

Email from Women's Aid

Stephen

Answer from Noelle Collins, Belfast & Lisburn Women's Aid

The majority of the women we are coming into contact with are telling us they flew into Dublin and were then transported to Belfast, we are also hearing this from Home Office referral. The PSNI will then interview the women, I have no idea what the outcome of that would be although I am aware there is quite a bit of cross border work between the two forces.

Most of the women who are Home Office referrals have been victims of HT in their countries of origin and that obviously would be very difficult for the PSNI to investigate. I believe these women are more refugee asylum seekers but when they do their screening interview and tell their story the Home Office pick up the trafficking aspect and refer them into the NRM.

We had some other women who had been moved from brothel to brothel across the border, again I believe there is co-operation between the police jurisdictions. I would hear more from the South that women would be trafficked up North to brothels on the border towns.

I was told by the Commissioner that there were exemptions on the BREXIT agreement and one of them was continued co-operation between us and Europe on HT.

Hope that helps.

Sonya

Sonya McMullan

Regional Services Manager