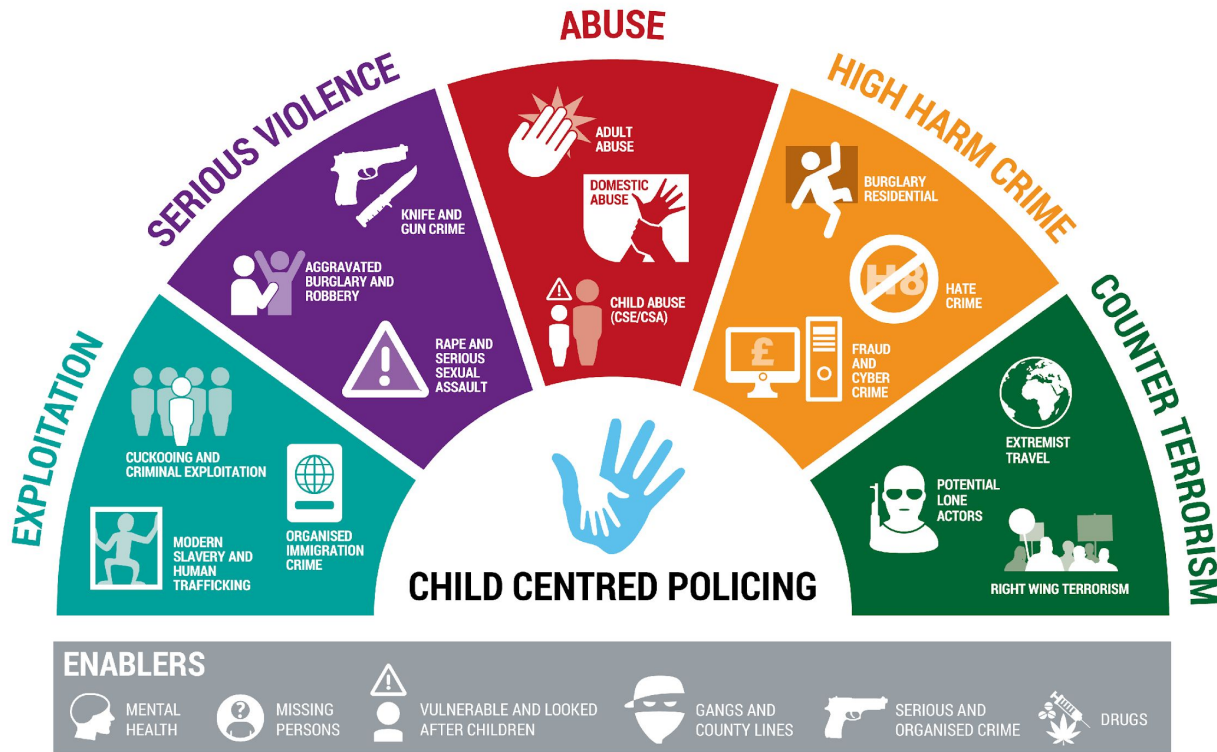


Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking - Thanet

T/Chief Inspector Matthew Smith

Thanet District Commander

Kent Control Strategy 2020/21



Protecting and serving the people of Kent

What is Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking?

Modern slavery and human trafficking offences (MSHT) are broken down into the following types of exploitation:

- **Domestic Servitude**
- **Forced Criminality**
- **Labour Exploitation**
- **Organ Harvesting**
- **Sexual Exploitation**



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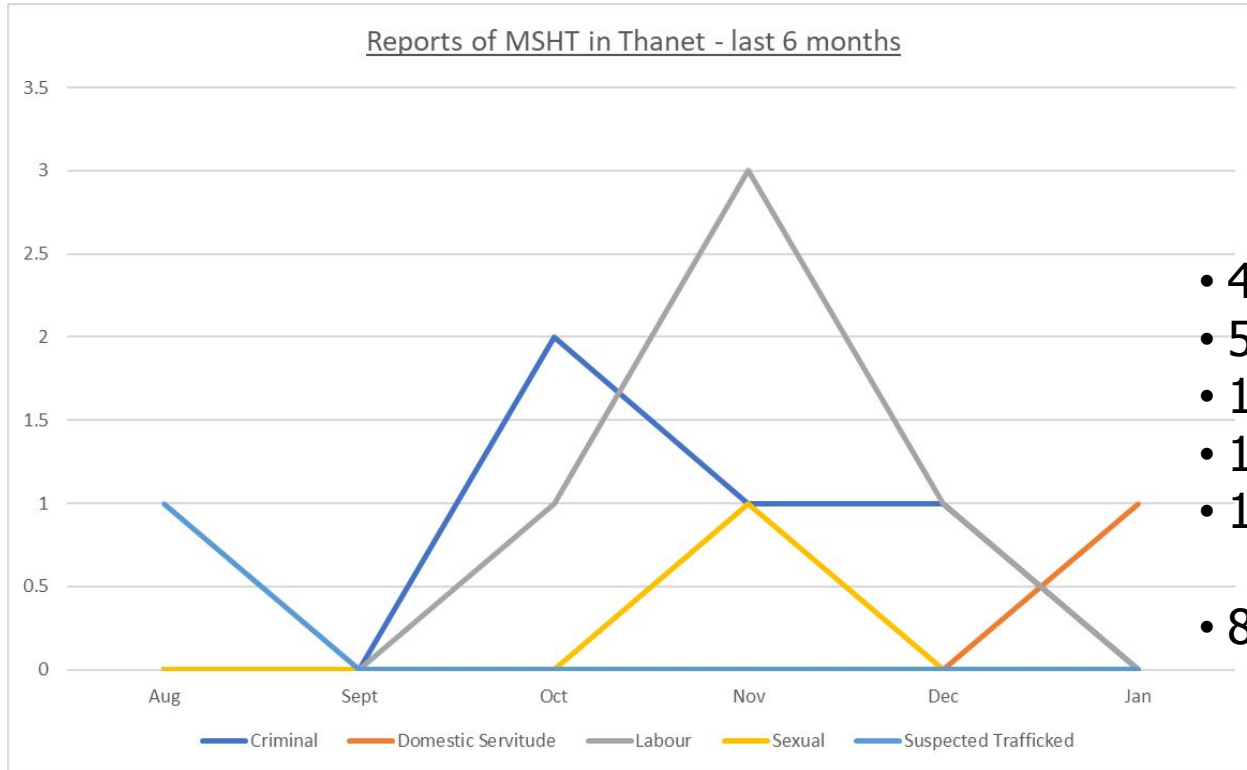
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What are the signs?

- Removal of documents, false documents
- Lack of freedom of movement
- Subject to threats of being reported to the authorities
- Appear fearful /anxious / withdrawn
- Appear to be working under instruction
- May resort to crime in order to eat
- No employment contract, forced to work long hours in poor conditions
- Not dressed adequately for the work they do (eg, no PPE)
- Poor / degrading living conditions
- No payment, or access to money
- Forced to open bank accounts / credit agreements



MSHT in Thanet



- 4 Criminal Exploitation
- 5 Labour Exploitation
- 1 Sexual Exploitation
- 1 Suspected trafficking
- 1 Domestic Servitude
- 8 adults and 4 children



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Thanet Partnership Working

- **Thanet Multi-Agency Task Force**
- Thanet District Council
- DWP
- Kent Police
- KFRS
- Social Services
- Gangmaster and Labour Abuse Authority
- HMRC

Case Study 1 – July 2021

- Intelligence received that illegal immigrants were working in a restaurant with poor pay & conditions.
- Unannounced multi-agency visit.
- Multiple rooms found in the basement
- All workers spoken to and assessments made
- KFRS served a restriction notice due to unsafe living conditions.
- Follow up multi-agency visit, November 2021 – HMRC gathered information and intelligence which linked to an ongoing investigation.
- Partnership working continue to focus on this location to prevent / deter any criminality.



Case Study 2 – November 2021

- Police received intelligence relating to sexual & labour exploitation of young female employees.
- Unannounced multi agency visit, November 2021
- KFRS inspection identified safety concerns
- One employee was found to be working in contravention of his asylum application. Safeguarding and MSHT considered.
- Substantial fine likely to be given to the owner.
- Poor record keeping and lack of employee paperwork identified
- DWP and HMRC investigation ongoing

Case Study 3 – Forced Labour

- Information received from concerned member of the public
- Two workmen from the traveller community were seen to work another male in a way that was characteristic of Modern Slavery.
- The Multi Agency Task Force began an investigation and through working with Thanet Community Safety Partnerships located the male.
- Male was living in conditions of a lower standard than those around him.
- Checks found that the male was wanted by police for a £50k + fraud
- Arrested, but was offered support/safety planning in terms of being a potential victim of modern slavery.

How to report it

- Modern Slavery Helpline
- National Crime Agency
- Police – 999, 101 or online
- My community voice
- Crimestoppers

Thank you



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