

# HILLINGDON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP 7-MINUTE BRIEFING MODERN SLAVERY, TRAFFICKING & EXPLOITATION

## 1. What it means?

The terms modern slavery, trafficking and exploitation can include a variety of ways of exploiting children and adults. It includes e.g. sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, labour exploitation, criminal exploitation or organ harvesting. Illegal adoption, forced marriage and financial fraud also can be considered a form of trafficking.

## 2. The scale of modern slavery in the UK

The scale of modern slavery, trafficking and exploitation offences in the UK needs to be regarded as very significant.

The data of formally reported cases in children and adults in the UK has been increasing in recent years, though there remains a likely huge grey area of unknown and unreported cases.

Persons who might not be victims of trafficking can still be victims of modern slavery or (criminal) exploitation. Victims might be from the UK and are not always from other countries. Trafficking and (criminal) exploitation can happen locally, near to the home of the victim/s.

## 7. Summary

- Do you feel confident about being able to recognise child and adult victims or modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation?
- Are you aware of your agency's referral process or single Point of Contact (SPOC - if you have one?) for modern slavery issues?
- Does your work include areas where you might come into contact with potential child or adult victims of this cruel crime?
- Do you know who to contact to seek further advice, help and where to look for further resources in regard to modern slavery, trafficking and exploitation questions?

## 6. When to refer to Social Services?

- Potential child victims always must be referred to Children's Social Care under safeguarding procedures.
- Potential adults victims need to be referred to Adult Social Care if they are likely to have Care Act 2014 eligible support needs.
- If an adult does not have CA 2014 eligible needs, consider referring to the Police or The Salvation Army instead.

## 5. National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

The NRM is a statutory process. Therefore it is a requirement for 'First Responder' organisations to refer potential child and adult victims into the NRM, which is part of the Home Office.

If your organisation is not a First Responder, you need to refer to a First Responder agency.

Adults need to consent to be referred into the NRM. If an adult does not consent, they still need to be referred to the Home Office via the Duty to Notify (DtN) process, but can stay anonymous if they wish.

The online form for both can be found [here](#).

An overview of 'First Responder' organisation can be found [here](#).

## 3. Typologies of modern slavery in the UK

It is important for practitioners to be knowledgeable about the common 'typologies of modern slavery within the UK' and about how to spot the signs.

Further recommended reading about the typologies and spotting the signs can be accessed [here](#).

## 4. Some key considerations

- Victims may not always recognise themselves as victims.
- Children are likely to be kept out of education.
- Victims are often not registered with a GP, can live in unkempt and overcrowded accommodation and are isolated from local communities.
- Victims likely have been threatened with various methods of punishment or consequences for themselves or their family, should they speak about their situation to organisations or people who are not part of the exploitation or trafficking network.

