

Covid-19 and Modern Slavery - Second meeting

Actions: Meeting between IASC, GLAA and NGOs (June 2020)

This is a list of **actions** from a meeting held on Tuesday 5 May 2020 between:

- Dame Sara Thornton, Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner;
- Michael Rich, CEO of the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA);
- Members of their respective teams;
- NGOs, charities and organisations which support and advocate on behalf of victims and survivors of labour exploitation.

This was the second meeting between the IASC, GLAA and NGOs.

It was noted that the GLAA are continuing to deploy operationally with PPE, balancing the risk of deployment (on both their own staff and staff at sites) against the risk of exploitation to workers. There were further discussion on GLAA work and multi-agency partnership work to improve business compliance and raise awareness of workers' rights, especially during Coronavirus and lockdown.

Other items raised included - increasing dialogue between labour agencies and NGOs to understand intelligence gaps; taking a prevention approach to multi-agency working; changes in labour practices under Covid-19; improving signposting and communication on workers' rights; understanding and mitigating vulnerabilities; and exploring existing models for reporting.

This meeting was held off the record.

Actions

- All to link up on work to improve signposting and communication on workers' rights.
- All to consider vulnerabilities and barriers to support faced by those during lockdown especially isolation and homelessness. IASC office to follow up with NGO partners on issue of labour exploitation and housing.

Queries

For further information, please contact the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner's office at iasc@iasc.independent.gov.uk.