|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| HMRC_327_AW |  |  |
|  |  |  |

 ***News Release***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | For the attention of **News Desks**  | No. of pages: 2 |  |
|  | Date: | 6 November 2017 | Ref: | LON 18/17 |  |

**Six arrested in £17m money laundering raids**

Five men and one woman have been arrested as part of an ongoing investigation by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) into a suspected £17 million money laundering operation.

80 officers from HMRC carried out simultaneous raids at residential addresses in London, Coventry and Luton, and at two business premises in London, on Thursday 2 November 2017.

Chris Gill, Assistant Director, Fraud Investigation Service, HMRC, MRC,said:

“Tackling money laundering is a priority for HMRC and we will not hesitate to investigate those suspected of being involved. We ask anyone with information about this kind of activity to contact our HMRC Fraud Hotline on 0800 788 887.”

Four men and one woman, who were arrested and interviewed by HMRC, have been released on bail and a man has been released under investigation. Enquiries into the suspected fraud are ongoing.

**Notes for editors**

1. Details of the arrests:
* Two men, aged 32 and 34, from Ilford, east London
* A man, aged 30, from Wembley, north-west London
* A man, aged 36, from Coventry, West Midlands
* A woman, aged 30, from Luton, Bedfordshire
* A man, aged 43, from Greenford, Greater London
1. The business premises were in Edmonton, north London and Ilford, east London.
2. Follow HMRC’s Press Office on Twitter [@HMRCpressoffice](http://www.twitter.com/HMRCpressoffice)
3. Anyone with information about people or businesses involved in tax fraud can contact HMRC on our Fraud Hotline on 0800 788 887 or at [www.hmrc.gov.uk/reportingfraud/online.htm](http://hmrc.gov.uk/reportingfraud/online.htm) .

**Issued by HM Revenue & Customs Press Office**

**Press enquiries only please contact:**

Roger Kasper

Tel: 03000 525110 / 07388 955843

Email: roger.kasper@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Or

Helen Danson

Tel: 03000 541066 / 07730 812571

Email: helen.danson@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Out of hours

Tel: 07860 359544

**Website** [www.gov.uk/hmrc](http://www.gov.uk/hmrc)