Inter-Departmental Ministerial Group on Human Trafficking 17 September 2012 Minutes

Attendees:

Home Office Mark Harper MP CHAIR

Home Office Jeremy Browne MP Home Office Christopher Blairs

Home Office Official UKHTC Official

AGO Official (for Oliver Heald MP)
DCLG Official (for Baroness Hanham MP)

DfE Edward Timpson MP

FCO Official (for Hugo Swire MP)

MOJ Helen Grant MP

DFID Official (for Lynne Featherstone MP)

DH Anna Soubry MP

DWP Official (for Mark Hoban MP)

HMRC Lin Homer

Welsh Government Official (for Carl Sargeant AM)

Northern Ireland Executive David Ford MLA

Scottish Government Kenny MacAskill MSP – via video link Scotland Office Official (for David Mundell MP)

Apologies:

AGO Oliver Heald MP FCO Hugo Swire MP

DFID Lynne Featherstone MP

DWP
DCLG
Welsh Government
Scotland Office
Wales Office

Mark Hoban MP
Baroness Hanham
Carl Sargeant AM
David Mundell MP
Stephen Crabb MP

1. Welcome

1.1 Mark Harper MP welcomed the new IDMG Ministers.

Actions:

None

2. Introduction to Human Trafficking

- 2.2 Home Office provided an introduction on human trafficking for new IDMG Ministers.
- 2.1 The presentation included a synopsis of: the global perspective; International, EU and UK legislation; IDMG governance arrangements; the UK Government's Human Trafficking Strategy (including the four key principles); key data and trends; the National Referral Mechanism (NRM); adult victim support arrangements; child victims; prosecutions and convictions; and the relevant policy and operational interests of each Department or office involved in the IDMG.
- 2.2 Mark Harper MP also noted the importance of the IDMG fulfilling its role as the equivalent national rapporteur mechanism, as required by the EU Directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.

Actions:

Presentation by the Solicitor General on prosecutions and convictions at the next IDMG meeting in Feb 2013

3. IDMG first annual report

- 3.1 The IDMG considered the draft report. All members were in agreement about the overall approach.
- 3.2 However there were a few comments regarding the structure and particular sections:
 - It was agreed that the report would be reduced where necessary to ensure that it was concise

Actions:

Home Office
Officials to take on
board the
comments made on
the IDMG report
and reflect in final
version

and to the point. It was noted however that since this was the first annual report by the IDMG, it would need to be comprehensive.

- It was noted that the inclusion of disaggregated victim data was useful, particularly in terms of the variations in data for the different countries of the UK.
- Several members felt that further analysis of convictions for traffickers, including convictions for non-primary offences, should be included in the report.
- FCO also suggested that it would be useful to include source country case studies, to recognise UK action and collaborative working in specific areas.

4. AOB

- 4.1 Mark Harper MP reminded the Group that the Home Office was currently coordinating arrangements for IDMG Anti-Slavery Day activities. All members were encouraged, if they had not done so already, to agree to undertake an activity to mark Anti-Slavery Day and raise awareness on human trafficking.
- 4.2 Mark Harper indicated that the next meeting of the IDMG should be held in February 2013. Officials will work with private offices to find a suitable date.

Actions:

Home Office
Officials to
establish a suitable
date for the next
meeting