

West Dunbartonshire Child Protection Committee



INTER-AGENCY GUIDANCE FOR CHILD TRAFFICKING

**(National Referral Mechanism form
and risk assessment framework)**

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1. Introduction

Child trafficking is a global business that targets and victimises the most vulnerable children for transportation, abuse and exploitation across the world. It is a largely hidden problem and is often described as a form of modern-day slavery. The children involved are in no way responsible for their predicament, having been coerced, bribed or forced into, and unable to escape from, the control of traffickers.

The effect of trafficking on children is wide-reaching; many will experience significant harm as a result of their situation, and outcomes for them may be extremely poor as a result of lack of proper care or access to universal services such as health and education as traffickers seek to avoid contact with the authorities.

At the end of 2008 the UK government ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human beings, following the publication of the UK Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking in 2007. The Council of Europe Convention came into effect in the UK on 1st April 2009 and has important implications for the identification and recording of suspected trafficking victims.

Because tackling trafficking requires a multi-agency response at all levels, West Dunbartonshire Child Protection Committee has prepared this protocol in order to provide information and guidance to all members of the children's workforce in West Dunbartonshire so that professionals and others are able to identify trafficked children and make appropriate referrals so that victims can receive protection and support. This guidance should be read in conjunction with the Scottish Government publication *Safeguarding Children in Scotland Who May Have Been Trafficked*.¹

2. Scope and Purpose of Guidance

Working with children and young people who are or have been involved in child trafficking is a complex area and at the moment there is very little theoretical understanding of the phenomenon or evidence regarding its prevalence.

The purpose of this guidance is to present a strategic inter agency framework to respond to the need to protect children and young people who are at risk of child trafficking in the context of current available evidence and the policy initiatives.

This West Dunbartonshire protocol is designed as practice guidance to be read in conjunction with the Scottish Government document and other relevant national and international papers. ***West Dunbartonshire's multi-agency & single agency Child Protection procedures remain the primary guidance documents for child protection investigations and the identification, or not, of child trafficking victims should not preclude or override any child protection investigations.***

¹ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/02/18092546/0>

The aim of this guidance is to -

- Raise awareness of child trafficking within agencies
- Support the investigation and prosecution of those who coerce, exploit and abuse children
- Raise awareness of indicators of child trafficking
- Facilitate a consistent response and approach to children and young people involved in trafficking.
- Support and encourage staff from all agencies in West Dunbartonshire to work collaboratively in developing and delivering appropriate and effective services to individual children and young people with experience of child trafficking.

3. Definitions

An international definition for trafficking contained in article 3 of the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000)² has now been widely accepted across the world as the basis for identifying and working with the victims of trafficking.

- (a) *“Trafficking of persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.*
- (b) *The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in sub-paragraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in sub-paragraph (a) have been used.*
- (c) *The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article*
- (d) *“Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age*

Article 6(4) focuses on the support provided to victims of trafficking stating that:

Each state party shall take into account, in applying the provisions of this article, the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons, in particular the special needs of children, including appropriate housing, education and care.

² <http://untreaty.un.org/English/TreatyEvent2003/Texts/treaty2E.pdf>

The Palermo Protocol establishes children as a special case and any child found to have been transported for exploitation is considered to be a victim of trafficking, whether or not they have been deceived, because it is not considered possible for children to give informed consent. The distinction between trafficking and smuggling is also considered an important one in determining if a child has been trafficked, as smuggling is taken to mean that a person has paid to help them to enter the country illegally, after which there is no longer a relationship. However, there are concerns that in respect of the abuse of children and at the front line of child care and protection work the distinction between trafficking and smuggling is often blurred – Glasgow research has highlighted that some children have been abused on their journeys to Glasgow after paying smugglers to get them to the UK.³

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights also recognises that trafficked children have specific needs as a consequence of age:

*Children who are victims of trafficking shall be identified as such. Their best interests shall be considered paramount at all time. Child victims of trafficking shall be provided with appropriate assistance and protection. Full account shall be taken of their special vulnerabilities and needs (UNHCHR 2002, principle 10)*⁴

4. Legal Framework

The UK is a signatory to the UN *Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime*, including the *Palermo Protocol* that deals specifically with the trafficking of children, and the *European Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings*. These international agreements provide the framework for inter-government action to tackle trafficking and are the basis of the UK's national policy.

The European convention contains specific provisions for children, and *Human Trafficking; The Governments Strategy (2011)*⁵ has a chapter on proposals to tackle the exploitation of children. For the purposes of provisions to meet the needs of trafficking victims a child is defined as any person under the age of 18 years.

The UK Action Plan sets out the main national strategy that aims to:

- reduce the number of people trafficked into the UK
- increase the effectiveness of investigations and prosecutions of trafficking cases in order to disrupt trafficking business
- enhance the protection and support of trafficking victims.

Delivery of the strategy is a multi-agency concern between central and local government, law enforcement agencies and voluntary and community groups, with Child Protection Committees in Scotland holding main responsibility for co-

³ Rigby P (2009) *Child trafficking in Glasgow* – Glasgow Child Protection Committee

http://www.glasgowchildprotection.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/F4470FF7-1586-4ADB-8217-03A0E45EA07A/0/GCPC_child_traffic_2009.pdf

⁴ UNHCHR (2002) *Recommended Principles and guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking*

[http://www.unhchr.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf/e06a5300f90fa0238025668700518ca4/caf3deb2b05d4f35c1256bf30051a003/\\$FILE/N0240168.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf/e06a5300f90fa0238025668700518ca4/caf3deb2b05d4f35c1256bf30051a003/$FILE/N0240168.pdf)

⁵ http://www.coe.int/t/dg2/trafficking/campaign/Docs/Convntn/default_en.asp

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/crime/human-trafficking-strategy?view=Binary>

ordinating services and responses in terms of child trafficking victims at a local level.

UK Legislation and policy makes it clear that trafficking is both a crime and a violation of human rights, and the strategy focuses both on the disruption and the reduction of trafficking and providing support for adult and child victims. The focus for national and international developments is prevention, protection, prosecution and recovery. The UK strategy proposes a comprehensive approach to tackling trafficking:

- commitment to improving victim care arrangements
- focuses on disruption trafficking networks before they reach the UK
- establishes a basis for smarter multi-agency action at the border
- aims to improve coordination of our law enforcement efforts in the UK
- seeks to strengthen intelligence-gathering and intelligence-sharing through the new National Crime Agency
- places emphasis on raising awareness of child trafficking and ensuring child victims are safeguarded and protected from re-trafficking

Delivery of the strategy is a multi-agency concern between central and local government, law enforcement agencies and voluntary and community groups. Child Protection Committees in Scotland are responsible for co-ordinating services and responses in terms of child trafficking victims at a local level.

The UK strategy recognises that children who have been trafficked are particularly vulnerable and will have very specific needs, and that their care, protection and support will be crucial in enabling them to recover from their experiences and return to a normal life. All trafficked children are entitled to the same level of care and protection and to have their welfare safeguarded and promoted as those normally resident in the UK, regardless of their immigration status.

5. Research Context – a brief overview

The illegal trading of people is a global problem, thought to be the third largest illegal trade after drugs and weapons trafficking. Globalisation has contributed to the growth of trafficking, and due to the fact humans can be re-sold it is comparatively low risk with high rewards, making it a profitable activity for traffickers.^{6 7}

The US Dept of State estimates that 800,000 people are trafficked across national borders annually, nearly 50% of these being children. This figure is considered to be a minimum, with some estimates ranging up to two million people.⁸ There are no clear estimates about the numbers of children trafficked around the world, the ILO estimate 1.2 million children are trafficked annually and UNICEF describe the numbers as enormous.^{9 10} While in Western Europe women are the most numerous victims, globally children constitute the largest numbers.¹¹

⁶ AFRUCA (2007) *What is Child Trafficking? Safeguarding African Children in the UK Series 2* London, Africans Unite Against Child Abuse www.afruca.org/documents/child-trafficking-info.pdf

⁷ Omelaniuk I (2005) *Trafficking in Human Beings* UN expert group meeting on international migration and development http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/ittmigdev2005/P15_IOMelaniuk.pdf

⁸ Bump M, Duncan J, Gozdzia E, Macdonnell M (2005) 'Second conference on identifying and helping child victims of trafficking' *International Migration* 43(1/2) 343-363

⁹ ILO (2002) *Every Child Counts: New Global Estimates on Child Labour* ILO/IPEC Geneva

Throughout the world children are trafficked for numerous purposes within and between countries and continents. While exploitation varies between different parts of the world children trafficked for one type of labour are often sold into another making simple categorisation problematic.¹²

Children are often exploited in relation to:

- child labour e.g. cannabis farms
- debt bondage
- domestic servitude
- begging
- benefit fraud
- drug trafficking / decoys
- illegal adoptions
- forced / illegal marriage
- sexual abuse
- sexual exploitation

Worldwide there are also documented cases of exploitation in relation to organ donations, use in sport and military conscription.

5.1 Child trafficking in the UK

The United Kingdom is considered a high risk destination country for victims of human trafficking and a number of case studies and data collection exercises have documented the existence of potential child trafficking cases into and out of the country.¹¹ These studies cannot provide confirmed numbers of trafficked or at risk children, but they do begin to quantify the problem. CEOP studies in 2007 and 2009, have identified over 600 children as fitting the trafficking profile in the UK. By the end of 2010, 305 children have been referred to the UK Human Trafficking Centre as suspected victims of trafficking (www.soca.org.uk).

The limited research that has been commissioned in the UK has reached some consensus that trafficking is a growing phenomena, requiring a co-ordinated response, involving research, intelligence, awareness raising and training on a multi-agency level. There is insufficient robust information about the prevalence of child trafficking in the UK and it is clear that knowledge and understanding remains at an early stage, especially in Scotland.

5.2 Child trafficking in Scotland

The extent and nature of child trafficking in Scotland is largely unknown, although a recent report by the Children's Commissioner attempted to quantify the issue

<http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/viewProduct.do?productId=742>

¹⁰ UNICEF (2005) Combating Child Trafficking: Handbook for Parliamentarians No 9

[http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/IPU_combattingchildtrafficking_GB\(1\).pdf](http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/IPU_combattingchildtrafficking_GB(1).pdf)

¹¹ UNODC (2006) *Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns* United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, accessed 26/6/08

www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/HT/globalpatterns/en.pdf

¹²¹² Rafferty Y (2008) 'The impact of trafficking on children: psychological and social policy perspectives' *Child Development Perspectives* 2(1), 13-

across the country, identifying at least 83 potential victims. Research commissioned by the Child Protection Committee in Glasgow investigated the prevalence of child trafficking amongst the unaccompanied asylum seeking children population. This identified that nearly a quarter of UASC children in the city had probably been trafficked. Follow on work interviewing front line practitioners experienced in work with separated and trafficked children indicated that the cases identified are likely to be only the tip of an iceberg. By mid 2011, 30 children from Glasgow had been referred to the National Referral Mechanism following suspicions about trafficking.

As the Children's Commissioner Report identified, Glasgow is not the only place in Scotland likely to be experiencing issues regarding children who have been trafficked. However, it is in a unique position being the largest metropolitan area in Scotland and the only Scottish asylum dispersal centre, with networks of services already established for asylum seekers. Despite the research focus on separated children, trafficking is not restricted to immigration and asylum cases and it has been identified amongst UK nationals in addition to non-UK nationals

5.3 Child trafficking in West Dunbartonshire

The nature and prevalence of child trafficking in West Dunbartonshire is not known. However, due to our proximity to Glasgow, and the results of the research carried out by Glasgow Child Protection Committee, it is likely that there are children who have probably been trafficked living within West Dunbartonshire.

6. Recognising and identifying trafficked children

The Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings ensures that each signatory country has mechanisms in place – The National Referral Mechanism, NRM– for identifying and recording cases of child trafficking. This formal procedure for assessing and recording all trafficking cases, including children, became operational on 1 April 2009. From this date new arrangements came into force to allow all cases of human trafficking to be referred by frontline agencies for assessment by designated Competent Authorities. In the UK the competent authorities will be a central UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) and a linked authority within UKBA for cases of immigration and asylum.

Glasgow was a pilot area for the assessment framework that accompanies the National Referral Mechanism report to the competent authority. West Dunbartonshire Child Protection Committee has agreed to adopt the same framework for the duration of the Glasgow pilot with a view to reviewing the protocol and associated framework at the end of this period. The assessment framework should be completed for all suspected child trafficking victims in conjunction with the police and UKBA where asylum / immigration issues are also apparent.

Social workers are responsible for co-ordinating the completion of the NRM report and the assessment framework, and they must liaise with the *Manager – Field Work Services*, to undertake this.¹³

Where a child/ young person is accommodated in a West Dunbartonshire Residential Children's unit their key worker will be responsible for the completion of the assessment framework.

7. Referring children

Whenever an agency or professional have concerns that a child they are in contact with is, or may have been, trafficked they should initially consult the indicator matrix and contact the Manager – Field Work Services. Where their initial assessment indicates there are grounds to believe the child may have been trafficked, the actions noted below should be followed.

Agencies and individuals should bear in mind that it is essential to take timely and decisive action where child trafficking is suspected, because of the risk of the child being moved, to ensure safety and protection.

Often agencies would be expected to obtain the consent of the child's parent or carer regarding any referral. However, in cases where the child may be trafficked, it is possible that their carer is involved in the trafficking or exploitation and seeking their consent could put the child at further risk or lead to their being moved elsewhere.

It is therefore recommended that unless there is clear evidence that seeking consent would in no way harm the child, referring agencies should not seek the carer's consent.

As part of the assessment framework, and recognising the child protection implications of trafficking, social work and police jointly lead an agency for completing the assessment and co-ordinating all child referrals to the Competent Authority. All relevant agencies will be expected to contribute information to the assessment.

While the following process has been agreed for the suspected child trafficking cases the multi-agency child protection procedures remain the primary guidance for the care and protection of children.

- Where a child / young person is suspected or is known to have been trafficked the child's safety is paramount and all necessary actions and procedures should be followed to ensure they are child protected.
- Agencies and / or individuals should not wait until a child discloses, agrees or perceives they have been trafficked to initiate procedures. Research to date

¹³ Scottish Government (2009a) The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: Identifying and recording cases of child trafficking: The national referral mechanism - letter to CPC Chairs 31/3/09
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/254429/0080167.pdf>

indicates children, apart from being threatened to remain silent, often are not aware that they are victims of trafficking.

- Where there are suspicions about trafficking a referral should be made to social work using the usual social work referral form or to police by contacting the Police Referrals Hub. This should be accompanied by on-going discussion with the central child protection team, health child protection unit and the police, National Human Trafficking Unit.
- A Child Protection case discussion should be convened and the Manager - Field Work should be invited to advise on the notification process. In addition to usual invites a member of the UK Borders Agency should also be invited if there are immigration / asylum issues.
- All usual child protection/VYP procedures should follow an NRM referral and the trafficking assessment does not replace a full child protection assessment, including a comprehensive assessment of a child's needs via the GIRFEC Assessment.
- The case discussion should consider ongoing risks, agree broad protection, consider the need for a multi-agency response and refer via core group processes.
- The case discussion will also agree if the case requires to be referred to the Competent Authority and the *Manager - Field Work* will support the worker in completing the necessary forms.
- Referrals can be made immediately to the Competent Authority if it is clear that children have been trafficked, before the full assessment is completed or a case discussion called. Again the Manager – Field Work will support the worker in completing any paperwork. Referrals can then be followed up with a full assessment and case meetings.
- All referrals should be via the *Manager - Field Work* who requires copies of the assessment and National Referral Mechanism report (attached). *The Manager – Field Work* will liaise with the person referring and may modify the NRM referral before forwarding to the Competent Authority. The referral to the NRM (referral form and indicator matrix) will be copied to the worker making the initial referral.
- The Competent Authority will contact the *Manager – Field Work* with a decision, and the worker will be informed of this. It may be that the Competent Authority requires additional information and / or further discussion before reaching a decision.

NB where children are not assessed as being trafficking cases by the Competent Authority there may still be child protection concerns. The possibility of trafficking should not be dismissed at this point as it may be that further information becomes apparent in the succeeding months.

7.1 Practical guidance for supporting UASC in West Dunbartonshire

All usual child protection procedures should follow an NRM referral and the trafficking assessment does not replace full child protection assessment, including a comprehensive assessment of a child's needs via the GIRFEC Assessment.

7.2 Possible indicators of child trafficking

There are no validated risk assessment tools that can predict the risk of trafficking or definitively identify those who have been trafficked. The following are a list of indicators that might suggest a child has been the victim of trafficking or is at future risk. The indicators are adopted from the NRM indicator matrix and while the presence of any of these factors does not provide definitive evidence, the presence of indicators in the high and concerns sections should raise specific suspicions about the possibility of trafficking, in addition to child protection concerns.

- Socially isolated – lack of positive, meaningful relationships in child's life
- Psychological – indications of trauma or numbing
- Exhibits self -assurance, maturity and self- confidence not expected in a child of such age
- Not registered with or attended a GP practice
- Not enrolled in school
- Cared for by adult/s who are not their parents and quality of relationship is not good
- Appropriate adult is not an immediate family members (parent/sibling)

The indicators may apply to both UK nationals and/or migrant children and to both boys and girls and should be kept in mind when working with children when making an initial assessment. They are not questions to be directly asking children at the initial stage of enquiry.

The indicators do not replace child protection investigations and the presence, or otherwise, of trafficking suspicions should not preclude the standard child protection procedure being implemented.

HIGH CONCERNS

- claims to have been exploited through sexual exploitation, criminality (i.e. cannabis farms, petty street crimes, begging, etc), labour exploitation, domestic servitude, forced marriage, illegal adoption, drug dealing by another person.
- is located or recovered from a place of exploitation and / or involved in criminality that highlights the involvement of adults e.g. is recovered from cannabis farm/factory, brothel, street crime, petty theft, pick pocketing, begging
- claims to be in debt bondage or "owes" money to other persons / has to pay off large debts
- has entered the country illegally
- has no passport or other means of identification
- has false documentation or genuine documentation that has been altered or fraudulently obtained; or the child claims that their details (name, DOB) on the documentation are incorrect.
- claims to have been in the UK for years but hasn't learnt the local language or culture

- is unable to confirm the name and address of the person meeting them on arrival
- has had their journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family
- is unable, or reluctant to give details of accommodation or other personal details
- reports from reliable sources suggesting the likelihood of involvement in sexual exploitation
- one among a number of unrelated children found at one address
- person in control of / with the child has applied for / acted as guarantor for / visas on behalf of others
- person interpreting for the child at interviews and meetings was previously known to them (i.e. not appointed or approved by authorities)

CONCERNS

- on arrival in the country or when attending meetings / interviews is accompanied by an adult who may not be legal guardian and who insists on remaining with the child at all times
- has a prepared story very similar to those that other children have given perhaps hinting they have been coached
- leaving home/care setting in clothing unusual for the individual child (inappropriate for age, borrowing clothing from older people)
- returning after having been missing, looking well cared for despite having no known base
- in a private fostering arrangement which has not been registered or being cared for by adult(s) who are not their parents (except those in social work care)
- is permanently deprived of a large part of their earnings by another person / no control over earnings
- goes out the same hours every day (unless legitimate, verified work)
- works in various locations
- has limited freedom of movement
- is excessively afraid of being deported
- indicators of working (tired in school; condition of hands etc)
- does excessive housework around the house
- appropriate adult can't provide photo ID
- involved in underage marriage

GENERAL CONCERNS

- significantly older boyfriend/girlfriend
- placement breakdown
- has gone missing from local authority care
- is registered at a number of different addresses
- is malnourished
- is withdrawn and refuses to talk or appears afraid to talk to a person in authority
- exhibits self-assurance, maturity and self-confidence not expected to be seen in a child of such age
- does not appear to have money but does have a mobile phone
- has not been registered with or attended a GP practice
- has not been enrolled in school
- truancy/disengagement with education
- receives unexplained/unidentified phone calls

- shows physical or emotional signs of physical or sexual abuse
- has a history of missing links and unexplained moves
- evidence of a sexually transmitted infection or unwanted pregnancy
- known to be sexually active
- evidence of drug, alcohol or substance misuse
- adults loitering outside the child's usual place of residence
- accounts of social activities with no plausible explanation of the source of necessary funding
- pattern of street homelessness
- acquisition of money, expensive clothes, mobile phones or other possessions without plausible explanation
- low self-image, low self-esteem, self-harming behaviour including cutting, overdosing, eating disorder, promiscuity
- entering or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults
- possible inappropriate use of the internet and forming on-line relationships, particularly with adults
- known to beg for money

Key Contact List

If you have any further questions about child trafficking, or the National Referral Mechanism, please contact the Manager – Field Work Services on 0141 562 8848 Aurora House 1 Queens Key Clydebank

In respect of female adult trafficking please contact TARA for advice 0141 276 7724

UKHTC also have a direct contact for information: 0114 252 3891 and ask to speak to a Tactical Advisor

Child Protection Unit Yorkhill Hospital can be contacted on 0141 222 7364

Risk assessment matrix for children who may have been trafficked

Exploitation	Child development	Y	S
Claims to have been exploited through sexual exploitation, criminality, labour exploitation, domestic servitude, forced marriage, illegal adoption, and drug dealing by another person.			
Physical symptoms of exploitative abuse (sexual, physical etc)			
Underage marriage			
Physical indications of working (overly tired in school, indications of manual labour – condition of hands/skin, backaches etc)			
Sexually transmitted infection or unwanted pregnancy			
Story very similar to those given by others, perhaps hinting they have been coached			
Movement into / within UK	Y	S	
Withdrawn and refuses to talk / appears afraid to talk to a person in authority			
Significantly older boyfriend			
Harbours excessive fears / anxieties (e.g. about an individual, of deportation, disclosing information etc)			
Other risk factors	Y	S	
Shows signs of physical neglect – basic care, malnourishment, lack of attention to health needs			
Shows signs of emotional neglect			
Socially isolated – lack of positive, meaningful relationships in child's life			
Behavioural - poor concentration or memory, irritable / unsociable / aggressive behaviour in school or placement			
Psychological – indications of trauma or numbing			
Exhibits self assurance, maturity and self confidence not expected in a child of such age			
Evidence of drug, alcohol or substance misuse			
Low self image, low self esteem, self harming behaviour including cutting, overdosing, eating disorder, promiscuity			
Sexually active			
Not registered with or attended a GP practice			
Not enrolled in school			
Has money, expensive clothes, mobile phones or other possessions without plausible explanation			

Exploitation	Parenting capacity	Y	S
Required to earn a minimum amount of money every day			
Involved in criminality highlighting involvement of adults (e.g. recovered from cannabis farm / factory, street crime, petty theft, pick pocketing, begging etc)			
Performs excessive housework chores and rarely leaves the residence			
Reports from reliable sources suggest likelihood of sexual exploitation, including being seen in places known to be used for sexual exploitation			
Unusual hours / regular patterns of child leaving or returning to placement which indicates probable working			
Accompanied by an adult who may not be the legal guardian and insists on remaining with the child at all times			
Limited freedom of movement			
Movement into / or within the UK	Y	S	
Gone missing from local authority care			
Unable to confirm name or address of person meeting them on arrival			
Accompanying adult previously made multiple visa applications for other children / acted as the guarantor for other children's visa applications			
Accompanying adult known to have acted as guarantor on visa applications for other visitors who have not returned to their countries of origin on visa expiry			
History with missing links or unexplained moves			
Pattern of street homelessness			
Other risk factors	Y	S	
Unregistered private fostering arrangement			
Cared for by adult/s who are not their parents and quality of relationship is not good			
Placement breakdown			
Persistently missing, staying out overnight or returning late with no plausible explanation			
Truancy / disengagement with education			
Appropriate adult is not an immediate family member (parent / sibling)			
Appropriate adult cannot provide photographic ID for the child			

Exploitation	Family / environment	Y	S
Located / recovered from a place of exploitation (brothel, cannabis farm, involved in criminality etc)			
Deprived of earnings by another person			
Claims to be in debt bondage or "owes" money to other persons (e.g. for travel costs, before having control over own earnings)			
Receives unexplained / unidentified phone calls whilst in placement / temporary accommodation			
No passport or other means of identity			
Unable or reluctant to give accommodation or other personal details			
False documentation or genuine documentation that has been altered or fraudulently obtained; or the child claims that their details (name, DOB) on the documentation are incorrect			
Movement into or within the UK	Y	S	
Entered country illegally			
Journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family			
Registered at multiple addresses			
Other risk factors	Y	S	
Possible inappropriate use of the internet and forming online relationships, particularly with adults			
Accounts of social activities with no plausible explanation of the source of necessary funding			
Entering or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults			
Adults loitering outside the child's usual place of residence			
Leaving home / care setting in clothing unusual for the individual child (inappropriate for age, borrowing clothing from older people etc)			
Works in various locations			
One among a number of unrelated children found at one address			
Having keys to premises other than those known about			
Going missing and being found in areas where they have no known links			

Y = yes, S = suspected

Guidance on completion of trafficking assessment

Note: Each section of this assessment is colour coded to denote the sections each agency is to complete.

Orange All agencies complete
Blue To be completed by police
Purple To be completed by LA children's social care

For quick reference and as a checklist, please see the table below:

Trafficking Assessment sections		All Agencies complete	Police complete	Social Care complete
A1	Personal Details of Subject		✓	
A2	Details of Young Person	✓		
A3	Details of Accompanying Adult or Young person	✓		
A4	Education	✓		
A5	Income and Employment	✓		
B	Family			✓ Include Genogram
C	Relationships			
D	Recent travel history	✓		
E	Current circumstances	✓		
E1	Current Accommodation	✓		
E2	Daily living routine	✓		
E3	Freedom of Movement	✓		
F	Health	✓ Question 1 only		✓ Questions 2 to 5
G	Safety		✓ Child protection Police officers	✓
G1	Emotional Health			✓
G2	Quality of Sleep			✓
G3	Sexual Experience and Health			✓
H	Abuse		✓ Child protection Police officers	✓
I	Journey	✓		
J	Analysis, conclusions and risks	✓		
J (a)	Analysis	✓		
J (b)	Conclusions and Risks	✓		
K	Decisions and Referral			✓

TRAFFICKING ASSESSMENT

BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM, IF YOU BELIEVE THIS CHILD IS AT IMMINENT RISK OF HARM REFER TO YOUR LOCAL CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES TO TAKE APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDING ACTIONS. (see section 7, *Safeguarding Children in Scotland who may have been Trafficked*).

PURPOSE

This multi-agency assessment and referral form is designed to assist practitioners (Children's Services, Law Enforcement) in both:

- Identifying and assessing the needs of a child who is suspected of being trafficked and the continuing risks they may face and
- Referring their case to the competent authority and other relevant agencies. (lead professionals or their equivalent in local authority social work departments refer to competent authority).

The competent authority assist in regularising the child immigration status should this be necessary in accordance with the council of Europe convention on Action against Human Trafficking and recording their case within the central UK database on victims of trafficking. It is therefore important that once your agency has completed the form a copy is immediately to the UKHTC.

This assessment should be undertaken in line with the Safeguarding Children in Scotland who may have been Trafficked guidance.

While undertaking the assessment, please remember these children may be traumatised, in fear of adults or people in authority.

1. Be sensitive and build trust.
2. Avoid question and answer process.
3. Be aware that the child may be fearful of disclosing information due to threats of direct harm to the child or their family.
4. Please ensure child's mobile phone is turned off during the interview as it may be used as a method of control by the adult.
5. Be mindful of interviewing child/young person in presence of an individual who may be involved in trafficking.
6. Only use authorised/registered interpreters.

GUIDANCE

**Guidance: - Completing the
Trafficking Assessment TAB**

References:-

- Safeguarding Children in Scotland who may have been Trafficked. This provides detailed advice for practitioners from all agencies on how to respond to children who they suspect have been trafficked.

UK trafficking legislation and guidance relevant to trafficked and exploited children includes:-

- Children (Scotland) Act 1995
- The Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002.
- Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003
- Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005

UK Offences of Trafficking

- The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 introduced a specific statutory offence of trafficking a person for the purpose of sexual exploitation. The maximum penalty on conviction on indictment is 14 years imprisonment. An offence of 'trafficking for exploitation', which covers non-sexual exploitation, including trafficking for forced labour and the removal of organs, is contained in the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Act 2004.
- The trafficking offences contained in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Act 2004 apply equally to the trafficking of children and adults. In addition, the Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2005 introduced new offences relating to the abuse of children through prostitution and pornography which are intended to protect children under the age of 18. These cover a range of offences, including paying for the sexual services of a child, for which the maximum penalty ranges from seven years to fourteen years imprisonment, depending on the age of the child; and causing, facilitating or controlling the commercial sexual exploitation of a child in prostitution or pornography, for which the maximum penalty is 14 years imprisonment.
- The offences of trafficking for exploitation or for sexual exploitation are included as lifestyle offences under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, which means that a conviction for these offences may be followed by an order for the payment of the proceeds of those crimes and assets may be seized. In addition, Scottish Ministers also have powers to recover property obtained through such unlawful conduct even if there has been no criminal prosecution.

International Trafficking legislation relevant to trafficked and exploited children include:

United Nations Protocol to Prevent Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Person, especially Women and Children supplementing the United Nations Conventions against Transnational Organised Crime (2000) also known as '*The Palermo Protocol*'.

In 2000 Human Trafficking was recognised under international law through the United Nations Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children (the 'Palermo Protocol'), ratified by the UK in 2006. The protocol essentially defines child trafficking as:

- The recruitments, transportation, transfer harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation.
- The child is anyone under 18 years.
- It is not considered possible for children to give informed consent to being trafficked. Any child transported for exploitative reasons is considered to be a trafficking victim – whether or not they have been subjected to threats, force coercion, abduction or fraud. Even when a child understands what has happened they may still appear to submit willingly to what they believe to be the will of their parents or caregiver in their home country.

- Trafficking affects almost all parts of the United Kingdom. Trafficking can be into, within and out of the United Kingdom. Trafficking within United Kingdom is Domestic and Internal Trafficking.
- Trafficking can involve children from any country, including children both born and raised in the UK (UK Nationals) e.g. Young Women and Boys Trafficked domestically into prostitution from one UK city to another.
- The exploitation of trafficked children may be progressive. Children trafficked for domestic work may be later vulnerable to prostitution or children initially trafficked for prostitution may be resold.
- Children from different countries, communities and cultures may be particularly vulnerable to specific forms of exploitation (e.g. the Trafficking of Eastern European young women into prostitution). These patterns can shift over time as traffickers 'wise up' to new immigration or safeguarding anti-trafficking measures.

The Council of Europe Convention of Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings was signed by the UK Government in 2007. The convention will be bound by the terms of the Convention by April 2009.

Under this convention the UK Government is obliged to "provide its competent authorities with persons who are trained and qualified in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, in identifying and helping victims, including children". It further states that when "the age of victim is uncertain and there are reasons to believe that the victim is a child, he or she shall be presumed to be a child and shall be accorded special measures pending verification of his/her age". The Convention also makes provisions that oblige the Government to issue a temporary resident permit when there are "reasonable grounds to believe that the person concerned may be victim". The UK Government, as part of its implementation plan is developing a National Referral Mechanism where there will be a central authority as well as local level competent authorities, who will be able to make final decisions on the identification of child victims of trafficking, for the purposes of the rights under this Convention.

Types of Exploitation

Children can be trafficked for the purpose of:

1. Sexual exploitation (e.g. child prostitution, child abuse acts and images)
 2. Domestic Servitude (e.g. Domestic chores, looking after young children)
 3. Labour exploitation (e.g. working in restaurants, building sites, cleaning)
 4. Enforced criminally (e.g. Cannabis cultivation, street theft, drug dealing, and trafficking)
 5. Benefit Fraud
 6. Illegal adoption
 7. Servile and underage marriage
- Even though a child may have been trafficked for a purpose other than sexual exploitation, they become highly vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse once they have been trafficked. Sexual exploitation of children is most likely to occur in informal locations, such as private flats. The use of trafficking for exploitative labour is often hidden within local communities and can be difficult to identify without the support of communities.

Child Traffickers

- Traffickers vary between those that are highly organised and linked to other organised crime (e.g. Cannabis Cultivation), and those that are individually opportunistic and have trafficked a child on a more informal basis (e.g. bringing a child from their 'home country' to become domestic labour in their own household).
- Children can be trafficked into the United Kingdom through major and regional airports, seaports and docks (e.g. on Lorries) and by train (e.g. Euro rail).

Child smuggling/facilitation and trafficking

There is an important distinction between child smuggling and child trafficking. Child smuggling, also called facilitation under UK law, is an arrangement whereby somebody assists a child to enter the country illegally. Once the child enters the UK the relationship between the child and smuggler ends.

Child trafficking however must involve intent to exploit the child at their destination and can also include the movement of a child within the UK. On arrival in the UK or after being moved to a new city or town within the UK the trafficked child is forced into exploitation by the traffickers or person into whose control they are delivered.

Smuggling can be an indicator of trafficking however, as traffickers do commonly use smuggling as a method to bring children into the UK. So while a smuggled child may not necessarily have been trafficked, smuggling should be considered as an indicator of a child's vulnerability to being trafficked.

Please Note:

- Trafficking victims may also enter the country legally i.e. with immigration documents.
- Children who arrive at the UK Borders may have been trafficked between a number of countries in the EU or globally, prior to being trafficked in the UK.

UK Nationals

Smuggling and Trafficking can affect children born and raised in the UK (UK Nationals) e.g. a UK born child who is trafficked from the UK within the UK, this is often referred to as "Internal Trafficking".

REFERRAL AND INFORMATION GATHERING

All agencies should complete the assessment as soon as there is any suspicion that a child or young person may be a victim of trafficking. While an assessment should be completed within seven days, please note that any delay could significantly increase the chance of a trafficked child going missing. Where there is an immediate risk to the child's safety an immediate referral should also be made to the Police and Children's Services. All agencies should record next stages of action when working with a trafficked child within one working day.

Missing Children

Evidence shows that many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are trafficked and go missing from the care system shortly after they enter the Care system. One reason is that the child may have been groomed to believe that the trafficker or facilitator is their 'friend' and not recognise the risk of harm and exploitation. It is therefore critical that intervention to safeguard the child may need urgent attention.

PRIVATE FOSTERING

Private fostering in Scotland is covered by the Foster Children (Scotland) Act 1984 and the Foster Children (Private Fostering) (Scotland) Regulations 1985. A private fostering arrangement arises when an individual arranges for a child under 18 years to reside for more than 28 days in the care of someone who is not a parent, adult relative or guardian. 'Relative' in relation to a child, means a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt whether of the full blood or half blood or by affinity. Parents have a duty to report the arrangements to the relevant local authority, who must inspect and monitor the accommodation and other aspects of the arrangements, although they do not formally assess and approve the carers as such.

Private fostering can potentially mask child trafficking, when traffickers use the arrangement to formalise having a trafficked child in their home as a 'fostered' child. It is therefore imperative that the possibility of child trafficking be considered in inspecting and monitoring the accommodation and other aspects of the arrangements.

ASSESSMENT

Children are unlikely to disclose they have been trafficked for a variety of reasons. Most do not have an awareness of what trafficking is or may believe they are coming to the UK for a better life, accepting that they may have entered the country illegally. They may be suffering from trauma, fear, intimidation and stigma and may lack language skills. They may not remember what has happened to them and give varying accounts.

Disclosure from the child about their circumstances takes time and often dependent on a relationship of trust and safety being established. Disclosure may be very limited where a child is within the control of a trafficker or facilitator or feels obliged to them and can be especially difficult for sexually exploited children.

Assessment should therefore be on the possibility of trafficking, utilising known indicators where relevant rather than relying on a full disclosure from a child. A high level practitioner awareness and proactive work is critical to enhance the identification of trafficking.

For information to support a good quality assessment professionals should see sections 3 and 7 of Safeguarding Children in Scotland who may have been Trafficked.

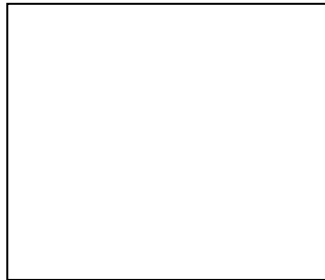
SECTION A PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE SUBJECT

POLICE ONLY TO COMPLETE SECTION A1

ALL AGENCIES COMPLETE SECTION A2 AND A3

SECTION A1

Insert Photograph



Have Fingerprints been taken

Yes

☐

No

☐

If Yes by Whom?

Has a DNA sample been taken

Yes

☐

No

☐

If Yes by whom?

Any identification documents seen

Yes

☐

No

☐

Details of Documentation seen

Attached?

Yes

☐

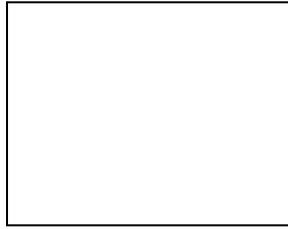
No

☐

Date of Assessment

SECTION A2 DETAILS OF YOUNG PERSON

Insert Photograph



1. Surname

2. Given Name

3. Date of Birth/Age

4. Place of Birth

5. Ethnicity

6. Nationality

7. Language

8. Religion

9. Detail the relationship of the accompanying person to the child – are they an agent/young person/legal representative

10. Mobile Phone Number

11. Home Phone Number

12. Current Address

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13. Previous Address/es

14. Home Office Immigration No

15. Port Reference

16. National Insurance No

17. Date of Arrival in the UK

18. Date left country of Origin

19. Is this adult known to your agency? (Check information systems e.g. Database)

INDICATORS TAB

RESTRICTED (when completed)

SECTION A3 DETAILS OF ACCOMPANYING ADULT OR YOUNG PERSON

The name of the person accompanying claiming to be the guardian/carer/relative of the Child.

1. Surname

2. Given Name

3. Date of Birth/Age

4. Place of Birth

5. Ethnicity

6. Nationality

7. Language

8. Religion

9. Detail the relationship of the accompanying person to the child – are they an agent/young person/legal representative

10. Mobile Phone Number

11. Home Phone Number

12. Current Address

13. Previous Address/es

14. Home Office Immigration No

15. Port Reference

16. National Insurance No

17. Date of Arrival in the UK

18. Date left country of Origin

19. Is this adult known to your agency? (Check information systems e.g. Database)

20. Insert Photograph

INDICATORS TAB

SECTION A4 EDUCATION

TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL AGENCIES

INDICATORS TAB

1. History of Education (In the child's country as well as in the UK)

--

2. Is the child currently attending school Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes:

Name of the school

Address of the school

Teacher's Name

If No why not:

SECTION A5 INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL AGENCIES

INDICATORS TAB

Consider possible exploitation or any intent to exploit the young person. Explore the following:

Working conditions/hours/transport/free use of earnings/any deductions from salaries to repay debts/family dependent on earnings/sending money home/knowledge of any others in similar situations/expectations on a young person to do things.

1. Does the child receive money?
(E.g. amount, for what purpose, from whom, how often, what is the money used for)

--

2. Previous Employment/Conditions:

3. Current Employment/Conditions/Work Permit:

4. Does the child have a choice if they work?

5. How does the young person perceive work and expectations/responsibilities provide for themselves or others? (Consider the young person's pre-trafficking profile – childhood experiences, family's financial circumstances and cultural and familial values towards work).

SECTION B FAMILY

TO BE COMPLETED BY CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

GENOGRAM – details the relationships between adults, siblings, extended family and the child and may be useful when cross referencing with other trafficked children assessments and family relationships to suspected traffickers.

1. Family composition. Details background and any concerns about the family of origin. Explore the details of the extended family. Be aware that traffickers often pose as extended family.

2. Does the child have any contact with the family?

Detail the current whereabouts if family in the UK or abroad. Are the family aware and in agreement with the child's current circumstances and care arrangements?

3. Financial Circumstances of Family.

Give consideration to the fact that the child or family may be in debt for the cost of travel, families may also have paid an agent to take their children to a 'better life' Less commonly Children may be sold.

4. Circumstance in which or reasons why the young person left their family.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU UPLOAD A GENOGRAM AND ATTACH TO THE FILE.

SECTION C RELATIONSHIPS

TO BE COMPLETED BY CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

INDICATORS TAB

Be mindful that if a child has been trafficked they are likely to have been coached by the trafficker about what story they should tell – the nature of the relationship with the trafficker, what activities they may be involved in.

1. What is the relationship between the child and the person they are staying with or accompanied by and are they related? Is this a Private Fostering arrangement?

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2. How and when did they meet? (In the Country of Origin/en route/in the UK)

3. What does the child know about this person – include any additional information known about this person/s. (Establish how well the child knows the adult, what work/activities the adult does, whether the child had prior knowledge of the adult before meeting them).

4. What is the quality of the relationship between the person's and the child? (How does the child behave in relation to this person/s)

5. Does the child have any other relatives or friends in the UK? (Highlight where there are any other relationships where there is concern for the child).

6. Does the young person feel confident asking someone for help if needed: (Aim: to assess quality of relationship to the accompanying adult/young person).

7. Who would the young person like to live with in the UK? (Be mindful that a trafficker may have coached and put pressure on the child about where they should live). If not within the current arrangements explore the reasons why, (record the name and address of the person the y wish to live with)

SECTION D RECENT TRAVEL HISTORY

TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL AGENCIES

INDICATORS TAB

Points to Note:

- Trafficking may occur at any stage throughout the child's journey to or within the UK; it is not limited to the child's final destination.

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RESTRICTED (when completed)

- Children who have been trafficked into the UK can be further trafficked internally within the UK.
 - UK national children are also vulnerable to internal trafficking and may also be trafficked out of UK.
 - A child may be trafficked into the UK through legitimate routes under passports and travel visas – though documentation can be finalised.
 - A child may also be smuggled through covert routes into or within the UK may have no identification documentation.
 - A child who has been trafficked may arrive in the UK alone or accompanied by an adult and/or other children. Some children will have had multiple experiences of trafficking. Children who have been trafficked before are at risk of being re-trafficked.
1. Establish the circumstance of arrival – if arriving in the UK did the child pass through immigration control; did the child have any documentation, contact numbers?

2. Does the child have any on going contact with the person who facilitated their travel into/within the UK?

3. On arrival in the UK, who took responsibility for the child and where did the child sleep?

4. Has the child lived at multiple addresses? With whom? (List all Previous and Current Addresses)

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SECTION E CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES**TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL AGENCIES****INDICATORS TAE**

This section of assessment may provide an insight about possible types of exploitation for which the child may have been trafficked. Look for indications in the child's daily life that demonstrated restrictions of the child's independence and control mechanisms by another person.

An assessment of independence will of course need to recognise the cultural norm in which the child has grown up. It is essential that the child is provided with a sense of safety within the assessment process.

SECTION E1 – Current Accommodation

1. Describe the rooms/house they are staying at:

2. Do any other children/adults/family or visitors live at this accommodation? (Nature/History of Relationship)

3. What are the current sleeping arrangements? (Including are they locked in at Night)

4. Conditions of accommodation e.g. Heating, Running Water, Furnishings and Cleanliness?

5. Does the child have freedom of choice where they choose to live?

6. Does the child have to pay/do favours for the accommodation?

7. Does the child have control over his/her privacy and possessions?

SECTION E2 – Daily Living Routine

1. Describe the current routine e.g. Sleep Patterns, Self-Care, and Meal times – do they have sufficient food?

2. What activities did the child do at the home and what do they do now?
Is the child spending time alone?

3. Who does the household chores e.g. cleaning, grocery shopping and cooking?

4. What sort of clothing/shoes does the child have? Who is responsible for washing the child's clothing?

5. Is the child familiar with local services such as the shops and parks? Can the child identify where they have been to?

SECTION E3 – Freedom of Movement.

1. How did the child travel to the place of Assessment?

2. Is the child's freedom of movement restricted?
E.g. does the child have a curfew; is the child limited in which places they can go to? Is the child allowed to go out alone or with friends?

3. Is the child able to have social contacts and friendships?

4. Does the child have free access to their accommodation (do they have keys)?

5. Does the child have a Mobile phone? (Who can the child contact and who contacts the child, who purchased the phone and who pays the bills?)

SECTION F – HEALTH

**ALL AGENCIES TO COMPLETE QUESTION 1
CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE TO COMPLETE QUESTION 2 TO 5**

INDICATORS TAB

1. Observations of the child's physical presentation? (if seen more than one occasion note whether the child has more than one set of clothing)

2. Is the child registered with a GP? Has the child accessed the Health Service such as the Accident and Emergency Department?

3. Has the child ever taken medication? (In case of sexual exploitation give consideration to contraception and sexually transmitted infections)

4. Is the child currently experiencing any pain, have any injuries or have any concerns regarding their health? (Give consideration to any abuse).

5. History and current drug/alcohol use? (Are there any indications of dependency/misuse and drugging)?

SECTION G SAFETY

IF WHEN COMPLETING THIS SECTION YOU IDENTIFY AN IMMINENT RISK OF HARM REFER TO YOUR CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES AND TAKE THE APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDING ACTIONS.

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL AGENCIES

- **CHILDREN'S SERVICES/SOCIAL CARE**
- **CHILD PROTECTION POLICE OFFICERS**

The aim of this section is to identify whether the child is currently or potentially at risk of harm, and to elicit the children's capacity to ensure their own safety.

1. Has the young person gone missing and have there been multiple missing periods? What were the circumstances of the disappearances and are there any emerging patterns

2. Has the young person been involved in any criminal activity? Are there any indications of forced involvement or exploitation?

3. Question on other persons associated or involved with this child, who are they, what is their relationship with the child?

4. If the child were injured or ill what would they do?

5. Is the child ever left in their accommodation on their own?

6. What would the child do in an emergency? E.g. If there was a fire or an intruder in the home?

7. Is the child concerned about the safety of their family/other children in their home country?

SECTION G1 – EMOTIONAL HEALTH

1. Explore the child's level of anxiety, fears fluctuation of moods, appetite, levels of social isolation:

SECTION G2 – QUALITY OF SLEEP

1. Explore sleep patterns, hours of sleep, nightmares etc. (Look for indicators of traumatic stress)

SECTION G3 – SEXUAL EXPERIENCE AND HEALTH

1. Explore if the young person has had any sexual experiences and give consideration to contraception, abortion, STI's and sexual violence in the context of exploitation.

SECTION H – ABUSE

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL AGENCIES

- **CHILDREN'S SERVICES/SOCIAL CARE**
- **CHILD PROTECTION POLICE OFFICERS**

1. Are there any indications that the young person has suffered/or is suffering any form of abuse? If so how does the young person perceive this abuse? (Consider the history of abuse, relationship of trafficker/s and trafficking experience. The young person may have distorted views of abuse and may not view the trafficker as an abuser).

SECTION I – JOURNEY**TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL AGENCIES.****INDICATORS TAB**

A trafficked child is unlikely to disclose clear and accurate information about their journey. In many cases the child will have been warned not to disclose particular information to protect agents and traffickers. Be aware that some journeys will involve complicated routes and many changes involving varied methods and travel such as Lorries, walking, cars and planes. Children may also be passed between agents and traffickers en route.

Journey to the UK

1. Reasons for leaving the country/place of Origin?

2. Date (or approximate) journey commenced:

3. Who did the young person leave or travel with:

4. What was the relationship with this person's:

5. Did the child know them:

Yes

☐

No

☐

6. By what means of transport did they travel:

7. Route of Travel, Length and any stopovers:

8. How were the young person and any other young person treated during the journey?

9. Did the child, family or any other party pay for the journey?

10. Does the child, family or any other party owe anything for the journey?

11. Who had control of the child's travel documentation/passport during the journey?

SECTION J – ANALYSIS, CONCLUSIONS AND RISKS

TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL THE AGENCIES.

Children who have been trafficked are often seen as illegal immigrants or sometimes as young offenders if they have been forced or coerced into criminal behaviour, rather than as victims of human rights abuses. Be aware that family reunification is not always viable and safe option. In responding to children who have been trafficked it is essential that the child is cared in a safe and secure environment. That the child's physical and mental health needs are met, the child is given support to recover and that the risk of re-trafficking and further exploitation is minimised.

Section J (a) Give an analysis of the information gathered during the Trafficking Assessment

OUTCOMES

Agency accepts this case as a case of Child Trafficking (**COMPLETE SECTION K**)

Agency does not accept this case as of Child Trafficking

Referral of case to other Agency – (Please detail the reasons for the referral and to which agency you are making the Referral)

Insufficient information of Child Trafficking – further into being sought (please detail below)

COMMENTS AND SIGNATURES

Young person's signature (This section should only be signed by the young person if they are over 18 or over.)

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Name of the worker completing the Trafficking Assessment.

Name:

Allocated to:

Team:

Signature:

Date:

Manager’s Signature and Comments

Name:

Signature:

Manager’s Action:

Date:

**NATIONAL REFERRAL MECHANISM FOR CHILD VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING
REPORT TO COMPETENT AUTHORITY FOR DECISION**

When completed, please e-mail this form and matrix of indicators to UKHTC:

Section A - Personal Details

Last name: First name(s):

Also known as:

D.O.B (if known):/...../..... Age (approx. if not known): Sex: Place of birth:

Nationality: Language:

Any English spoken/interpreter needed:..... Immigration status:

Competent Authority referred to: UK Border Agency / UK Human Trafficking Centre

Home Office ref: Work Permit ref:

Any other reference numbers including NRUC if the child is a UASC:.....

UK Home address:

.....

.....

Section B - Contact details of person making referral

Name:

Job title:

Organisation and Local Authority area:

.....

Tel:Fax:

Mobile:

Email:

Signature and date:

Date encountered (if relevant) or date of first agency contact:

Address encountered or place of first contact with your agency (if different from above):

.....

.....

Date of referral:

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Section C – POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

Child development

Parenting capacity

Family / environment

Exploitation	Y	Exploitation	Y	S
Claims to have been exploited through sexual exploitation, criminality, labour exploitation, domestic servitude, forced marriage, illegal adoption, drug dealing by another person.		Required to earn a minimum amount of money every day		
Physical symptoms of exploitative abuse (sexual, physical etc)		Involved in criminality highlighting involvement of adults (e.g. recovered from cannabis farm / factory, street crime, petty theft, pick pocketing, begging etc)		
Underage marriage		Performs excessive housework chores and rarely leaves the residence		
Physical indications of working (overly tired in school, indications of manual labour – condition of hands/skin, backaches etc)		Reports from reliable sources suggest likelihood of sexual exploitation, including being seen in places known to be used for sexual exploitation		
Sexually transmitted infection or unwanted pregnancy		Unusual hours / regular patterns of child leaving or returning to placement which indicates probable working		
Story very similar to those given by others, perhaps hinting they have been coached		Accompanied by an adult who may not be the legal guardian and insists on remaining with the child at all times		
Significantly older boyfriend		Limited freedom of movement		
Harbours excessive fears / anxieties (e.g. about an individual, of deportation, disclosing information etc)		Movement into, within or out of the UK	Y	S
Movement into, within or out of the UK	Y	Gone missing from local authority care		
Withdrawn and refuses to talk / appears afraid to talk to a person in authority		Unable to confirm name or address of person meeting them on arrival		
Significantly older boyfriend		Accompanying adult previously made multiple visa applications for other children / acted as the guarantor for other children's visa applications		
Other risk factors	Y	Accompanying adult known to have acted as guarantor on visa applications for other visitors who have not returned to their countries of origin on visa expiry		
Shows signs of physical neglect – basic care, malnourishment, lack of attention to health needs		History with missing links or unexplained moves		
Shows signs of emotional neglect		Pattern of street homelessness		
Socially isolated – lack of positive, meaningful relationships in child's life		Other risk factors	Y	S
Behavioural - poor concentration or memory, irritable / unsociable / aggressive behaviour in school or placement		Unregistered private fostering arrangement		
Psychological – indications of trauma or numbing		Cared for by adult/s who are not their parents and quality of relationship is not good		
Exhibits self assurance, maturity and self confidence not expected in a child of such age		Placement breakdown		
Evidence of drug, alcohol or substance misuse		Persistently missing, staying out overnight or returning late with no plausible explanation		
Low self image, low self esteem, self harming behaviour including cutting, overdosing, eating disorder, promiscuity		Truancy / disengagement with education		
Sexually active		Appropriate adult is not an immediate family member (parent / sibling)		
Not registered with or attended a GP practice		Appropriate adult cannot provide photographic ID for the child		
Not enrolled in school				
Has money, expensive clothes, mobile phones or other possessions without plausible explanation				

Exploitation	Y	S
Located / recovered from a place of exploitation (brothel, cannabis farm, involved in criminality etc)		
Deprived of earnings by another person		
Claims to be in debt bondage or "owes" money to other persons (e.g. for travel costs, before having control over own earnings)		
Receives unexplained / unidentified phone calls whilst in placement / temporary accommodation		
No passport or other means of identity		
Unable or reluctant to give accommodation or other personal details		
False documentation or genuine documentation that has been altered or fraudulently obtained; or the child claims that their details (name, DOB) on the documentation are incorrect		
Movement into, within or out of the UK	Y	S
Entered country illegally		
Journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family		
Registered at multiple addresses		
Other risk factors	Y	S
Possible inappropriate use of the internet and forming online relationships, particularly with adults		
Accounts of social activities with no plausible explanation of the source of necessary funding		
Entering or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults		
Adults loitering outside the child's usual place of residence		
Leaving home / care setting in clothing unusual for the individual child (inappropriate for age, borrowing clothing from older people etc)		
Works in various locations		
One among a number of unrelated children found at one address		
Having keys to premises other than those known about		
Going missing and being found in areas where they have no known links		

Y= Yes S= Suspicion

RESTRICTED (when completed)

Section G - Evidence to support reasons for referral (2 pages available)

Please use this section to:

1. expand on the circumstances/details of the encounter or contact and
2. provide supporting evidence for the indicators that you have identified in the matrix
3. provide any other relevant information that you consider may be important and wish to include e.g. details of behaviour, abuse and neglect
4. movements into, within or out of the UK, including dates (if known)
5. name of any adults, exploiter or trafficker (if known)
6. and any action you have taken including referral to other agencies e.g. Police, local authorities, Missing persons, NGOs etc
7. provide any method of entry details where the subject is a foreign national,

(if a separate sheet is required, please indicate that section G is continued and provide with referral)

Section G - Evidence to support reasons for referral (continued) if required

¹ Rafferty Y (2008) 'The impact of trafficking on children: psychological and social policy perspectives' *Child Development Perspectives* 2(1), 13-18

