

# 01 Background:

**Modern Slavery** can take many forms including the trafficking of people, forced labour, servitude and slavery. Children (those aged under 18) are considered victims of trafficking, whether or not they have been coerced, deceived or paid to secure their compliance. They need only have been recruited, transported, received or harboured for the purpose of exploitation.

**Independent Child Trafficking Advocates (ICTAs)** are professionals who support children who have potentially been trafficked. The ICTA role is outlined in s.48 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

The **National Referral Mechanism (NRM)** is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking or modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

# Why it matters:

Modern Slavery covers a range of complex issues that are often hard to detect, it is important that professionals are aware that such abuses can take place and that victims have a right to identification and support.

**All** local authorities within Greater Manchester have been chosen to become early adopter sites of ICTAs.

This means that all children identified as potentially trafficked in those areas **must** be referred into Barnardo's ICTAs Service.

Children under 18 who are identified as potential victims of trafficking must be referred to the NRM; children do not have to consent to a referral. Social Workers are first responders and have a duty to refer to the NRM.

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## What to do?

### Make a Safeguarding Referral:

0300 303 0440 (Children's EHASH)

### Refer to ICTA:

24/7 Support Line:

0800 043 4303

[Link to Guidance & Referral Form](#)

### Refer to the NRM:

[Link to Guidance & Referral](#)

## Questions:

When might we come across human trafficking?

Do we know enough about human trafficking to be able to spot it?

How do we work with partners to identify and support children who are victims of modern slavery?



## Information:

Any child who is recruited, transported, transferred, harboured or received for the purposes of exploitation is considered to be a trafficking victim

Trafficked children can be exploited in a number of different ways, including trafficking for forced criminality, forced labour, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude or organ harvesting. Child trafficking is child abuse and child protection procedures, as set out in *Working together to safeguard children* statutory guidance, should be followed if trafficking is suspected as it can have a devastating and lasting impact on victims.

## Information:

Children can be trafficked in, out and around the UK and can be citizens of the UK, or any other country. Children can also continue to be at risk of trafficking and exploitation once identified by, and in the care of, public authorities.

Potential child trafficking victims may have a range of public authorities involved in their identification, care and support. These may include local authority children's social services, local authority education services, schools health services, the police and other related criminal justice agencies. For non UK national children they may also include the Home Office and its delivery arms, including Border Force, UK Visas and Immigration and Immigration Enforcement. Child victims of trafficking may also have contact with a range of non-Governmental or community sector organisations and legal representatives.

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