



HOPE FOR **JUSTICE**

2015/16

YEAR IN REVIEW

UNITED KINGDOM

What is our vision?

**To live
in a world
free from
slavery.**

Hope for Justice exists to bring an end to modern slavery by rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society. Our professional staff and passionate supporters work across the UK, in your local area and around the world to eliminate modern slavery for good.

Change lives. End slavery.

Welcome to giving freedom.

Thank you for your incredible support this year. I can say without a doubt that together we're changing the lives of trafficking victims for the better, and delivering victories in the world-wide fight against modern slavery. Whether you're new to Hope for Justice or a long-time champion there's so much for us to celebrate together. I particularly want to draw your attention to the phenomenal work that's happened in the UK. It's been a year of growth and expansion of our programmes and through these we have served even more people. Throughout the year, our teams on the frontline have been working with record numbers of victims. Now I know that statistics are helpful, but I am sure you agree that when dealing with people each individual life is precious and

each family reunion something to be treasured. So, whilst we delight in the increased numbers we are reporting, we cherish as individuals the people we have been privileged to rescue. Besides our work in the UK, check out the highlights from our work around the world, they're available on our website. It's truly a special thing you're doing – stepping up to be a force for good in our world. Wherever you look, the pioneering programmes you make possible are bringing hope, freedom and restoration to those who need our help. Following all of our successes this year, we're positioned to do even more in the years ahead. I cannot thank you enough for your continued support. **Today we're one step closer to achieving our vision: to live in a world free from slavery.**




Ben Cooley

CEO, Hope for Justice



HOPE_{FOR}**JUSTICE**

An aerial photograph of London, showing the River Thames flowing through the city. In the foreground, there are various buildings and a bridge. In the background, the London skyline is visible, including the London Eye and several skyscrapers. The sky is blue with some clouds.

“Hope for Justice is among those organisations taking the lead in addressing the issue of modern day slavery in today’s Great Britain. Their organisation is the only NGO working from the point of rescue right through to advocacy.”

Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer
Devon and Cornwall Police
National Police Lead for Modern Slavery

An aerial photograph of London, England, taken from a high vantage point. In the foreground, the ornate, classical architecture of St. Paul's Cathedral is prominent, featuring its iconic dome and spire. The city's dense urban landscape is visible, with a mix of historic and modern buildings. The River Thames flows through the middle ground, with several bridges crossing it. In the background, the city skyline extends to the horizon under a clear blue sky.

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Hope for Justice trains frontline professionals such as the police, social services and homeless shelter staff to spot the signs of modern day slavery.

Our training and resources are delivered to professionals who are most likely to come into contact with victims of human trafficking, often without even realising it. Participants learn how to identify victims and to understand the circumstances that stop people coming forward for help.

Our training works. Potential victims are referred to us by recipients of training that we have delivered. We can often use the information that potential victims provide to identify and rescue further victims and to play our part in disrupting criminal networks.

Frontline Professionals Trained

3,236

1,673 Local Authorities, **878** NGO's,
421 Police, **126** Crown Prosecution
Service, **124** Corporate, **14** NHS

*We rescued **117** victims as a result
of referrals made by individuals
and agencies we trained to identify
human trafficking.*

West Yorkshire,
North Yorkshire,
South Yorkshire,
Cleveland,
Northumbria,
Lancashire,
Greater Manchester,
Merseyside,
Humberside,
Norfolk,
Suffolk,
Cambridgeshire,
Leicestershire,
Northamptonshire,
Derbyshire,
Staffordshire,
West Midlands,
West Mercia,
South Wales,
London Metropolitan

We've worked with

47%

**of Police
Forces in England
and Wales;**

relaying intelligence, providing
victim care on major raids,
supporting prosecutions,
providing training and offering
expert advice based on our
own frontline experience and
success.





“Our training leads to increased levels of identification, a key part of our broader operational strategy. This work is changing the landscape of anti-slavery efforts in the UK.”

Sara Squires
Training Manager (UK)

John's Story

John* had a respected job until a serious assault left him with life threatening injuries.

John could no longer do his current job and was battling to support himself when he saw an advert in a local newspaper for work in a food packing factory in the UK. On arrival he worked hard but because of his recurring health problems, he had to leave his job and ended up homeless.

An acquaintance from home contacted John on social media and offered him labouring work in Scotland. He was taken in by a family but his life turned into a nightmare. John worked 12 hours per day, 7 days a week and wasn't paid. He was forced to live in a filthy caravan and was given barely anything to eat. The family forced him into petty thefts, threatening violence if he didn't comply, which left him afraid to go to the police. This went on for months before he finally escaped.

Homeless again, with no money to return home and no-one to trust, he accepted a job on a vast commercial farm in England. This time, he thought, the work would be fairly paid, but sadly, it was not to be. He was pressed to work long hours of back-breaking manual labour on the farm, every day, for no pay. Kept in squalid conditions, his every move was watched, and eventually he fell ill. After almost a year of exploitation, the police raided the farm and in the panic, John ran away, scared for his life.

Last year, exhausted and utterly defeated, John walked into a homeless shelter in Manchester where the staff had been trained by Hope for Justice and our team was called in.

Hope for Justice investigators built enough of a picture of his story to make sure he was accepted into safehouse accommodation. After this intervention, John received much needed medical care and support and his health started to improve. While at the safehouse, our team visited him regularly to build trust and piece together his memories. Painstakingly, the full picture was established and John felt confident enough to go to the police. Our team travelled across the country with him – for what would have been an intimidating and practically impossible trip for a vulnerable person still learning English – to help him report the crime in full.

When John left the safehouse our Survivor Support team was ready to help him find longer-term housing and a job, to create stability and rebuild his self-worth.

Several months on, John now has his own flat and a job. He's connected within the local community and shares his story with others to raise awareness and encourage others who have suffered hardship.



“They are people with a heart, they are on my side.”

John* rescued from forced labour,
describes what it means to have Hope for Justice supporting him.

**Name changed to protect identity*





Investigation & Rescue: Victims in plain sight.

Our Regional Investigative Hubs respond to intelligence received from NGOs and community groups we've trained to recognise the indicators of trafficking. This enables them to rescue victims from situations of exploitation and transfer them to aftercare providers.

Intelligence is submitted to the police and can form part of the picture to help them identify where a larger organised crime culture exists.

With so many victims arriving from countries with disreputable policing, and so many others wilfully instilled with a terror of UK police, the need for a third party is distinct and urgent.

Hope for Justice builds bridges of trust between police and victim, and acts as a conduit for intelligence that would otherwise never see the light of day.

134 Rescues.

82% *Increase in rescues
since the financial
year 2014/15*

Results Breakdown	Victims Rescued	Victims Assisted	Total
West Midlands Hub	99	9	108
West Yorkshire Hub	35	3	38
Total	134	12	146

"Hope for Justice has been invaluable in many aspects of this case. Without this I am sure that our investigation would not have reached court. I was also impressed with the level of ongoing support and advice that Hope for Justice provided..."

From my experiences I strongly believe that Hope for Justice is an organisation that provides a wonderful service for very vulnerable people. It is evident that all of those from Hope for Justice involved in this case really care about what they are doing. This has shown throughout my investigation and has resulted in keeping two very vulnerable girls on board with the Police investigation."

Detective Constable John Graham, West Yorkshire Police



Source Country

Poland 93

<i>Slovakia</i>	14	<i>Lithuania</i>	2
<i>Romania</i>	8	<i>Vietnam</i>	2
<i>Czech Republic</i>	7	<i>France</i>	1
<i>UK</i>	5	<i>Albania</i>	1
<i>Zimbabwe</i>	4	<i>Botswana</i>	1
<i>Latvia</i>	3	<i>Hungary</i>	1
<i>Moldova</i>	3	<i>Nigeria</i>	1

What do you mean by the term 'rescue'?

We use the word 'rescue' when the intervention of our specialist staff directly removes a victim of human trafficking from a situation of exploitation or profound vulnerability to exploitation. Rescues can be long term surveillance operations spanning months that develop into contact with a victim and their safe removal from their situation of exploitation. Alternatively, it might mean attending a homeless shelter to meet a victim, referred by staff who've been trained by Hope for Justice and arranging that individual's entry into safehouse accommodation. No matter how we get to the point of meeting that victim, we celebrate their rescue once it's happened. Our expert intervention means a life changed and another step taken towards ending slavery for good.

Hope for Justice awarded Assistant Chief Constable's Commendation

In autumn 2014, our investigators supported the Economic Crime Unit of West Yorkshire Police to recover potential victims of human trafficking for the purposes of forced labour and benefit fraud. During 'Operation Geltre', our team joined with police and multi-agency staff and visited police-informed addresses to speak to suspected victims. **One agreed to engage with our team and was entered into safehouse accommodation.**

Early in 2015, the Economic Crime Unit requested further assistance in the case. As a result of partnership between West Yorkshire Police and Hope for Justice, **'Operation Geltre' led to six adult and seven child victims being entered into safehouses and to the arrest and extradition of the main perpetrator** to face charges abroad.

“This is a perfect example of the need for an alternative, independent route for potential victims to be assessed even where a police force is highly engaged and educated on trafficking”

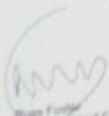
Neil Wain,
European Programme Director



Assistant Chief Constable's Commendation


Hope for Justice

For your hard work and tenacity whilst working as part of the Investigation Team for Operation Gattre. You worked to ensure that victims of Human Trafficking were rescued and the perpetrators were extradited back to Slovakia for offences of Fraud, Theft and Money Laundering charges.


Neil Wain
Assistant Chief Constable
February 2018



Hope for Justice European Programme
Director, Neil Wain accepting the
commendation award from West Yorkshire
Police Temp. Chief Constable, Dee Collins



AD VOC ACY.

Our Legal Team advises and supports survivors on matters ranging from criminal complaints against their trafficker to housing, employment and welfare issues.

Our specialists are victims' champions and their work is wide ranging. Our work can be both strategic and individually focused. **We contributed to two successful public law challenges** that will shape the experience of future survivors and, throughout the year, **supported between 58 and 77 clients** with advocacy services at any one time.

We believe that perpetrators should be held responsible for their crimes via prosecution and that victims should not be held responsible for crimes they were forced to commit whilst trafficked. Last year, **two clients had criminal convictions overturned** after we connected them with specialist legal services and **we supported 45 victims who have ongoing criminal cases** against their traffickers. This support included maintaining basic subsistence and housing to enable them to cooperate with the criminal justice system, supporting the police as a liaison point for witnesses, and helping practically to ensure that witnesses are able to attend court to give testimony. During the year, **six perpetrators were prosecuted and convicted for human trafficking related offences** including the first factory owner convicted of trafficking offences.

In addition, to seek a measure of justice and help survivors get back on their feet, **we supported 35 victims of trafficking to pursue compensation for the trauma and injury suffered.**

Victims of trafficking can struggle with exploitation for a significant period of time following their rescue as they work through issues relating to trauma, mental health needs or substance misuse. Others are well enough to work but struggle to find opportunities. This year, **we supported 27 people to access the welfare assistance** to which they are entitled, putting food on the table and a roof over their heads as they recover more fully. Each of those cases involved hours of work from our specialists to navigate a complex landscape of government agencies on behalf of highly vulnerable survivors.

Our proactive and reactive advocacy to support these 27 people included; **65 complex legal representations, 17 interventions providing extended advocacy** by phone or in person and **10 referrals** to third parties for assistance. Our advocacy saw **15 negative decisions for welfare access overturned** at review stage, and supported **two clients to successfully appeal their claims** all the way to First-Tier Tribunal.

<div>2</div> <div>Successful public law challenges</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Criminal convictions overturned</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Prosecutions & convictions of traffickers</div>	<div>27</div> <div>People given welfare assistance</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Legal Interventions</div>	<div>65</div> <div>Legal Representations</div>
<div>77</div> <div>Clients supported at any one time</div>	<div>45</div> <div>Ongoing criminal cases being supported</div>	<div>35</div> <div>Cases of compensation pursued</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Referrals to third parties for welfare assistance</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Negative welfare decisions overturned</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Successful Tribunal appeals</div>

Convicted: Husband and Wife Who Kept Man as Slave for 24 Years

Doctor Emmanuel Edet and his wife Antan, a senior nursing sister of Haymill Close, Perivale, were found guilty of holding a person in slavery or servitude, child cruelty, and assisting unlawful immigration in November 2015. They took the victim from his home in Nigeria, to the UK, without his family's permission, when he was just 13 years old. They controlled every aspect of his life.

24 years later, the victim saw media reports about modern slavery, realised the life he was being made to lead was wrong and contacted Hope for Justice for help.

*“I wish I
had known
about Hope
for Justice
years ago.
Maybe then
I’d have
been out of
the house
a long time
ago.”*

Ofonime Inuk, rescued from domestic servitude in a joint operation with the Metropolitan Police

Kirklees Bed Factory Owner Sentenced for Facilitating Human Trafficking

Mohammed Rafiq, a businessman from Kirklees, has been sentenced to two years and three months imprisonment after becoming **the first business owner in the UK to be convicted of human trafficking offences** in February 2016.

The investigation stemmed from the imprisonment of two traffickers in May 2014, for supplying forced labour to the factory. This came to light after Hope for Justice made contact with a victim – who turned out to be the first of many.



RESTORATION

Our Survivor Support team provides a vital point of consistent contact, and signposts survivors to services that can make all the difference in their recovery.

We connected **six clients into counselling, six into alcohol support and 12 into Social Services or higher level mental health support.**

Where clients fell through the gaps between services or were waiting for new provision to begin, **we provided 68 emergency food parcels and covered necessities like gas/electricity top-ups, basic clothing and toiletries on 31 occasions** when it was needed most.

It's not enough just to survive, we want our clients to overcome their experience and live full, independent lives. That's why we work so hard to connect them to meaningful employment, which begins with improving their employability.

We accessed **English classes for nine clients** whilst others chose to study independently.

We helped 10 clients with employability support or into carefully selected volunteering placements – a first step towards holding down paid, full-time employment. **14 of our clients entered employment this year**, an incredible achievement that reflects their strength of character as much as our team's dedication.

Whilst not providing aftercare accommodation in the UK, we work closely with those who do, to assist in the protection and rehabilitation of victims.



"Now I am working, I can feel my muscles again. I like tough work. I am strong, strong like a bull!"

- Davit*, survivor of forced labour assisted by Hope for Justice



6

Clients
receiving
counselling

68

Emergency
food parcels
provided

12

Clients into
Social Services
or mental
health support

6

Clients in
alcohol
support

31

Clients
essential
living needs
supported

9

Clients given
access to
English classes



10

Clients given
employability
support



14

Clients entered
employment

**Name changed to protect identity*



*"Thank you for not
giving up on me..."*

*Thank you for your
kindness, care and love.*

*Thank you for not
giving up on me and
believing in me!"*

Roza*, rescued from sex trafficking
by Hope for Justice



**Name changed to protect identity*



The HOPE^{FOR} JUSTICE EFFECT

“We want to increase and strengthen our partnerships with local police forces, prosecute more perpetrators, identify more victims, train more organisations, and ensure even more men, women and children are rescued from modern day slavery and no longer live in fear and darkness.”

The results of increased victim identification in each area we have planted a hub, proves that this strategic model delivers lasting impact and shows just how crucial these key partnerships are at bringing substantial change.”

Ben Cooley,
CEO, Hope for Justice

After our West Yorkshire Hub opened, the number of victims identified and rescued by local police **almost tripled**.

In 2013

190%

Increase in victim identification in West Yorkshire

At the end of 2015 we've seen the pattern repeated in the West Midlands: a year after our Regional Investigative Hub opened there

In 2015

127%

Increase in victim identification & referral to safehousing in West Midlands

Source: 'NCA Strategic Assessment: The Nature and Scale of Human Trafficking in 2013' (UKHTC) and 'National Referral Mechanism Statistics; End of Year Summary 2015' (UKHTC)

Can a charity do more to combat the scourge of human trafficking than the police?

Slashed budgets are forcing police forces around the country to rethink to a profound extent what they can and cannot do. So how will we fill the holes exposed by this retrenchment? In a landmark series starting today, 'Justice Outsourced', we examine the charities, private sector operators and volunteers who are stepping in - and find out whether they are a realistic substitute for what the constabulary used to do

PAUL PEACHEY
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

The stocky middle-aged Polish man was sweating nervously when he turned up at the soup kitchen in Birmingham with no possessions and no English to articulate his distress.

Workers at the homeless centre initially suspected mental illness. With the aid of a translator and a series of one-word answers, the man finally revealed that he had been brought to Britain, housed, and put to work by Polish Roma. Staff suspected human trafficking and called in the experts.

But they did not turn to the police to investigate a potential international crime, one that the Home Secretary Theresa May has declared a

Justice Outsourced Day 1

top priority for law enforcement. Police have stopped their once regular visits to the centre, Sifa Fireside, according to the officials.

Instead they called a Christian charity, Hope for Justice, which supplied the training and the posters on the wall detailing the 12 tell-tale signs on how to spot victims of trafficking. With its small team of six investigators, the West Midlands branch of Hope for Justice has rescued 82 people so far this year. Many of those were unknown to police, highlighting a gap in law enforcement for one of Britain's most hidden crimes.

Fewer than 10 of the 43 forces in England and Wales have specialist anti-trafficking teams, says Kevin Hyland, the Government's anti-slavery commissioner, and few cases of modern slavery have gone through the criminal justice system. Only 130 cases that involved human trafficking were successfully prosecuted in 2014-15, representing just one prosecution for every 100 potential victims, according to Home Office statistics. Mr Hyland, a former policeman, argues that conviction rates must increase. Charities, such

as Hope for Justice, appear to be partially filling the gap.

The charity - which also operates in Cambodia, the US and Norway - is thought to be unique in the number of officers it employs to carry out inquiries. They do not have the powers of search, arrest and intrusive surveillance, so prosecutions rely on working with the police. Investigators for the charity in the north of England helped to secure convictions last year in cases where people were living in cramped conditions while being forced to work long hours for very low pay.

In the West Midlands - the charity's second and newest operations centre - investigators at the charity say that since the start of the year they have dealt with people forced into crime, domestic servitude and the sex trade, and in one case, a man who claimed to have been a targeted by traffickers for his organs after being drugged and forced to paint himself in iodine before fleeing from a bathroom window. Police - who interviewed the man - doubt his story, but Hope for Justice staff say his claim to be trafficked is currently being assessed.

The staff in the West Midlands operate from a nondescript, unmarked office. The bulk of their work is responding to calls for help from soup kitchens and food banks where they have trained staff.

The former police officers now working for the charity - whose specialisms include undercover policing and financial investigations - have conducted surveillance work, including on girls working at a nail bar that they suspected of being victims of trafficking. On getting the message from the soup kitchen about the mysterious Polish man, the charity sent a former undercover officer, Richard, and his Polish colleague Piotr. While dozens of homeless men ate curry and rice, the pair took the man into one of the small private consultation rooms to try to unravel what has happened to him. After 30 minutes of mistrust and fear, he finally spilled out his story.

The man told them that he had been approached by Polish Roma in April in his home city of Poznan who offered him work in Britain for £250 a week. He had just been made homeless, and was mourning the recent death of his mother, so he jumped at the chance. According to his account, he was put on the 44-hour bus trip to Birmingham with a fellow Pole where he was collected by a member of the gang. He was taken to a squat in a disused factory with no heating and a mattress on the floor.

For three weeks he did not work, but one of the traffickers helped him to open four bank accounts, he told Richard and Piotr. Eventually, he

was put to work at a factory in Worcestershire, taken there by his trafficker and brought back again. He was given £50 a week in cash.

Working at the factory he broke his arm, but traffickers refused to take him to hospital, and he fled with the arm healing without any medical attention. Homeless again, he was picked up by unrelated Polish Roma from the city centre and offered a job in landscape gardening and was paid a fifth of what he was promised. When he challenged his wage, he was threatened and he fled back to the streets.

For Richard, it was a familiar story. The *maszkar* opened up suggested that he had been targeted by one of two main organised criminal gangs identified by the investigators as operating in the West Midlands. Criminals view the trade as high-profit combined with a low risk of getting caught.

A minibus of vulnerable traf-

ficked men forced into labour represents £10,000-£15,000 a month to the traffickers.

They have learnt of cases where a person has dressed up as a policeman and assaulted one of the trafficked men to emphasise their vulnerability, and where a cat has been drowned in front of them. The implication is clear: do as we say, or you're next. "It's mental rather than physical control," said Kevin.

While the Polish man recounted his story, he was physically shaking and sweating, said Richard. "He was constantly looking outside

the door," he said. "The traffickers were chasing him on the streets this Monday, but he managed to get away."

The investigators took him in their car to identify the places where he was taken. He pointed out the squat at the factory, which appeared to be under renovation and being turned into flats.

Despite his providing details of landmarks - a supermarket and a swimming pool - they were not able to find the house where the main trafficker lived. Richard will feed the information back to the West Midlands Police which is investigating the gang based on the victims that the charity has found.

The Polish man was found somewhere to stay for the night. Hope for Justice arranged for him to meet police the following morning to give a statement about his plight. They later discovered that he did not go. Investigators said that less than 10 per cent of people go to the police, a fact played on by the traffickers. That increases to nearly 90 per cent once they are in the national referral mechanism (NRM), the network of safe houses that provide a haven for up to 45 days.

"We used to get people drive by, stop and ask our clients if anybody wanted some work," said Mary Mantom, facilities manager at Sifa Fireside.

"The vulnerable adult has always been a target market for the people that want

to exploit them." She said a police team used to come in regularly and speak to the men to find out what was happening on the ground. "That's stopped now, we're not getting any police presence. I think their structure has changed or their priorities have changed. I suppose Hope for Justice is meeting our requirements."

West Midlands Police, which referred only 17 people to the NRM in 2014, says it works closely with the charity to provide intelligence from people wary of going to the police. It does not have a dedicated trafficking team, though it has ramped up its efforts and was in line to triple that number this year.

Detective Chief Inspector Tom Chisholm, who heads West Midlands' anti-trafficking efforts, said the force had got better at spotting the signs of trafficking and the number of people referred had increased sharply. "In the past, reports of groups of Eastern European men coming and going from a property may have been wrongly labelled as an anti-social behaviour issue when, in reality, trafficking could be the root problem."

How the forensic science service is coping



The Sifa Fireside homeless centre in Birmingham. When police stopped their regular visits, a Christian charity called Hope for Justice stepped in. ANDREW FOX

A man claimed to have been targeted for his organs after being drugged and forced to paint himself in iodine

Awareness

Our work with national and local television, radio and print outlets raised awareness of human trafficking and shared what can and is being done to fight it.

Hope for Justice featured in profile pieces and in stories on key topics, including major convictions made possible by our work, the public conversation around slavery in supply chains and our partnership working on police operations.

Key outlets included:

Television

BBC 2
BBC Look North
BBC South East Today
ITV Calendar
Granada Reports
BBC Kent
BBC WM
BBC Midlands Today

Online

BBC News Online
Hello! Magazine Blog
Huffington Post Online
Buzzfeed News
Policing Today

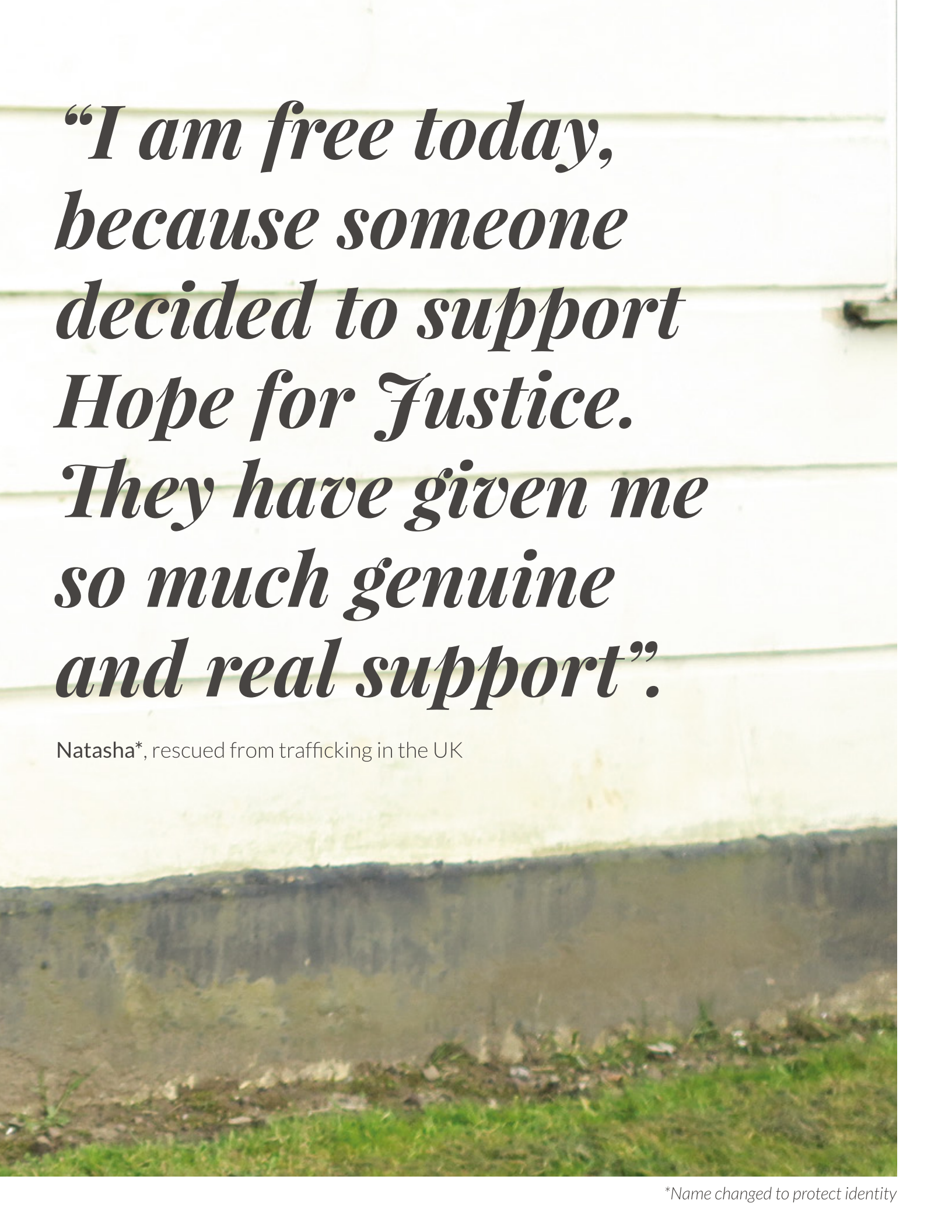
Radio

BBC Radio 5 Live Breakfast
BBC Radio 2 Breakfast
BBC Radio 4 You and Yours
BBC Radio London
BBC Radio Sussex
BBC Radio Lincolnshire
BBC Radio Leeds
KMFM Kent
Heart (Midlands)

Newspaper / Magazine

The Daily Mail
Financial Times
Coventry Telegraph
Yorkshire Post
The Independent
Walsall Advertiser





*“I am free today,
because someone
decided to support
Hope for Justice.
They have given me
so much genuine
and real support”.*

Natasha*, rescued from trafficking in the UK

*Name changed to protect identity



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