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Dame Sara Thornton

Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner
5th Floor, Globe House
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31 July 2020

Dear Dame Sara,

Thank you for your letter of 30 June requesting data (since 6 April 2020) on:

- The number of Recovery Needs Assessments (RNAs) that have been fully approved by the Single Competent Authority (SCA);
- The number of RNAs that have been partially approved by the SCA (including the length of the extension of support agreed);
- The number of RNAs refused (including the reason for refusal);
- The number of individuals who have exited outreach support;
- The number of individuals in Victim Care Contract (VCC) accommodation who have received a negative conclusive grounds (CG) decision.

This information is set out below. Please note that all data provided refers to the period of time between 6 April 2020 and 6 July 2020.

1. The number of RNAs that have been fully approved by the SCA.

164

2. The number of RNAs that have been partially approved by the SCA (including the length of the extension of support agreed).

419

An individual RNA may contain requests for multiple types of support, across multiple lengths of time. A “partially agreed” decision is where the SCA did not agree with one or more aspects of the request (either the type of support requested, or the duration of any element of the support request).

The table below shows, for the agreed elements of all “partially approved” RNAs, the amount of time this support was agreed for.

Agreed duration	Accommodation	Finance	Support Worker Contact
0-4 weeks	7	19	38
5-8 weeks	16	46	124
9-12 weeks	13	49	130
13 - 16 weeks	10	22	51
17 - 20 weeks	6	14	22
21+ weeks	8	11	15

3. The number of RNAs refused (including the reason for refusal).

73

An individual RNA may contain requests for multiple types of support, across multiple lengths of time. A “not agreed” decision is where the SCA did not agree to any element of the request. Multiple reasons for returning a “not agreed” decision may apply to each element of a request; these reasons are listed below

- H: Individual has alternative accommodation.
- I: Individual has alternative finance and has not demonstrated a need for additional finance relating to their modern slavery experience.
- J: Individual has already been signposted to relevant medical care/ services/ organisation and therefore no longer requires a support worker to do that.
- K: The VCC does not offer that support service¹.
- L: Future need; continuing support has been requested without reference to or evidence of any existing need, but to a need which may or may not materialise in the future.
- M: Non compliance².
- N: No evidence supplied to support the assertion of the need.
- O: Need articulated is not related to the individual’s modern slavery/trafficking experience.

The table below shows, for each element of each “not agreed” request, the reason(s) for the request not being agreed.

“Not agreed” reason	Accommodation	Finance	Support Worker Contact
H:	0	0	0
I:	0	43	0
J:	0	0	8
K:	0	0	8
L:	0	2	13
M:	0	1	1
N:	0	0	1
O:	0	0	1
K and O:	1	0	0
M and N:	1	1	1

¹ Some examples of support requested that the VCC does not provide include: childcare, support worker time to advocate for the individual in legal matters unrelated to their human trafficking/modern slavery experience, chaperoning to meetings or sessions (unrelated to translation).

² See page 25 of published guidance

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/834857/recovery-needs-assessment-v1.0ext.pdf

I and L:	0	3	0
J and K:	0	0	12
J and L:	0	0	10
J and M:	0	0	1
J and N:	0	0	2
J and O:	0	0	1
J, K and L:	0	0	3
J, K, L and N:	0	0	2
J, N and O:	0	0	1
K and L:	0	0	3
K, L and N:	0	0	1

4. The number of individuals who have exited outreach support.

312

5. The number of individuals in VCC accommodation who have received a negative conclusive grounds decision.

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As noted previously, a confirmed victim will only be required to move on from VCC support where the RNA process finds that there is no longer an ongoing recovery need for VCC support or that the confirmed victim has access to alternative support services to meet their recovery needs, such as local authority housing or mainstream benefits. This process ensures that ongoing support is tailored to the victim's individual recovery needs arising from their modern slavery experiences.

If an individual's circumstances change following any RNA decision, support providers will submit a further RNA for consideration. Individuals who have received a negative CG decision will be required to move on from support, and support providers can request an extension of support where required.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, support providers and decision-makers have worked in partnership to understand the potential constraints or difficulties faced in accessing alternative sources of support, and have taken these into account in their assessments and decisions.

As you requested in your letter, the information set out above does not carry a security classification and this response may be published on your website.

Yours sincerely,



Alice Matthews
Head of the Single Competent Authority