the evidence there perhaps without a victim giving testimony and what cross examination might be?

Met with head of judiciary in Northern Ireland and sheriff Duff, whole of judiciary will have training by the end of the year and be I the system.

Jim Laird

Very important – case was heard in Fort William – likely that the Judge in Fort William being familiar with Human Trafficking – Lord Mulholland said that it would be a matter for the Sheriff.

Christina McKelvie MSP

Hope that this training will address that, seeing that sentencing is going up and up.

Lynn Maher Soroptimist Scotland South

Mentioned women's and girls, big focus, what can soroptimists do, on the ground and really keen whether lobbying gathering evidence, would be really useful for what Scotland could do.

Soroptimist was the purple tear drop campaign – how can you get mobile phone companies would be safe towards women. Look at supply chains. Members would be buying and spending and having a large amount of disposable cash – how can you prove supply chains are slavery free – Bangladesh or Rana Plaza – so we can say actually a good company - check with members. Whether lack in support of women and girls. 72 percent women and girls - shocking conditions in Uganda. Of those who end up in sexual exploitation are women and girls. Looking at issue where is the breakdown what do they need, identified elsewhere – how to get better education.

Commissioner

Boris Johnson stated 200 million now available – will start to push for girls to get education and how is it being delivered. If we can do that enough where countries real issues. Vietnam and could take a lot – see communities stabilise.

#### **4. Dr Akilah Jardine - Rights Lab University of Nottingham Beacon of Excellence – Presentation**

Hello, my name is Akilah Jardine, I am a Research Associate in the Rights Lab at the University of Nottingham, one of the University's six beacons of excellence, in which the University has invested over the next 5 years, as having the capacity to be world leading. Today I'm going to give you a brief overview of the Rights Lab, some of the projects we are involved in, and the work that we do with the independent antislavery commissioner.

We are the beacon that focuses on ending global slavery, because there are an estimated 40.3 million people enslaved today. There is a global commitment to bring about the eradication of slavery by 2030 as part of the UN's sustainable development goals. In the Rights Lab, we are working towards creating more robust, and long-term solutions for abolition. So, we have established the world's first large scale research agenda on modern slavery. We are home to the world's leading experts, such as Professor Kevin Bales OBE, and we aim to demonstrate how slavery can be eradicated for good. Over the next five years, we are working to deliver a freedom blue print – a global plan to end slavery based on all our research and discoveries.

We call ourselves a 'Lab' for two reasons. First, we bring together different methods to solve a critical problem without adherence to disciplinary boundaries. We bring together theories and methods from different facilities and disciplines across the University and mixes them into the best combination for solving real world problems. We have world-leading experts on contemporary slavery, a critical mass of slavery researchers, and cutting-edge research methods and tools. Secondly, our identity as a lab comes from the fact that we take practical application as our main purpose. We have aim to deliver a transdisciplinary and problem-oriented approach with real-world impact. We have joint work with major antislavery NGOs, the Home Office, the UN, and the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner. Our work is also shaped at every stage by survivors who are also on our team.

Our research aims to address four main questions: How many slaves exist in the world and where are they? Why does slavery continue to exist? What works to end it? And what difference does freedom make to our world? Our current projects aim to answer these questions collectively. Our projects include building the only global index of slavery numbers, the world's first use of geospatial technology to map slavery from space, an extended analysis of slavery's political economy, the world's largest study on the relationship between slavery and ecosystems, the first corpus linguistics approach to slavery discourse, the first large-scale study of the intersection between migration and contemporary slavery, the first comprehensive study of slavery and conflict, the first extended attempt to understand the mental health and behaviour aspects of contemporary slavery, and the first major collection of contemporary slave narratives and survivor perspectives.

Separately, I am involved in two other projects, the Unchained Supply and Slavery-Free Communities. The Unchained Supply, is the first major research programme on slavery and supply chains. It consists of four main areas: Detecting modern slavery and human rights violations in supply chains, changing supply chain design to reduce modern slavery and human rights violations, diffusing responsible business practices in complex supply chain networks, and engaging closely with industry as the key change mechanism. A number of our projects are in collaboration with the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner. For example, we are assessing the understandings of modern slavery in supply chains between supply chain managers and charities, with the aim to encourage discussion between such actors to learn and share resources to combat slavery in business operations. We are also working with IASC to assess the nature and prevalence of labour exploitation in hand car washes, and how different areas in the UK respond to it.

Our Slavery-Free Communities project, is the world's first major examination of slavery as a local issue, lodged in our work to help make Nottingham the world's first slavery-free city, which builds and applies the most effective types of policy in varying local contexts, and is developing a transferable model for international setting. We are assessing how we can building collaborative multi-agency policy responses to slavery among local actors and utilise community resources to develop models for combatting slavery that can be transferrable across all localities. A number of our projects are also in collaboration with IASC. For example, we are developing a toolkit to help communities and service providers to improve their response to modern slavery. The toolkit will include checklists, documents and helpful links to initiate partnership, set goals and measure progress, engage survivors and increase public awareness. We also helped to launch a website with an interactive map displaying anti-slavery activities across the country. Separately, as part of our Slavery-Free Communities projects, we are also looking into how we can engage businesses, beyond their supply chains, as corporate citizens to help their communities create a hostile environment for slavery.

All our projects are highly interdependent, with numerous intersections.

Taking action against human trafficking and modern slavery is a top priority for UK governments, as evident in the Modern Slavery Act and the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act that came into force in 2015, with the aim to strengthen efforts to combat modern slavery. In 2014, the UK published its Modern Slavery Strategy founded on 4ps: Pursue (Prosecute and disrupt modern slavery activities), Prevent (People from engaging in modern slavery, protect (strengthen measures to protect vulnerable people at risk of exploitation and increase awareness) and prepare (reduce harm of modern slavery through improved victim identification and support). This commitment was also echoed in Scotland's Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy which action plan focus on identifying and

supporting victims, identifying perpetrators and disrupting their activities, and addressing the conditions that foster trafficking and exploitation.

Since the Acts came into force, there has been an increase in the identification of potential victims of modern slavery through the NRM, and an increased awareness and urgency among law enforcement bodies, relevant agencies, NGOs, and the general public to tackle slavery. There has also been an increase in the number of potential victims identified. This may not necessarily indicate a growth in slavery victims, but could show an increase in awareness.

As part of our Slavery-Free Communities project, we believe that local action is key to achieving the objectives of the Acts and the governments' strategies in combatting modern slavery and human trafficking. In narrowing the lens of anti-slavery initiatives to focus on location action, our project recognises the importance of using community resources and actors to resist slavery.

For instance, we are aiming to encouraging community actors to commit tackling slavery by making a pledge to:

- Using local resources to raise public awareness
- Train frontline staff
- Collectively engage law enforcement officials
- Promote local civic leadership
- Long-term victim support and recovery
- Contribute to a slavery-free economy

We believe that in strengthening approaches to combatting slavery, government agendas should emphasise the inclusion of local actors and businesses, to carry out a concerted attack against this heinous crime

So, in the Rights Lab we want to help work toward what we call the 'Freedom Dividend.' Multiple benefits for everyone, for free people, as well as the enslaved. Where the world is safer, greener and more prosperous and more equal when slavery comes to an end.

## **5. Scottish Government Update – Peter Hope Jones**

Scottish Government Human Trafficking Team – Implementation of Strategy and implications of strategy published in May last year. Annual basis.

-Finalising report - what we have done to implement the strategy and measures for what they have achieved. Measures right at the beginning of June.

Key messages from progress report – structures which put in place to deliver and implement strategy.

Strategy divided into and actioning victims – perpetrators and what could lead to trafficking.

In each action area we have multiagency groups in place.

Led by different bodies so the first action group is chaired by Police Scotland and third chaired by Scottish Government. Also, child trafficking strategy group and concentrates on child trafficking.

Oversight for those various implementation group and above that strategic oversight group. Also Lord Advocate and senior interest.

Group met last month to discuss content of the group.

Child trafficking element – measures for which we will see progress and which we will be reporting on them.

Key measures NRM for Scotland – referees in Scotland – survivors of trafficking in Scotland and number of convictions new act.

Prevention orders and risk orders.

Quotations from victims to reflect their voice in update report. Good practice in Scotland and multi-agency groups.

Progress in each 3 action areas.

1. Support for victims

- a. E- learning resource being developed by Police Scotland, input from a range of partners, primarily used by public bodies. Just had it published on DVD and it will be sent around widely, health bodies to go on internet and employees to use that.
- b. Awareness raising pack – standard awareness raising presentation, finalised – made available online. Aimed at community groups, share messages of what is going out is clear and accurate. Also pulls together various resources, short films from agencies which show it really well.
- c. Support for victims – longer period of statutory support than anyone. Slavery servitude or compulsory – same basis as human trafficking events.

2. Tara and Migrant Help key support bodies, continue to do great work to support. This is to reflect a number of things – increasing numbers of victims through – how to engage through statutory support.
  - a. Competing migrant help and Tara – anchor – psychological support, increased funding for trafficking victims
  - b. Tackling perpetrators
    - i. Ongoing work led by Police Scotland – period on thematic basis – periods of labour exploitation, child trafficking, sex exploitation and child servitude, Romanian and Vietnamese victims.
    - ii. Police Scotland has analysis in place, closely involved in a number of investigations working with EUROPOL with a number of issues.
    - iii. Number of Romanian offices to work with them. To prove and engage with communities and link in with Romania.
    - iv. Commissioner did say Vietnamese and Chinese represent majority of victims but increase in relation to Romania victims, highest in EU and have significantly increased particularly in relation to sexual exploitation.
    - v. Trafficking exploitation risk order – first conviction under the act and use of prevent orders in Robert McPhee and John Miller in March 2018
    - vi. Duty to notify – trial implementation in Edinburgh City Council and Police Scotland which is underway – approaching end of 3 month period – will be looking at that and next steps.
3. Wider factors which can lead to trafficking:
  - a. Public awareness – can be hidden – important element of it is making sure what signs are, the fact that trafficking does happen in Scotland and report to authorities.
  - b. When developing survey – interviewed people for views of trafficking, painted a picture that trafficking is happening in the rest of the world but as you asked them about increasing – numbers decrease significantly.
  - c. The evidence from NRM and other sources, happening in local communities and right across Scotland.
  - d. Marketing campaign from August last year – trafficking happening in Scotland – modern slavery helpline or contact the police. Involved a STV short film, 6 digital

adverts, highlighted key examples of industries where slavery may take place. Idea of two-pronged approach, trying to get message out to wide a democratic as possible. Younger people are much more able to pick up from digital platforms.

- e. Significant increase to helpline – tailed off after campaign ended. Looking to maintain messages – joint communications group – led to some media coverage over the last few months – follow up surgery. In progress report when published.
- f. Other focuses – research – interested to hear what is happening in Nottingham. Sub Group – where we are in terms of research in Scotland initial consultation of event in October – research interests across Scotland – clear to know what’s going on and to see that people know what research is going on.
- g. Key emphasis is around corporate and business engagement – business implementation group which sits alongside other groups – membership includes HSBC COOP– Edinburgh Airport and Scottish Trade Union congress, aim for business to take responsibility for strategy and spreading message of corporate responsibility.
- h. Three sub-grounds – specifically at training, guidance and resources what available, other focuses are modern slavery and trafficking statement and communications and networks. Spreading awareness in businesses.
  - i. Public procurement tool specifically for those involved – consider ethical issues and factors around human trafficking which may indicate
  - ii. Rough sleeping homeless action group
  - iii. Refugee action group.

#### Child Trafficking age assessment - Guidance updates

- S12 of the Act not clear 18 or not assumption should be under 18 until proven otherwise
- Child protection committees already involved in this work.
- Human trafficking processes in place, work on JIIs for young people to develop a revised model for this. Implementation of national action plan to tackle child sexual exploitation and human trafficking – strong overlap
- Research which is Commissioner and underway which Dr Rigby is working on – routes into child trafficking
- S11 indecent child trafficking guardians – not yet commenced but planning consultation on that later this year.
- Scottish Guardianship Service continues to support potential child trafficking victims in Scotland.

- Once report is out can see a lot more detail.
- Report – end of May beginning of June – waiting on Parliamentary business.

#### Gordon MacDonald

For child trafficking and guardians – procurement – consultation later this year – what should the role be and what requirements should be on it – a bit more detail about how it should be.

#### Jim Laird

April – national transfer scheme been made – 1000 children in Kent and Croydon ad haven't been age assessed and are likely to be trafficking victims. Local authorities well intentioned to assist are not equipped and looking to Scottish Government for a bit of lead on that. Work being done through COSLA for local authorities to take young people – capacity issues – no age assessment so major difficulties for Local authorities.

#### Peter Hope Jones

Goes beyond safeguarding – will speak with colleagues.

#### Jen Ang (JustRight Scotland)

Normally Kirsty Thompson – first to echo what Jim said – children are dispersed around them – access to legal advice – just a few specialist advice centres – would need to travel for a day. Resource challenge. This is something else looking forward to next year in strategy and policing – working with Romanian and police – legal surgeries for rough sleeping EEA nationals – home office policy which was later unlawful. Think about restarting them urgencies. Most of the people we left had the right to be there but couldn't prove it. My specialism is human trafficking, provided training, found in fact sheet higher than expected incident to vulnerability in exploitation in this community. Eastern European migrant males – Brexit and impact has made people more vulnerable. As EEA nationals begin to lose Freemovement status working with people who need advice. Unlawful immigration status – looking for other routes. Underreported in EEA routes. It is something that we could start to think about it. What settlement is, EEA migration status.

#### Jim Laird

Inverclyde smallest council – number of EEA nationals coming to advise centres – people provide it very difficult that habitually resident and right to reside and denied access but by the time to sort out the person is off the radar. Local Authorities for young people, don't have sufficiently skilled legal practices across the country. People will travel the country.

Christina McKelvie MSP – Pursuing EEA nationals – pursuing a year now.

Jim Laird – Scottish Government got funding and work starting soon.

Christina McKelvie MSP – Phone call to the office – someone sleeping under the railway bridge. Had I been something that happened.

Jim Laird – Asked COSLA to write to all social services in Scotland – 20/30 cases smallest local authority.

Christina McKelvie MSP - Polish constituency was asked to leave with 2 children. DWP was telling her she's Polish and not entitled as the UK is now out of the EU – Grave concern

Pushed Angela Constance on Public Funds – something which worries me is seasonal working arrangement – berry picking 30 percent drop in workers. Some unscrupulous – illegal gang masters – worries in Perthshire.

Seasonal organisations – desperate to find staff to do.

How do you think it will work with Europol?

Peter Hope Jones– Brexit – agree with concerns. Obviously mentioned corporate group, range of impact for human trafficking, district challenges, fisheries where we have huge potential, fishing fleets and huge potential for Brexit. Actually, detail is not clear. Discussions with Local Authority UK.

Europol – not clear what UK Government solution will be and what level of involvement will be. Work with partners. What is clear from Police Scotland is will do everything to minimise impact of Brexit. Minimise as much as possible to avoid negative impact.

COSLA – Re-established groups – work done with Scottish government – last end in local - web based updated annually

What does no recourse to public funds actually mean? – some organisations in Scotland – funded by grants - became grey area.

Scottish Welfare Fund – Role to play at political level higher than on the ground – Home Office defines which public funds are listed.

Home Office put them on the list – power lies with this body – if something is on the list – how Scottish local authorities can support. Scope for what Scottish government to decide what goes on the list. Have unrestrained power to decide how to support.

## Soroptimist

Worked for women's aid – family support worker – refuge places are funded, different places work for public funds – refuge was unaffordable – women who are not entitled to have recourse to public funds.

Estranged young adults – those who are with LGBTI – major help issues and not getting help issues. Treated the care leavers – internal funds. Another group of vulnerable people, vulnerable to being trafficked sexual exploitation. Very difficult – number of other issues who would be in the same position.

Christina McKelvie MSP – would be interested to speak to about what said, would like to pursue. I can do that politically for action group.

## **6. Election of New Secretary**

Christina McKelvie MSP thanked Jill Sutherland for being voluntary secretary since December 2015.

New Secretary appointed: Nadia Maloney (Unchained International)

## **7. AOB**

Gordon MacDonald

Play from the Edinburgh Festival Fringe – tour around. Get in Scottish Parliament and widen the interest. Sponsor a host in some way. Cost £250 per show. Could possibly show. If possible would go back. Events team would go back. Need MSP name. October as recess in October – will check dates.

Migrant help funding through series of – 7 performances across Scotland – 18<sup>th</sup> October anti-slavery day – research – raised possibility in parliament – would need MSP to sponsor.

Events Team – Festival of Politics in October 18<sup>th</sup> – Liaise with Peter Hope Jones.

## St Andrews University

Third Generation project think tank. Climate justice think tank – looking to begin a hub on human trafficking for Scotland and looking to partner with Scottish universities across the board, interdisciplinary hub/lab on human trafficking, been contacted by philanthropist for funding. Working in October event.

## **8. Meeting Close**

Next meeting date to be arranged.

