



2022/23

Helpline Statistics

Q4 Report



2,699

Total Contacts

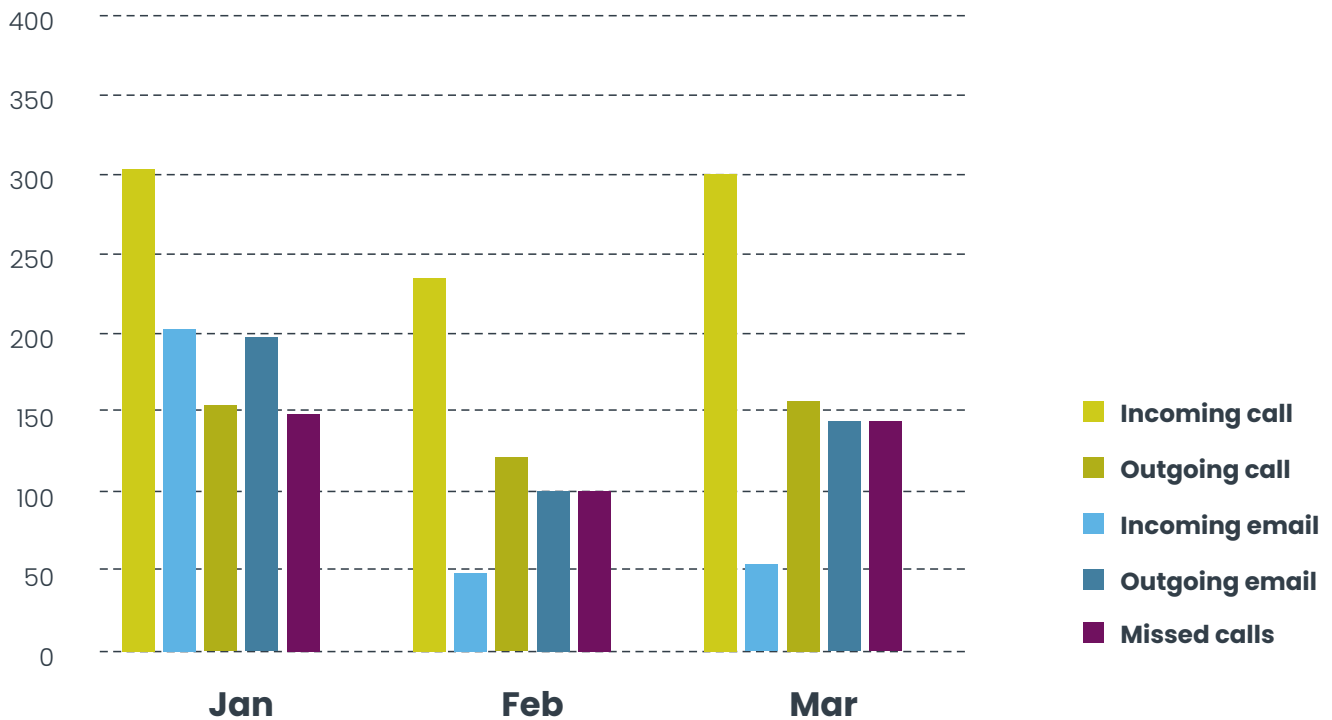


714

Total New Cases

The information provided in this report is based on the information callers chose to share with the helpline and does not reflect the true prevalence of HBA in the UK.

Monthly Contacts



During Q4, the helpline handled a total of 2,699 contacts, indicating a 28% growth compared to the previous quarter. Among the months, January witnessed the highest level of activity with a total of 1,006 contacts. On average, each contact lasted approximately 10 minutes.

When considering the previous 12 months, March stood out as the busiest period for incoming calls, receiving a total of 361, including voice messages. In January, the helpline sent the highest number of emails, amounting to 154, within the span of a year.

Furthermore, the helpline provided support to 714 victims, which reflected a 15% increase when compared to the previous quarter.

28% increased compared to last quarter

361 incoming calls in March making it the busiest month

154 emails sent just in January alone

15% increase for support provided compared to previous quarter

Referral Source

- Children's Services
- Third Sector
- Police
- Health Services
- Mental Health Services
- Universities



In Q4, the helpline supported 594 people who were new callers, indicating a 21% rise in comparison to the previous quarter. Among these new cases, a significant portion consisted of victims who reached out to the helpline directly for the first time, amounting to 263 cases.

In terms of referrals, children's social care, third sector organisations, and the police accounted for the highest number of new contacts to the helpline among all professional groups.

594 callers were supported

21% increased callers in comparison to previous quarter

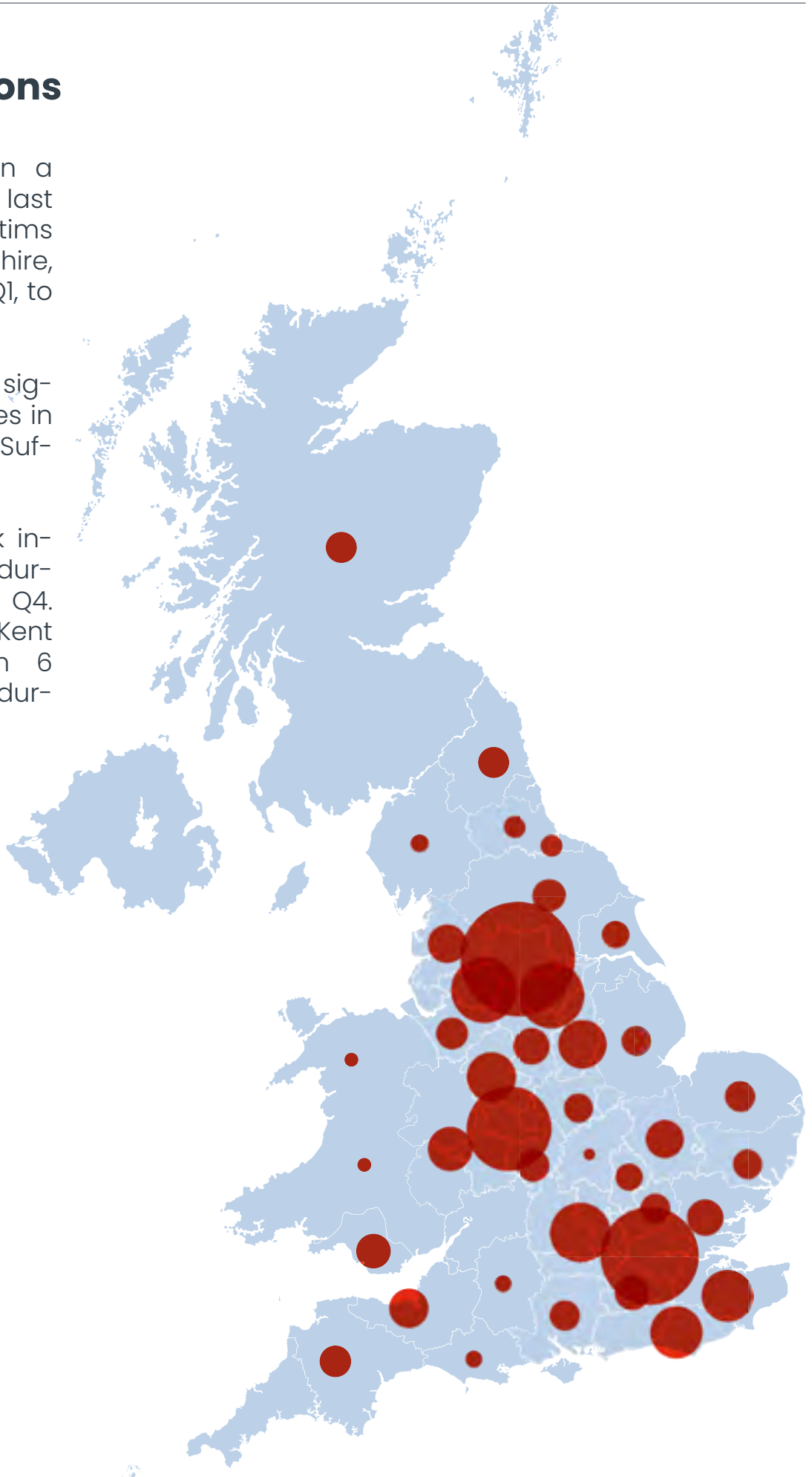
263 total contacts reached out helpline directly

Top Locations

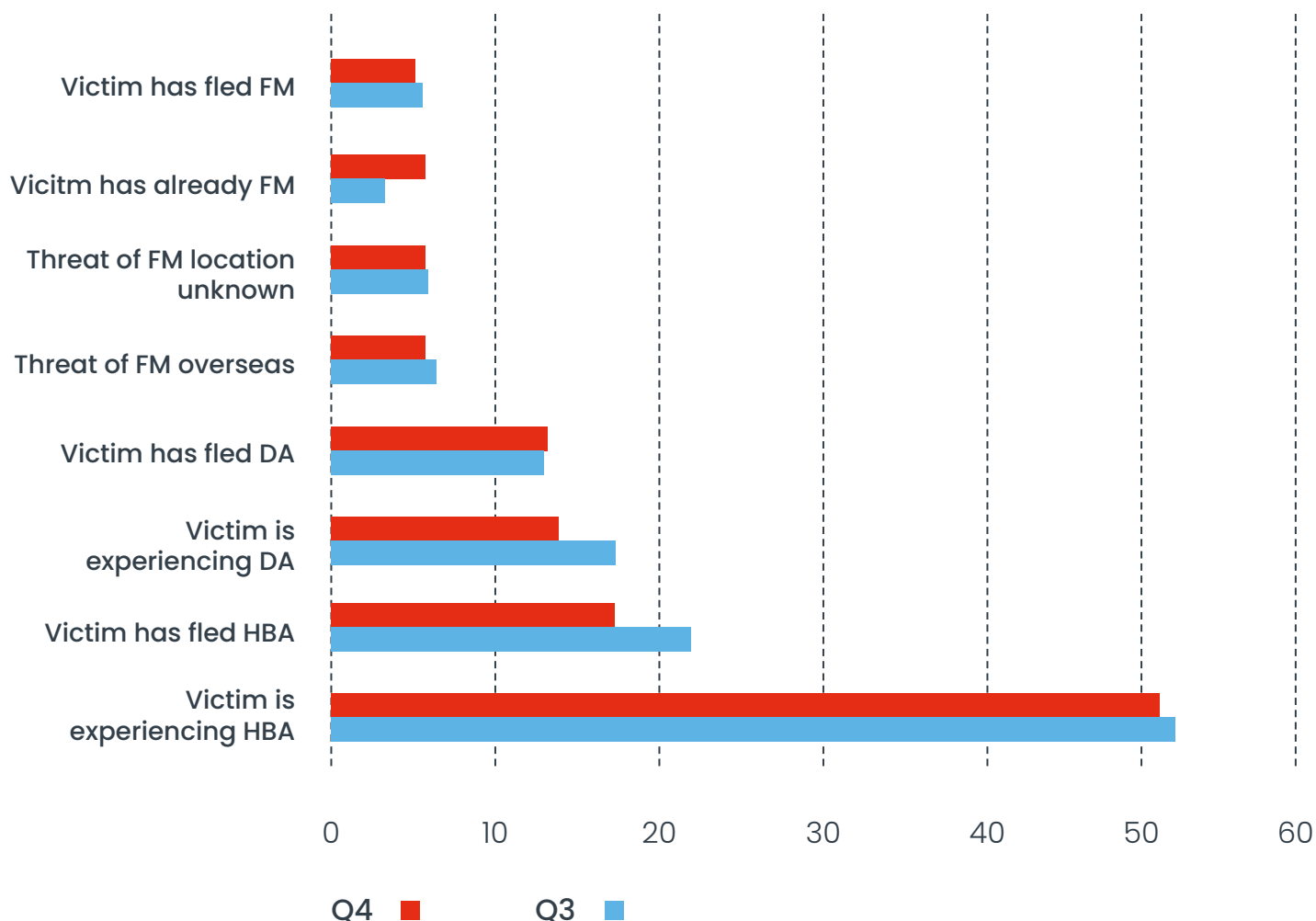
There has been a 67% fall over the last 12 months in victims living in Cheshire, from 12 during Q1, to 4 during Q4.

There has been significant increases in victims living in Suffolk and Kent.

Cases in Suffolk increased from 1 during Q1, to 6 in Q4. Victims living in Kent increased from 6 during Q1, to 15 during Q4.



What prompted contact?



There were no significant changes in what prompted callers to contact the helpline.

However, there was an increase in the number of callers who disclosed that they had already fled forced marriage, from 18 during Q3, to 41 during Q4.

Child Marriage

After the criminalisation of child marriage on February 28, 2023, we have observed a notable upsurge in cases involving the detection of potential child marriages. Most

of the victims affected were girls between the ages of 12 and 17.

In these cases, each child received support from either social care or the police. Various factors served as triggers for these situations, such as being involved in a relationship disapproved of by their parents, refusing to consent to a marriage, identifying as LGBTQ, or departing from their religious beliefs. It is known that some of these girls were at risk of being taken abroad for the purpose of marriage.

Barriers to Reporting Abuse

Out of the 243 victims who shared their experiences, they revealed the reasons behind their reluctance to report the abuse they were experiencing. The primary barrier, as identified by 65% of victims, was the "fear of repercussions from the perpetrators." Additionally, 38% stated that their lack of knowledge about their rights stopped them from reporting the abuse, while 22% expressed concerns about their "immigration status" being jeopardised.

Barriers to Disclosing *Reporting Abuse*

