



KARMA NIRVANA

Supporting victims of honour-based abuse
and forced marriage

Helpline Statistics

Q2 —Report
2019



**Total
Contacts**
2,270

**Total New
Cases**
571

**Existing
Cases**
66

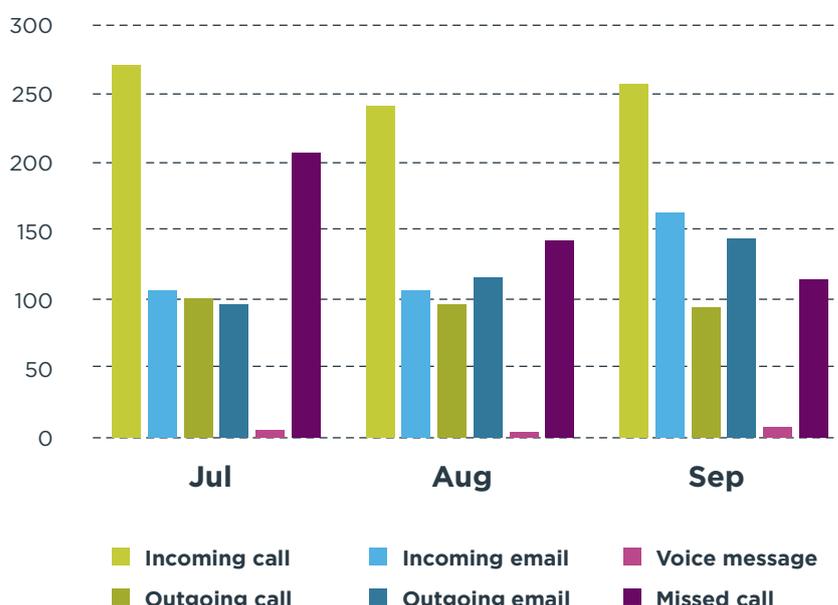
 **Helpline Activity by Contact Type**

During quarter 2, 2019-20 Karma Nirvana helpline experienced an overall **increase in activity of 28%** when compared with quarter 1. The helpline handled **1,794 contacts**, from e-mails, calls and voice messages. **There were 475 missed calls.**

Quarter 2 also experienced an **increase of new cases to the helpline of 12%**. **517 victims** were made known to the helpline for the first time. 148 of those new cases were single victims who made contact with the helpline themselves for the first time.

There were **291 professionals** across the UK who contacted the helpline for guidance and support for victims they had identified and were working with. The police had identified 26 new cases of HBA & FM, the highest type of professional making contact during quarter 2.

Leeds remains the highest contact area across the UK, with a total of 190 contacts during quarter 2. Staying in West Yorkshire, both **Halifax** and **Wakefield** areas generated 132 and 111 calls respectively.



Police forces in **Yorkshire** contacted the helpline for 9 victims who weren't previously known to the helpline (West Yorkshire - 5, & South Yorkshire -4).

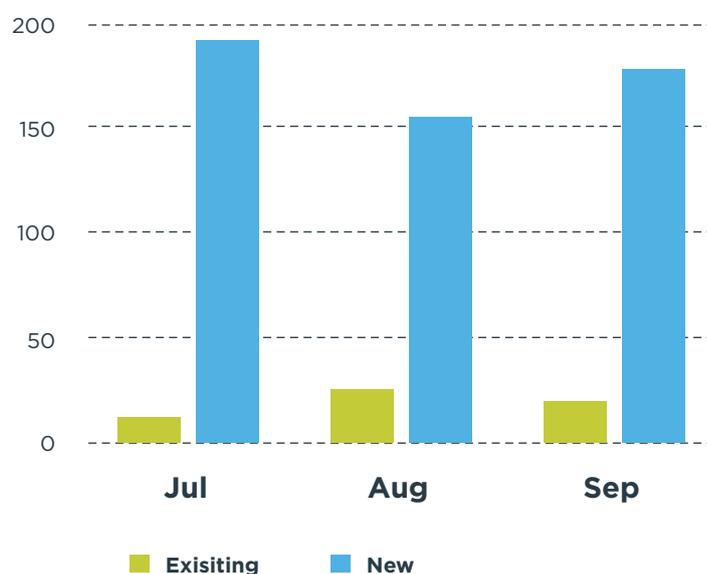
Other police forces making contact to during quarter 2 were, **Nottinghamshire**, Bedfordshire, **Thames Valley**, Northamptonshire, **Derbyshire**, London Met, Hertfordshire and West Mercia.

Disclaimer: This data excludes any general correspondence with the helpline. This represents a summary of the calls received to the UK's only Honour Based Abuse Helpline between 1st July and 30th September 2019. It is not intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of Honour Based Abuse in the UK.

Helpline Activity by Case Type

Quarter 2 experienced a **drop of new cases to the helpline of 5%**. 517 victims were made known to the helpline for the first time. **243** of those **new cases** were **single victims** who made contact with the helpline themselves for the first time.

There were **291 professionals** across the UK who contacted the helpline for guidance and support for victims they were working with. The Police had identified **26 new cases** of HBA & FM, the highest type of professional making contact during quarter.



A 19 year old British Pakistani girl living with her family who were perpetrating Honour Based Abuse and there was risk of Forced Marriage. The helpline supported professionals to find safe accommodation over a 2 day period.

Male Victims

Of the **583 cases** that had contact with the helpline during quarter 2, **48 were male victims** (8% of all cases). 9 male victims were over 31 years of age, 7 were aged between 26-30 and 6 were 18-25 years of age.

9 male victims were living in West Yorkshire, 6 male victims were from London, 3 were in South Yorkshire and 10 did not disclose their locations. The remaining locations included West Midlands, Scotland and East Midlands.

The oldest male victim (**45**) contacted the helpline after he had been **forced to marry when he was 15 years old**. He had made it clear to his family that he hadn't wanted to marry his wife, however at that time they were forced to stay together.

He contacted the helpline to talk about his wishes to **divorce his wife**, as they no longer live together. He was worried about being **disowned** by the rest of the family and subsequently losing contact with his children.

Child Marriage

During Q2 we have supported **48 children** at risk of HBA. Half of the children we supported were also at **risk of a forced marriage** in the UK, abroad or in some cases both. All the child forced marriage cases that contacted the helpline said that the perpetrators were either one or both parents.

One girl, **12 years of age** had run away from home. Her intention was to get pregnant so that no one would want to marry her. Her parents had **threatened to take her to Bangladesh and force her to marry**. Children's social care had been informed and contacted us for guidance on safeguarding the victim.

There were **3 boys identified as at risk of forced marriage**. The youngest was 15 and both other boys were 17 years of age.

One of the cases relating to the 17 year old boy was flagged to Karma Nirvana's helpline by his ex-girlfriend's mother. She'd heard of KN by word of mouth and was concerned **her daughter's ex-boyfriend was going to be forced to marry**, after his family had found out about his relationship with her daughter.

He was in house arrest and his father had threatened him with a forced **marriage abroad**. There was some concern about his father being a local GP and the implications and attached risk that could escalate if a disclosure was made.

The helpline also supported **3 cases of historical child marriage**. Two cases were women, over 26 years who had been forced to marry at the age of 17.

One case concerned a **male Somali** victim who had been **forced to marry at 17** in Somalia by his parents. He had since divorced his first wife and was living in the UK. His new girlfriend made contact with the helpline as his father had found out about their relationship and **did not approve**. The father was perpetrating HBA which was having a huge negative impact on her partner's mental health.

LGBTQ*

The helpline supported **13 cases** where victims identifying as **LGBTQI+** had triggered HBA. 5 LGBTQI+ victims were also at risk of **Forced Marriage perpetrated by their parents and extended family**. We know that 4 of the victims were 22 years old or younger, the **youngest being 15**.

We supported a 22 year old Romanian woman who had been forced to marry at 17 by her father. She had suffered **HBA** from a young age from her grandmother as she knew she was gay. The helpline supported her and the police to **access safe accommodation** due to the HBA she was suffering from her ex-husband.

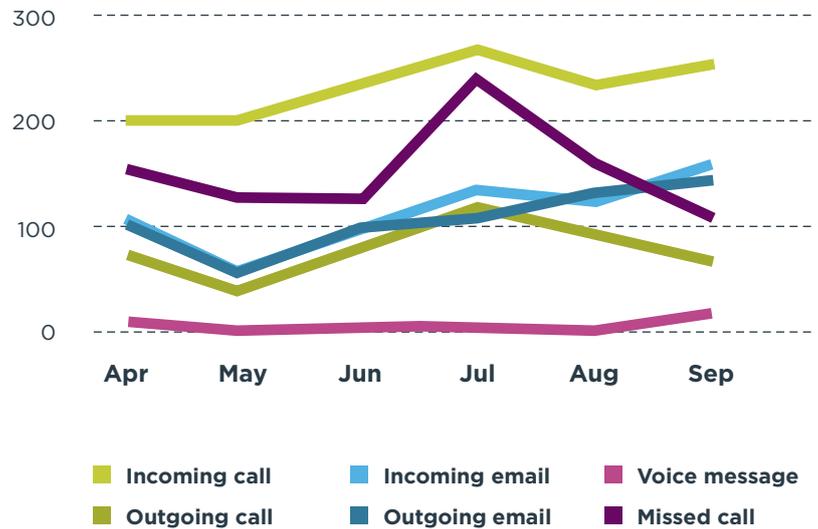
Summary

The overall **28% increase in contacts** during quarter 2 compared with quarter 1, evidences a positive trend in the number people accessing the service.

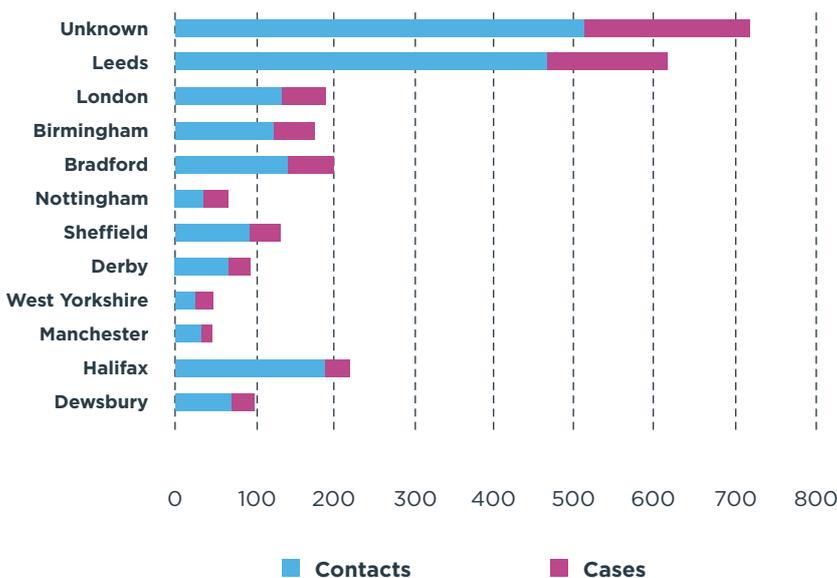
Events such as Day of Memory, BSBT roadshows and training days held across the UK, have helped raise the profile of the Karma Nirvana helpline.

Karma Nirvana give huge credit to our Survivor Ambassadors. Sharing their real life accounts of HBA and FM, raises awareness and increases confidence for victims and professionals who are in need of guidance and support.

Contact Trends Year to Date



Year to Date Contacts by Type



Leeds is consistently the area which generates the most cases and contacts to date.

Since April 2019 services in Leeds have attended a total of 7 KN events, from workshops, staff training, DOM and conferences which has had a positive impact on the helpline with 105 victims accessing support.

With events planned across the UK for quarter 3, contacts from each area will be continue to be tracked to measure effectiveness of each event on helpline activity.

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Moving Forward

- To continue to promote the delivery of KN events and training to increase helpline activity, via the helpline team.
- To monitor contacts from locations by event type; Bradford, Newcastle, Birmingham and London.
- To provide guidance to the helpline team on gathering information from callers to reduce the amount of unknown and blank data sets.

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