Update: Ninth man arrested following dawn raids in Oxford over rape and sexual grooming

From the <u>Dudley News</u>

Police have arrested a ninth man on suspicion of rape and sexual grooming following raids in Oxford this morning. More than 100 officers carried out the dawn raids at eight properties across the city.

The force had arrested eight people as a result, and this afternoon confirmed a ninth man, 34 and of no fixed abode, had been arrested. The others were two 36-year-olds, a 29-year-old, a 31-year-old, a 44-year-old, a 45-year-old, a 33-year-old, and a 37-year-old.

Thames Valley Police said the offences related to female victims in Oxford between 1999 and 2007 and involved indecent assault, engaging in sexual activity with a child, sexual grooming, and rape. It added it was investigating about 60 offences in connection with this operation, code-named Sabaton.

Police said five of the suspects were Pakistani and one was Bangladeshi. Another two were also Asian and one did not declare his ethnicity to officers. Neighbourhood patrol teams have been deployed in the area to answer questions among local residents...