**APPG on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery**

**16th June 2020**

**Meeting with National Police Lead for Modern Slavery**

The APPG met with National Police Lead for Modern Slavery Shaun Sawyer. The meeting met under Chatham House rules and included a number of officers and the co-chairs.

The Chief Constable gave an overview of the current situation and answered questions. The Chief Constable referred to the 10,600 NRM referrals for 2019 but reminded members that for the 30% that were crimes that occurred abroad, the police wouldn’t investigate. The Chief Constable then commented on the NRM and the effects of delays in decision-making. There was a discussion on the delay in multi-agency child safeguarding. The Chief Constable confirmed that police officers do not receive specific training on how to complete an NRM referral form. The APPG officers raised the question of Trafficking Risk and Prevention Orders and why they don’t seem to have taken off.

As a result of a discussion, the co-chairs agreed they’d take up both with the law officers and the Lord Chancellor the need to help the judiciary understand the gravity of modern-day slavery and that this should be better reflected in their sentencing policy. It was pointed out that as things stand, those convicted of other criminal offences get longer sentences than those convicted under Modern Slavery Act legislation.