

Syrians and Iranian among seven men charged over Bristol 'child sexual exploitation'

From [Somerset and Avon Police](#). Additional information from [ITVX](#) and the [Telegraph](#)

Seven men have been charged after authorisation by the Crown Prosecution Service as part of an investigation into group-based child sexual exploitation in Bristol.

The men have been charged with more than 40 offences, which date from between 2022 and 2025.

They were re-arrested on Tuesday (11 November) in a targeted police operation in Bristol and will appear at Bristol Magistrates' Court this morning (Wednesday 12 November).



It follows an investigation which began in November 2023 after concerns were raised about the sexual exploitation of a teenage girl.

In April 2024, initial arrests were made as part of a day of action in the city. Those arrested were released on bail to

allow enquiries to take place, with a dedicated team working to identify and investigate offences.

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has now authorised the following charges against seven men. The charges relate to 11 victims in total, who were aged in their mid to late teens at the time of the alleged offences:

- Mohamed Arafe, 19, of Speedwell in Bristol. He is Syrian and his self-defined ethnicity is Arab. He has been charged with five counts of arranging or facilitating the sexual exploitation of a child, one count of causing or inciting the sexual exploitation of a child, one count of sexual assault, one count of being concerned in the supply of cocaine and a further count of being concerned in the supply of ecstasy.
- Sina Omari, 20, of Fishponds in Bristol. He is Iranian and his self-defined ethnicity is Arab. He has been charged with two counts of rape, four counts of arranging or facilitating the sexual exploitation of a child, one count of causing or inciting the sexual exploitation of a child, two counts of making an indecent photograph of a child, one count of being concerned in the supply of cocaine and a further count of being concerned in the supply of ecstasy.
- Wadie Sharaf, 21, of Redland in Bristol. He is Syrian and his self-defined ethnicity is Arab. He has been charged with one count of rape, one count of attempted rape, three counts of sexual assault, and a further count of sexual activity with a child.
- Hussain Bashar, 19, of Southmead in Bristol. He is British and his self-defined ethnicity is 'Any other'. He has been charged with one count of rape.
- Mohammed Kurdi, 21, of Henbury in Bristol. He is British and his self-defined ethnicity is Arab. He has been

charged with two counts of rape, two counts of arranging or facilitating the sexual exploitation of a child, one count of supplying a class A drug (ecstasy) and a further count of supplying a class B drug (cannabis).

- A 19-year-old man, who we're unable to name for legal reasons, has been charged with four counts of rape, one count of arranging or facilitating the sexual exploitation of a child, one count of distributing an indecent photograph of a child, one count of being concerned in the supply of cocaine and a further count of being concerned in the supply of ecstasy.
- A 26-year-old man, who we're unable to name for legal reasons, has been charged with two counts of rape and one count of sexual assault.

Bristol Supt Deepak Kenth said: ““Neighbourhood officers have been supporting the investigation since these offences were first identified. We know this update will be a huge shock to our communities and I want to reassure everyone that we'll continue to work tirelessly to protect children from abuse and exploitation. Working with our partner agencies, we've held events in Bristol city centre and continue to work with hotels, taxi drivers, and other businesses, to raise awareness about the signs of exploitation and the need to report any concerns or issues to the police. We'll be carrying out reassurance patrols in the city and urge anyone with worries or concerns to speak to one of our officers.”

Not Pakistanis, but from the names one can deduce that they are also Muslim.