

Manned Security - UK - December 2018

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“The manned security market maintained value growth in 2018, rising despite some difficult trading conditions, central to which remain Brexit-tied uncertainty, the decline in cash use and falling prisoner numbers. Looking forward, this growth is set to be further tested, though the market is still forecast to maintain growth in the next five years.”

– Marco Amasanti, B2B Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- Uncertain future for outsourcing and custodial services
- Brexit and the manned security industry

The value of the manned security market grew for a second consecutive year in 2018. All three sectors (manned guarding, cash-in transit and custodial services) sustained growth, though custodial services recorded the biggest jump, despite further scrutiny in the past year.

This continued growth reinforced the market’s resilience, not just in the face of external difficulties caused by Brexit headwinds, but also internal constraints such as the continued decline in cash use.

Growth in 2018 was ultimately underpinned by a buoyant manned guarding sector, driven by the surge in wholesale and retail crime, continued outsourcing across custodial services and ongoing stubborn GDP growth.

Looking forward, the manned security market is set to face some difficult trading conditions, particularly the continued uncertainty around the UK’s exit from the EU. Meanwhile, mounting scrutiny around outsourcing in the British justice sector and rising technology use across security operations will continue to limit demand for manned guarding, though these factors are unlikely to substantially suppress demand over the coming five years.

Despite this, the market is forecast to maintain growth over the next five years. MBD expects the UK government to continue outsourcing to the custodial services sector, while growth is also forecast to be driven by stable growth in manned guarding.

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market

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Association of Security Consultants

British Security Industry Association

Skills for Security

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