

## **Immigration Enforcement (IE) Investigations**

IE Criminal and Financial Investigation (IE CFI) is part of the central Home Office and is the lead agency with responsibility for tackling immigration related organised crime including human trafficking, modern slavery and travel document abuse. It operates from 21 locations across the UK and has over 450 PIP trained investigators who work alongside police and NCA colleagues to investigate and disrupt immigration crime gangs.

CFI's officers in England and Wales use a subset of PACE powers under the PACE – Application to Immigration and Customs Officers Order 2013. This Order provides CFI investigators with powers of arrest, search and seizure but does not extend to core police powers in relation to custody, bail and charging. This means that CFI remains dependent on police to process prisoners in custody suites and to grant and review bail or issue postal requisitions on their behalf.

In practice CFI's officers take charge of the investigative process from arrest to CPS referral and the preparation of court files and will provide full supporting background and briefing for custody officers and Superintendent's asked to assist with the bailing and charging of suspects.

Although CFI deal with circa 500 investigations at any one time, the number of cases referred to individual forces for assistance with bail and/ or postal requisitions is likely to be relatively low and should not create an undue burden.

