

# **Multi-Agency Protocol for** safeguarding children who may have been trafficked.

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# 1. Acknowledgements

Cardiff Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) wishes to thank the members of the original multi-agency working party for their help in producing the initial Cardiff multi-agency protocol on child trafficking.

The Board also wishes to thank the London Child Protection Committee, End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes UK (ECPAT), UNICEF and NSPCC whose information in the Welsh Government draft guidance we have reproduced here.

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## 2. Acronyms

### A guide to acronyms used in the document

ACPO Association of Chief Police Officers

ARC Application Registration Card

ASUs Asylum Screening Units

UKBA UK Border Agency

CAF Common Assessment Framework

CAFCASS Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service

CAIU Child Abuse Investigation Unit

CAMHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CEOP Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre

CTN Coming To Notice

CRB Criminal Records Bureau

CROP Coalition for the Removal of Pimping

CPS Crown Prosecution Service

DCSF Department for Children, Schools and Families

DoH Department of Health

ECPAT End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual

Purposes UK

GUM Genito-Urinary Medicine

ILO International Labour Organisation
IND Immigration and Nationality Directorate

LAC Looked After Child(ren)

LSCB Local Safeguarding Children Board NASS National Asylum Support Services

NSPCC National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

PSR Pre-Sentence Report

SARC Sexual Assault Referral Centre
UAS Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker

UASC Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UKHTC United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre

YOS Youth Offending Service

## 3. Background to the protocol

- 3.1. In 2003 Cardiff Children's Services identified the need for an inter-agency protocol to coordinate action to safeguard children who were believed to have been trafficked or to be at risk of trafficking and to assist in the identification of suspected traffickers and/or activity associated with trafficking.
- **3.2.** Cardiff LSCB set up a multi-agency working party to draft a local protocol which was endorsed by the LSCB and launched in March 2008.
- **3.3.** In recent years concern about the trafficking of children, and adults, has moved much higher up the agenda of Government and statutory and voluntary agencies.
- 3.4. There has been new legislation. The Sexual Offences Act 2003 and the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimant) Act 2004 made trafficking, of all kinds, a criminal offence. The Welsh Government issued in August 2007 "Draft guidance for consultation on "Safeguarding Children who may have been trafficked." The UK Border Agency has produced a Code of Practice for Keeping Children Safe from Harm (August 2010).
- **3.5.** Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under the Children Act 2004, (referred to as Safeguarding Children throughout this protocol) imposed responsibility on Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB's), which were set up in 2006, for developing child trafficking protocols.
- 3.6. The All Wales Practice Guidance for Safeguarding Children Who May Have Been Trafficked was published in June 2011. The guidance is intended to provide practice guidance to professionals and volunteers from all agencies to help them effectively safeguard children who are abused and neglected by adults who traffic them into and within the UK for purposes of exploitation.
- 3.7. Safeguarding Children recommended that LSCB's should work with a range of agencies to deliver preventative measures and consider trafficking, as part of local needs assessment. Cardiff LSCB established a sub-group specifically to deal with trafficking issues. The sub-group developed the protocol launched in March 2008 and has since reviewed and revised it to take account in this current version of the new legislation and guidance referred to above.
- 3.8. The protocol aims to contribute to the effective implementation of the LSCB's responsibility for making sure there is effective working between partners, in particular the Police, Social Services and UKBA; ensuring training programmes for practitioners and other professionals are in place either as part of safeguarding training or as additional training; make clear where professionals can find advice on dealing with cases of trafficked children; and considering public awareness campaigns and publicising sources of help for victims.
- **3.9.** This updated protocol builds on the original and addresses the new responsibilities placed on Cardiff LSCB.

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#### 4. Introduction

- **4.1.** This protocol is intended to provide practice guidance to professionals and volunteers from all agencies to help them effectively safeguard children who are abused and neglected by adults who traffic them into and within the UK for purposes of exploitation.
- 4.2. The protocol recognises that the development of a multi-agency approach, which is able to establish long-term responses to addressing trafficking, is likely to be more effective than individual initiatives. The Home Office "Trafficking of People Crime Reduction Toolkit "(2004) informed the development of the following shared set of principles that form the basis of this protocol:
  - **4.2.1.** All children involved in trafficking are being exploited and are sexually, physically and emotionally at risk, both in the short and long-term.
  - **4.2.2.** Children do not make informed choices to enter or remain in a situation where they are victims of exploitation but do so from coercion.
  - **4.2.3.** The primary law enforcement effort must be against the adult traffickers who coerce the children into exploitative situations.
  - **4.2.4.** For any intervention to be effective it is essential that all involved agencies, both statutory and voluntary, work closely together to regularly monitor report and share key information. This should include:
    - 4.2.4.1. the results of intelligence gathering about local sectors where trafficking may occur and incidences of trafficked victims being identified;
    - 4.2.4.2. increases in victims presenting, referrals, witnesses, etc and progress with and the results of any local initiatives.
  - **4.2.5.** In order to facilitate the sharing of information lead officers should be nominated from the key agencies (refer to Appendix 6 for contact details). The lead officers' roles are to:
    - 4.2.5.1. form part of the membership of multi-agency strategy/discussion group when there is suspicion that a child is involved in trafficking;
    - 4.2.5.2. provide advice for members of their own agency and other professionals in the area; and
    - 4.2.5.3. provide a forum with other lead officers for gathering statistics at both local and national levels. These can be used to inform strategies to prevent children being trafficked and to safeguard and support those children already identified as victims.
  - **4.2.6.** Any response to suspicion of trafficking must address the child's individual circumstances, including consideration of issues of gender, race, culture, religion, sexuality and sexual orientation.

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- **4.3.** Further guidance on trafficking is available as follows:
  - **4.3.1.** on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2007 the Home Secretary, on behalf of the UK Government, signed the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings;
  - 4.3.2. on the same day the Home Office published the UK Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking. The UK Action Plan has a dedicated chapter on proposals to combat the abuse and exploitation of children by criminal human traffickers. This guidance forms a key strand of support for all agencies and professionals engaged in this complex area of practice; and
  - 4.3.3. additionally, to help Social Workers, Immigration Officers, Police and other practitioners better assist children who they suspect may have been trafficked, the NSPCC has set up a child trafficking information and advice line. Further information can be found on the NSPCC website at: <a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">http://www.nspcc.org.uk</a>

# 4.4. National Referral Mechanism - National Arrangements for Suspected Cases of Human Trafficking

- **4.4.1.** On 17 December 2008, the UK ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, which requires it to have in place a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for human trafficking. The Convention came into force on 1 April 2009.
- **4.4.2.** Although ratification has required some legislative changes, current child care and child protection frameworks are fully compliant with the Convention. The NRM will run alongside the processes to be followed in this protocol.
- **4.4.3.** From 1 April 2009, frontline agencies should refer all suspected case of child trafficking to be assessed by designated Competent Authorities (CA's). The Competent Authorities for the United Kingdom are:
  - 4.4.3.1. a central multi-agency CA based in the UKHTC; and
  - 4.4.3.2. a linked but separate CA in UKBA, which will assess cases where trafficking is raised as part of an asylum claim or in the context of another immigration process.

In the first instance the referral needs to be made to UKHTC not UKBA

4.4.4. The role of the CA's will be to determine if there are reasonable and/or conclusive grounds for a person who is referred to be considered and recorded as a victim of human trafficking. Any case must be referred to the CA via the NRM process using a specially designed form. The form and guidance can also be accessed on the Home Office website at:

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/crime/referral-forms-human-trafficking/child-trafficking-assessment?view=Binary

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- 4.4.5. All referrals to the CA should come from the lead professional or their equivalent in Local Authority Children's Social Care acting on behalf of the LSCB. In Cardiff this role is allocated to the Duty Team Manager in the Intake & Assessment team, who copies all such referrals to the Single Point of Contact for Human Trafficking at South Wales Police, (contact details are at Appendix 6). This system is intended to support agencies and their staff to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who may have been trafficked. At all times it should be used in conjunction with the Welsh Government's statutory guidance Safeguarding Children: Working Together under the Children Act 2004 (2007).
- 4.4.6. UKBA Immigration Officers who are concerned about children who may have been trafficked will refer the children concerned to local authorities in the normal way, and copy the referral form to the CA. It will then be for the local authority to assess the needs of the child and risk of harm. Where positive indicators are confirmed, the lead professional should use the NRM referral form to report the case to the CA.

# 4.5. Special Protection and Support Measures for Victims

**4.5.1.** The Government has decided that a reflection and recovery period of 45 days will be routinely granted where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person is a victim of trafficking. If the individual is prepared to cooperate with police and their presence is required for an ongoing police investigation then discretionary leave of 1 year duration may be granted. It is the role of the CA to determine, once a potential case has been referred, if reasonable and later conclusive grounds have been established to record the person as a victim. More information about how the Convention requirements are being introduced into the UK can be found on the Home Office website.

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#### 5. Definitions

- 5.1. The two most common terms for the illegal movement of people, 'trafficking' and 'smuggling', are very different. In human smuggling, immigrants and asylum seekers pay people to help them enter the country illegally, after which there is no longer a relationship. Trafficked victims are coerced or deceived by the person arranging their relocation. However, there is a difference between adult and child trafficking, where the victim is a child neither coercion nor deception need to be present for the child to be considered trafficked. On arrival in the country of destination the trafficked child or person is denied their human rights and is forced into exploitation by the trafficker or person into whose control they are delivered or sold.
- **5.2.** The Palermo Protocol To Prevent, Suppress And Punish Trafficking In Persons, Especially Women And Children, Supplementing The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime to the UN Convention (2000) (ratified by the UK on 06 February 2006) defines trafficking as: (Article 3)
  - 5.2.1. "Trafficking of persons" shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat of 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 achieve 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;
  - **5.2.2.** 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; and
  - **5.2.3.** 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 sub-paragraph (a) of this article.
  - **5.2.4.** "Child" shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.
- **5.3.** Throughout this document a child is defined according to the Children Acts 1989 and 2004 as anyone who has not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. In this document, 'Children' therefore means 'children and young people'. As stated in *Safeguarding Children*, even though a child of 16 may live independently and be in further education, this does not change his or her status or entitlement to services or protection under the Children Act 1989.
- **5.4.** The Palermo Protocol (United Nations, 2000) establishes children as a special case. Any child transported for exploitative reasons is considered to be a trafficking victim, whether or not they have been deceived. This is partly because it is considered not possible for children to give informed consent.

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## 6. Section One: The problem of trafficking

## 6.1. What evidence is there for child trafficking?

6.1.1. As the trafficking of children is a clandestine activity, it has been difficult to identify and record, although some definitive data does exist. Research by End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes UK (ECPAT) into missing children (Report: Missing Out - 2007) and data collected by Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP) in its scoping report (11 June 2007) provide evidence of child trafficking into and within the UK. The CEOP report identified 330 children as trafficked cases after fitting each to a child trafficking profile developed by the London Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). More details of CEOP's report, "A Scoping Project on Child Trafficking in the UK", can be seen at <a href="www.ceop.gov.uk">www.ceop.gov.uk</a>. The UK Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking describes how the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) will become the central focus for all intelligence and data collection relating to human trafficking.

# 6.2. Why do people traffic children?

- **6.2.1.** Most children are trafficked for financial gain. This can take the form of payment from or to the child's parents and, in most cases; the trafficker also receives payment from those wanting to exploit the child once in the UK. Some trafficking is by organised gangs. In other cases individual adults or agents traffic children to the UK for their own personal gain. Children may be used for:
  - 6.2.1.1. sex work;
  - 6.2.1.2. domestic servitude:
  - 6.2.1.3. sweatshop and restaurant work;
  - 6.2.1.4. credit card fraud;
  - 6.2.1.5. begging or pick pocketing;
  - 6.2.1.6. tending plants in illegal cannabis farms;
  - 6.2.1.7. benefit fraud;
  - 6.2.1.8. drug mules, drug dealing or decoys for adult drug traffickers;
  - 6.2.1.9. younger children are sometimes trafficked to become beggars and thieves or for benefit fraud. Teenagers are often trafficked for domestic servitude or sexual exploitation; or
  - 6.2.1.10. adoption.
- 6.2.2. In some instances children may be trafficked for the purposes of adoption outside their country of origin. Those involved in facilitating these arrangements may deceive the authorities responsible for the adoption process and often benefit from significant financial gain through payments by prospective adopters who may be unaware of the true circumstances of a child's availability for adoption. This can include payment, coercion or the deception of birth parents into relinquishing a child as well as abducting children. Practitioners who suspect that a child may

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have been trafficked for the purposes of adoption are encouraged to notify the Police and should refer to the <u>Statutory Guidance for the Adoption and Children Act 2002</u>.

# 6.3. Links with private fostering

- 6.3.1. There are occasions when birth parents who intend to smuggle their children into the United Kingdom for a variety of reasons inadvertently subject their children to traffickers who agree to the contract with a child's birth parents but whose intention is to exploit. The adult in this scenario may be a distant relative or friend of the family. Children of asylum seekers whose parents are not in this country but were brought in by someone, and so were not unaccompanied at the time of arrival, are included in this group. The primary objective of these traffickers is often to access benefits and housing.
- 6.3.2. Some traffickers may present themselves as private foster carers. The Children Act 1989 defines Private Fostering as occurring when a child under 16 (or under 18 if disabled) is placed for more than 28 days in the care of someone who is not a close relative, guardian or someone with parental responsibility. Close relatives are defined in the Act as parents, step-parents, siblings, brother or sisters of a parent, and grandparents.
- 6.3.3. The Laming Report (2003) into the death of Victoria Climbié recommended a review of private fostering legislation. The Children Act 2004 introduced a tighter framework requiring every local authority to have a duty to raise awareness; to make early enquiries about the suitability of private foster carers before children are cared for by them; to include private fostering amongst the areas to be addressed by safeguarding boards; and to establish a registration scheme for private foster carers. The local authority has the power to apply to the court to remove a child from a private foster care placement if there are concerns for the child's welfare.

# 6.4. Why is trafficking possible?

- **6.4.1.** Factors in their own country, which may make children vulnerable to trafficking, include:
  - 6.4.1.1. **poverty:** in general, this is the root cause of vulnerability to exploitation. Families see the recruiter's promises of work/income as a possible escape route from impoverished circumstances. At the very least a child's departure means one less mouth to feed;
  - 6.4.1.2. **lack of education:** attendance at school has proved to be a key means of protecting children from all forms of exploitation, including trafficking. Traffickers promise education for children whose parents cannot afford to

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- pay school fees or where schools are difficult to access or are of poor quality;
- 6.4.1.3. discrimination: this can be based both on gender and ethnicity. In some cultures girls are expected to make sacrifices in terms of their education and security for the benefit of the family and they represent less of an investment for the family because their contribution to the family will end when they leave to marry (in some cases marriage itself may be too expensive for the family). Many trafficking victims are from minority communities who are socially discriminated against and disadvantaged in their own country;
- 6.4.1.4. **cultural attitudes:** traditional cultural attitudes can mean that some children are more vulnerable to trafficking than others;
- 6.4.1.5. **grooming:** children are sometimes trafficked out of their country of origin after having been groomed for purposes of exploitation. There have also been cases of girls born in the UK who have been trafficked between towns and cities, after being groomed by men known to them for the ultimate aim of exploiting them sexually. Refer to the Welsh Government Safeguarding of Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation Guidance for further information:
- 6.4.1.6. **family conflict:** children may choose to leave home as a result of domestic abuse and neglect;
- 6.4.1.7. **political conflict and economic transition:** these often lead to movements of large numbers of people and the erosion of economic and social protection mechanisms, leaving children vulnerable; or
- 6.4.1.8. **inadequate local laws and regulations:** trafficking involves many different events and processes and legislation has been slow to keep pace. Most countries have legislation against exploitative child labour, but not all have laws specifically against trafficking. Even where there is appropriate legislation enforcement is often hampered by lack of prioritisation, corruption and ignorance of the law.

### 6.5. How children are recruited and controlled

- **6.5.1.** Traffickers are known to recruit their victims using a variety of methods. Some children are subject to coercion, which could take the form of abduction or kidnapping. However, the majority of children are trapped in subversive ways:
  - 6.5.1.1. children are promised education or what is regarded as respectable work, such as in restaurants or as domestic servants; and
  - 6.5.1.2. parents are persuaded that their children will have a better life elsewhere.

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- **6.5.2.** Many children travel on false documents and those who do not may not have access to their documents. One way traffickers exert control over trafficked children is to retain their passports and threaten children that should they escape they will be deported. The creation of a false identity for a child can give a trafficker direct control over every aspect of a child's life, for example by claiming to be a parent or guardian.
- **6.5.3.** Even before they travel children may be subjected to various forms of abuse and exploitation to ensure that the trafficker's control over the child continues after the child is transferred to someone else's care. Such forms of abuse have manifested as:
  - 6.5.3.1. voodoo or witchcraft, which may be used to frighten children into thinking that if they tell anyone about the traffickers, they and their families will die:
  - 6.5.3.2. confiscation of the child's identity documents;
  - 6.5.3.3. threats of reporting the child to the authorities.
  - 6.5.3.4. violence, or threats of violence, towards the child;
  - 6.5.3.5. threats of violence towards members of the young person's family;
  - 6.5.3.6. keeping the child socially isolated;
  - 6.5.3.7. keeping the young person locked up;
  - 6.5.3.8. telling some children that they owe large sums of money, e.g. for their air fares, accommodation and food, and that they must work to pay this off. However, they never earn enough to do this;
  - 6.5.3.9. depriving the child of money;
  - 6.5.3.10. the trafficker may have duped the child and their parents into believing they are coming to the UK for a better life and therefore not have abused them physically or emotionally at this stage of the process. The child will have been coached with a story to tell the authorities in the UK and warned not to disclose any detail beyond the story, as to do so would be to risk certain deportation; and
  - 6.5.3.11. identifying these children at ports of entry will be extremely difficult as there may be no obvious signs of distress. They are unlikely to see themselves as being at risk of harm from the trafficker. Depriving children of their true identity, controlling their contact with their parents and involving them in immigration crimes give the traffickers strong and enduring control over child victims.
- 6.5.4. Where cases of internal trafficking have come to light within the UK, the victims are usually girls who have been befriended by young men. Evidence gathered from families by the Coalition for the Removal of Pimping (CROP) suggests that some girls are lured into prostitution by initially being befriended by a boy known to them or introduced to an 'attractive' older boy. The girls are flattered and subtly coaxed into spending more time with their boyfriend and begin taking time off school and staying away from home. The girl's confidence is gained as she is groomed non-coercively by receiving gifts, experiencing an expensive lifestyle and indulging in alcohol and drug use.

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**6.5.5.** Others may be groomed coercively by being forced to comply with her boyfriend's demands. The girl eventually succumbs to sexual exploitation by older men, by a network of perpetrators, or by a pimp. At this stage some of the girls may have developed addictions to drugs or alcohol and be held ransom unless they have sex with more men. Whilst the girls are sexually exploited they may be trafficked from one location to another to make it difficult for them to escape.

# 6.6. How are children brought to the UK?

- **6.6.1.** There are two ways a child may enter the UK; either accompanied by adult/s or as unaccompanied minors.
- **6.6.2.** There are three phases in the trafficking process: the recruitment phase, the transit phase and the destination phase. The traffickers might be part of a well organised criminal network, or they might be individuals helping out in only one of the various stages of the operation, such as the provision of false documentation, transport, or places where the child's presence can be concealed.
- **6.6.3.** Any "ports of entry" into the UK might be used by traffickers. There is evidence that some children are trafficked via numerous transit countries and many may cross the European Union border before arriving in the UK. For example, there are documented cases of African and Chinese girls being trafficked into the UK via Italy.
- 6.6.4. Significant numbers of children are referred to Local Authority Children's Services after applying for asylum, and some even register at school for up to a term, before disappearing again. It is thought that they are trafficked out of the UK to other European countries or trafficked internally within the UK. However, recent experience suggests that as traffickers perceive checks have improved at the larger ports of entry such as Heathrow and Gatwick, they are starting to use the smaller regional airports. Locally it is the responsibility of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council to accommodate unaccompanied asylum seeking children who claim asylum at Cardiff International Airport.
- 6.6.5. Some children and young people arrive in Cardiff, having been brought to the city in the backs of lorries. Others are dispersed to Cardiff when they claim asylum in Croydon. Some of those who are dispersed to Cardiff have not been accepted as children, hence they require an age assessment by Children's Services to determine whether they are children or not. Yet others are dropped off at UKBA premises in Cardiff. Whilst there is no Screening Unit at UKBA in Cardiff, in cases where an applicant is particularly vulnerable (such as children and young people) their application will be recorded locally (rather than travelling to the Asylum Screening Unit in Croydon). When questioned, most of them appear to have very little knowledge or information about the person/people who brought them into the United Kingdom.

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## 6.7. Accompanied children

- **6.7.1.** Very little is known about accompanied children, some of whom will have travelled either legitimately or illegitimately with their parents. Others may be brought in by adults either purporting to be their parents or stating that they have the parents' permission to bring the child. There are many legitimate reasons for children being brought to the UK, such as to seek asylum, economic migration with their family, education, re-unification with family or fleeing a war-torn country.
- **6.7.2.** To curb illegal migration and improve children's safeguards, new global visa regulations were introduced in February 2006. Safeguards have been introduced and a photograph of the child is now required on the visa, together with the passport number of the adult/s who have been given permission to travel with the child.
- **6.7.3.** Some children who enter the UK accompanied by an adult are believed to subsequently apply for asylum claiming to be unaccompanied, after being told by their trafficker that by doing so they will be legally granted permission to reside in the UK and be entitled to claim welfare benefits.

## 6.8. Unaccompanied children

- **6.8.1.** Unaccompanied children might come to the UK seeking asylum (Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children UASC), to attend school, or join family, close or extended. They might be the subject of a private fostering arrangement. More is known about the groups of unaccompanied children as they often come to the notice of the immigration authorities.
- **6.8.2.** If the child is unaccompanied and not travelling to be with his or her customary care giver, or if there are some concerns over the legitimacy or suitability of the proposed arrangement for the child's care in the UK, it is likely that they will be referred to Local Authority Children's Services by the immigration authorities.
- **6.8.3.** Some groups of children will avoid contact with Children's Services, as instructed by their traffickers. For example, it is well documented that some children 'disappear' into their ethnic communities once they arrive in the UK. It is also believed that some traffickers insist that the child applies for asylum as this gives the child legitimate right of temporary "leave to remain" in the UK. For further information please see the <u>All Wales Guidance on Safeguarding and Promoting</u> the Welfare of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and Young People.

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# 6.9. Trafficking within the UK

- **6.9.1.** Child trafficking should not only be seen as a crime against foreign children being brought into the UK or in transit to other countries. UK born children may also be recruited for internal trafficking within the UK.
- 6.9.2. There are documented cases of teenage girls, born in the UK, being targeted for internal trafficking between towns and cities for sexual exploitation. Such cases are highlighted by Coalition for the Removal of Pimping (CROP) in its paper, Trafficking in Our Midst. It describes how girls are lured away from their families to perform sexual acts with groups of older men and are threatened with violence if they refuse. More information about CROP and their research is available at their website:

www.cropuk.org.uk.

**6.9.3.** The UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) is currently compiling evidence of cases of girls who have been trafficked between cities in the UK for sexual exploitation. Such intelligence is helping to build a better understanding of the nature and spread of internal trafficking of children across the UK.

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## 7. Section Two: Role of specific groups and services

# 7.1. The role of Children's Services

- **7.1.1.** Trafficked children, or children where there have been concerns expressed about the suspicion of trafficking, must always be dealt with within mainstream child care policies and procedures, including child protection where necessary. Details of the referral process can be found in Section Three of this protocol and in Appendix 2.
- **7.1.2.** The responsibilities of Children's Services regarding child victims of trafficking may include:
  - 7.1.2.1. providing victims/potential victims with a place of safety;
  - 7.1.2.2. providing support services (e.g. legal advice, counselling);
  - 7.1.2.3. identifying victims/potential victims according to agreed profiles or receiving referrals from other agencies who have identified them;
  - 7.1.2.4. contributing to joint inter-agency profiling of victims/potential victims;
  - 7.1.2.5. undertaking initial interviews, including joint interviews with local police, to assess risk, harm and agreed child protection plans;
  - 7.1.2.6. providing advice on whom to contact concerning their immigration status;
  - 7.1.2.7. assisting in the identification of possible traffickers masquerading as relatives:
  - 7.1.2.8. ensuring contact with the Police and providing information to the Police;
  - 7.1.2.9. finding of relatives in country of origin, and verifying what would be in the best interests of the child, and whether they should be able to remain in the UK or if it is safe to return home\*;
  - 7.1.2.10. ensuring that voluntary organisations or other support services are available if they are returned to their country of origin;
  - 7.1.2.11. monitoring of Looked After Children for signs that they are meeting the traffickers which may include monitoring phone calls; and
  - 7.1.2.12. providing a supportive environment so that the child does not leave with the trafficker. This may necessitate taking legal steps to ensure the protection of the child.
- \* It must be remembered that even where it is considered that the child will have better care and facilities in the UK, this is not a barrier to removal if appropriate reception and care arrangements can be established in the home country.

#### 7.2. The role of South Wales Police

- 7.2.1. In south Wales Police force concerns of alleged Child Trafficking are managed within the Police Public Protection Unit, which has a specialist Child Protection section. The Police Child Protection team liaises closely with Children's Services in all child abuse investigations. The Single Point of Contact is based at Fairwater Police Station.
- 7.2.2. In addition to having child abuse investigation teams the Metropolitan Police Service has led a "Paladin team" in London. This is an integrated team of Police, Immigration Officers and Social Workers who specialise in safeguarding children issues. The team provides a limited service to the UK Border Agency (UKBA) Asylum Screening Units (ASUs) based in Croydon and at Heathrow airport. The Paladin Team undertakes proactive and preventative initiatives against the trafficking of children. The team also has some capacity to investigate specific trafficking and migration offences, as well as providing an advisory service to child abuse investigation teams on child trafficking issues.
- **7.2.3.** Additionally, there are a number of specialist teams in Police Forces across the UK who have expertise in dealing with trafficking cases. There are also Joint Intelligence teams in key locations across the country comprising immigration, Police and other agencies which help to identify child protection concerns.
- 7.2.4. Part of the work of the planned child trafficking desk within Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP) will be to draw on examples of best practice to develop guidance for law enforcement around the identification of victims of child trafficking. Once developed this guidance should be available through the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and/or CEOP websites. Further information can be found in Safeguarding Children.

# 7.3. The role of the Asylum Team and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children Team

7.3.1. Cardiff County Council has an Asylum Team, based in Adult Services, and social workers based in the Looked After/Leaving Care Service, who provide support to unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). The Adult Asylum Team provides support to asylum seeking single adults and families with children. The UASC Social Workers provide support to asylum seeking children and young people who have entered the U.K. by themselves and have no friends or family to support them. Information on how to make a referral if there are concerns a child is trafficked can be found in Appendix 2.

#### 7.3.2. The role of the Asylum Team with regards to trafficked children is to:

7.3.2.1. identify potential cases of trafficking in relation to the families supported by the team, and make referrals to the Intake and Assessment Duty Manager

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- at Children's Services using the Multi-Agency Referral Form (see Appendix 3);
- 7.3.2.1.1. refer all cases where a child or children have joined a parent or parents who are asylum seekers to Children's Services for assessment (via the multi-Agency Referral Form to Intake and Assessment);
- 7.3.2.1.2. attend and contribute to multi-agency strategy meetings about children at risk of being trafficked;
- 7.3.2.1.3. provide information about specific families supported by the team, as appropriate; and
- 7.3.2.1.4. communicate with other agencies to ensure any information relating to potential trafficking is brought to their attention at the earliest opportunity.

# 7.3.3. The role of the Looked After/Leaving Care Service- UASC workers with regards to trafficked children is:

- 7.3.3.1. to identify potential cases of trafficking amongst the children and young people supported by the team, and make referrals to the Intake and Assessment Duty Manager using the Multi-Agency Referral Form (see Appendix 3);
- 7.3.3.2. attend and contribute to multi-agency strategy meetings about the child at risk of being trafficked; and
- 7.3.3.3. Carry out joint investigations with Intake and Assessment, where appropriate, if there are concerns that a UASC may have been trafficked.

### 7.4. The role of Health Services

- 7.4.1. Trafficked children who need healthcare may present themselves at the Emergency Unit, the Asylum Seekers Clinic at Cardiff Royal Infirmary, the Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) clinic, Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) or primary care services. Reception staff should be alert to inconsistencies in addresses, deliberate vagueness and children or carers being unable to give details of next of kin, names, telephone numbers etc. Checking a child's details whilst they are still in the department may indicate if they are false details or not.
- 7.4.2. Health professionals may be one of the first contacts who suspect or are aware that a child has been trafficked / disappeared and therefore play a crucial role identifying such children. Initially the role of the health professional in relation to trafficked/disappeared children is in the recognition and referral stages of the process, and not to investigate suspected cases. However, health professionals may become involved in the investigative stage following the multi-agency strategy/discussion meeting.
- **7.4.3.** If a health professional suspects a child of being trafficked, to or from Cardiff, a referral will be made to the Children's Services Intake and Assessment Team following the All Wales Child Protection procedures. Information on how to make a referral if there are concerns a child is trafficked can be found in Appendix 2.

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- **7.4.4.** A health representative will attend the multi-agency strategy / discussion meeting convened by Children's Services following the referral. Support and advice must be sought from the Cardiff and Vale UHB's Safeguarding Team by staff who need to share information or attend meetings etc, if required.
- 7.4.5. Services should include the identification and referral of immediate and ongoing physical and emotional health needs and a general medical as many such children will have experienced a lack of health care in their own country. They may have been exposed to trauma, have untreated illnesses and be subjected to malnutrition.
- **7.4.6.** 16-18 year olds should also be given advice on sexual health, drug and alcohol issues.
- **7.4.7.** Further health issues for consideration by professionals working with trafficked children can be found within the All Wales Practice Guidance for Safeguarding Children who may have been Trafficked.

#### 7.5. The role of the Education Service

- **7.5.1.** The Education Service has an important role in recognising and referring alleged cases of abuse. The role of staff in relation to children abused through child trafficking is in the prevention, recognition and referral stages. The procedures for staff remain the same as those used in cases of child protection, although in this circumstance children and young people can also be referred as Children in Need (of protection and support). Information on how to make a referral if there are concerns a child is trafficked can be found in Appendix 2.
- 7.5.2. Children trafficked into the country may be registered at a school for a term before being moved to another part of the UK or abroad. Schools therefore need to be alert to this pattern of registration and de-registration. It has been identified in schools which are situated near ports of entry. However, practitioners should be alert to this possibility in all schools in the UK. There may be instances of children from communities that move around: Gypsy, Roma, traveller or migrant families who collectively go missing from school.
- **7.5.3.** Children who have experienced certain life events are more at risk of going missing from education. Trafficked children are particularly vulnerable. Schools need therefore, to be alert to the possibility that a child who goes missing from school may be, or has been, a trafficked child who is living with, or is running away from, an exploitative situation.
- **7.5.4.** The Cardiff LSCB has a multi-agency protocol for children who go missing. Supplementary guidance relating to children missing from education can be found in Chapter 5 of the Welsh Assembly Government's circular 18/2006 "Educational Records, School Reports and the Common Transfer System.

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### 7.6. The role of the Leisure, Libraries and Parks Service

- 7.6.1. The role of staff within this service is primarily one of recognition and referral. Library staff, Park Rangers and Leisure Centre staff will all have some contact with children and young people and as such should be made aware of procedures relating to child protection. The Play Services has ongoing regular contact with many vulnerable children and young people across Cardiff. Many children and young people regard workers within Play Services as trusted third parties and as such they deal with a large amount of personal information relating to the children/young people. In the normal course of their work staff may identify patterns of behaviour or may deal with direct disclosure of information.
- 7.6.2. Referrals should be made, using the Multi-Agency Referral Form (see Appendix 3), to the nominated officer or Children's Services Intake and Assessment Team as soon as a problem, suspicion or concern becomes apparent and certainly within 24 hours. Referrals may be made by telephone, in person, by letter or by fax but must be followed up with completion of the Multi-Agency Referral Form. Further information on how to make a referral if there are concerns a child is trafficked can be found in Appendix 2.

## 7.7. The role of the Youth Offending Service

- 7.7.1. Staff working in the Youth Offending Service (YOS) may encounter children from abroad or others who have been trafficked. Children who have been trafficked may be reluctant to disclose the circumstances of their exploitation or arrival into the UK for fear of reprisals by the trafficker, owner or 'pimp', or by misplaced loyalty to them. There are cases when children have been charged with criminal offences, for example, when involved in cannabis farms. Social Workers and Probation Officers should be particularly alert to these issues when preparing Pre-Sentence Reports (PSRs) or during the assessment process.
- 7.7.2. Referrals should be made, using the Multi-Agency Referral Form (see Appendix 3), to the nominated officer or Children's Services Intake and Assessment Team as soon as a problem, suspicion or concern becomes apparent and certainly within 24 hours. Referrals may be made by telephone, in person, by letter or by fax but must be followed up with completion of the Multi-Agency Referral Form. Further information on how to make a referral if there are concerns a child is trafficked can be found in Appendix 2.

#### 7.7.3. Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC):

7.7.3.1. Working with Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) is a difficult and complex area of work and it is therefore important that there is good communication between all staff who are involved with them. When the YOS has initial contact with a young person who is believed to be a foreign national

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the UASC Social Workers in the Looked After/Leaving Care Service should be contacted to ascertain whether the child/young person is an asylum seeker and whether they are working with him/her. If the child/young person is known to the UASC workers there should be regular liaison between the YOS and UASC workers during the period of time that there is YOS involvement with him/her.

- 7.7.3.2. If the child/young person is not known to the UASC workers and s/he wants to claim asylum a referral should be made by the relevant YOS member of staff to the Intake and Assessment Team, who will subsequently make a referral to the Looked After/Leaving Care Service UASC workers. As stated above, there should then be regular liaison between YOS staff and the UASC worker.
- 7.7.3.3. It is particularly important that there is good liaison and communication between the YOS and the UASC worker if there has been a Court request for the YOS to prepare a PSR on a young person who is a foreign national/asylum seeker.
- 7.7.3.4. Relevant information from the UASC worker should be included in the PSR in order to inform the relevant Court for the purpose of sentencing. If the background of the child/young person is particularly complex or the UASC worker has particular concerns with regard to the veracity of the background information a separate report will, if appropriate, be prepared by the UASC worker as an addendum to the PSR.
- 7.7.3.5. A separate report will be particularly relevant if the UASC worker has concerns about the age of the young person, as this could affect what was the relevant sentencing Court. In these circumstances it would also be important for a UASC worker to attend Court in order to address any queries which might be raised by the Court.

# 7.8. The role of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)

- 7.8.1. Policy guidance has been issued by the CPS on prosecuting cases involving children and young people as victims and witnesses of crime and, in appropriate circumstances, as defendants. It sets out CPS policy to guide prosecutors in ensuring that when they are dealing with cases involving children, the child is given appropriate support and there is consideration as to what is best for the child if a criminal prosecution proceeds.
- 7.8.2. There are specific provisions in the <u>Code for Crown Prosecutors</u> to ensure that young people are not inappropriately criminalised. Paragraphs 8.1 to 8.5 of the Code require the Crown prosecutor to consider the interests of a child or youth when deciding whether it is in the public interest to prosecute. Cases involving children are usually only referred to the CPS for prosecution if the child has already received a reprimand and final warning. Reprimands and final warnings are intended to prevent re-offending.

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- 7.8.3. The use of a child in a criminal enterprise can be seen as a form of child abuse. Children who may be forced into prostitution will be treated by the CPS as an abused child and victim who needs help rather than as a defendant. Practitioners should refer to the guidance contained in Safeguarding Children. The same consideration will be given to those who are coerced into committing crimes or used by adults to commit offences. CPS will prosecute people who organise prostitution and who benefit financially from abusing children.
- 7.8.4. More detailed guidance to prosecutors expands on these provisions. In cases where there is evidence that a young person has committed an offence whilst in a coerced situation, for example when they have been trafficked, the prosecutor will have to consider whether or not the coercion amounts to a defence of duress. Where it does not amount to a defence and there is sufficient evidence for a prosecution, the circumstances of the young person will be one of the factors for the prosecutor to consider in deciding whether or not it is in the public interest to bring a prosecution.

#### 7.9. The role of CAFCASS CYMRU

- **7.9.1.** CAFCASS CYMRU looks after the interests of children involved in Family Proceedings in Wales and on occasion can be called upon to fulfil this role within cases that originate in Courts in England. CAFCASS CYMRU practitioners, who hold the generic title of Family Court Advisors, work with children and their families, and then advise the Court on what course of action they consider would be in the children's best interests. CAFCASS CYMRU contributes to securing high quality and safe outcomes for each individual child.
- 7.9.2. Family Court Advisors may at times be required to act in cases where the subject of the proceedings is a child who has previously been domiciled in a country other than the United Kingdom and where the Applicant with whom the child has been placed is described as a "Relative" or "Member of the Extended Family". Examples of the associated Court Proceedings would be where an Application has been made to the Court for a Residence Order, Special Guardianship Order or an Adoption Order. Family Court Advisors should be particularly vigilant in such cases, especially when assessing the background, wishes and feelings of the child involved and the status of those making the application. Similarly, the Family Court Advisor should be mindful that child trafficking is not solely confined to children entering the United Kingdom from another country.
- 7.9.3. CAFCASS (England) has worked collaboratively with colleagues in the Border & Immigration Agency to produce: "Guidance for the BIA and CAFCASS Protocol in Cases Before the Family Courts November 2007". CAFCASS CYMRU has followed that initiative and is currently formulating its own protocol with the Border & Immigration Agency.

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# 7.10. The role of the UK Border Agency (UKBA)

- 7.10.1. The UKBA is an executive agency of the Home Office, which has responsibility for managing immigration control in the UK. Decisions regarding the admissibility of arriving passengers are made by staff at air and sea ports in accordance with the Immigration Act 1971 (as amended). UKBA may be the first official agency encountered by child victims of trafficking at Ports, in dispersal regions or at the Asylum Screening Unit in Croydon. They may recognise and assist these children and other people in need of protection. Their interventions may be triggered by the particular circumstances of the case or by international intelligence about trafficking.
- 7.10.2. Whilst there is no Asylum Screening Centre in Cardiff, applications from particularly vulnerable walk-ins may be processed. This includes applications from children and young people. Conducting a Screening Interview with a child requires both staff trained in processing minors' applications and a responsible adult present with the child. Agencies should be aware of the potential for delay, due to lack of available staff or difficulty in obtaining an interpreter.
- **7.10.3.** It is important for all agencies concerned with protecting children who have been trafficked to develop good working arrangements with the UKBA. UKBA should also be involved in Local Safeguarding Children Boards where it has a local presence.
- **7.10.4.** When any young asylum seeker is interviewed currently minors are interviewed by UKBA asylum Case Owners as part of their asylum claim a responsible adult (a Social Worker, Foster Carer or trained volunteer) must be present. The support of a responsible adult should also be considered in any subsequent interview with a minor held away from their sponsor(s).
- **7.10.5.** In all circumstances the interview will be conducted by a specially trained officer with knowledge of Child Protection issues.
- 7.10.6. Referrals should be made, using the Multi-Agency Referral Form (see Appendix 3), to the Children's Services Intake and Assessment Team as soon as a problem, suspicion or concern becomes apparent and certainly within 24 hours. Referrals may be made by telephone, in person, by letter or by fax but must be followed up with completion of the Multi-Agency Referral Form. Further information on how to make a referral if there are concerns a child is trafficked can be found in Appendix 2.

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# 7.11. The role of the Voluntary and Third Sector (including refugee community organisations)

7.11.1. Cardiff has a wide variety of voluntary and third sector agencies providing services to asylum seeking children and young people. Some employ paid staff i.e. The Welsh Refugee Council, whilst most others, for example, Asylum Justice and refugee community organisations, rely entirely on volunteers. Their role is crucial in helping to stamp out child trafficking. Much better links need to be developed particularly with refugee community organisations to encourage them to come forward to report cases of suspected child trafficking.

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## 8. National organisations that may be able to help.

- **8.1. ECPAT UK**. ECPAT stands for End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and the Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes. ECPAT is a children's rights organisation campaigning against the commercial sexual exploitation of children in the UK and on its international aspects. It focuses on the protection of trafficked children and children exploited in tourism and the prevention of such crimes.
- **8.2. UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC).** In October 2006, following a proposal from the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), the UKHTC was established. The UKHTC provides a strategic multi agency response to trafficking both into and within the UK. The Centre aims to tackle trafficking from a victim centred, human rights perspective. Appendix 4a contains a process map for referrals to the UKHTC.
- 8.3. To support this approach the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) is planning to establish a Child Trafficking Desk to work closely with the UKHTC and relevant stakeholders to assess annually the nature and scale of child trafficking so as to inform the development of police policy, best practice and training requirements. CEOP's scoping report on the nature and scale of child trafficking into and within the UK (commissioned by the Home Office), published in June 2007, highlights the need for greater awareness of child trafficking, better information sharing and improved interagency working for safeguarding trafficked children. The involvement of a UKBA member seconded to CEOP will ensure that immigration issues relating to trafficked victims will be appropriately responded to by the agency.
- **8.4. Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP)** In April 2006, the Government established the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) to protect children from sexual exploitation originating from the Internet. CEOP adopts a child-centred approach to all areas of its business and has a dedicated Child Trafficking Unit. CEOP works closely with the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), ACPO, the UKHTC and relevant statutory and non-statutory stakeholders on all issues relating to child trafficking.
  - **8.4.1.** In June 2007, CEOP published a scoping report on child trafficking in the UK. This was commissioned by the Home Office and UKBA. The report highlights the need for greater awareness of child trafficking, better information sharing and improved inter-agency working for safeguarding trafficked children. The report can be downloaded from the CEOP website at <a href="https://www.ceop.gov.uk">www.ceop.gov.uk</a>.
  - **8.4.2.** In future, CEOP will produce an annual threat assessment of the scale and nature of child trafficking in the UK. The involvement of a UKBA member seconded to CEOP will ensure that immigration issues relating to trafficked victims will be appropriately responded to by the Centre.

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- **8.5.** NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice and Information Helpline. The Home Office in partnership with NSPCC, ECPACT UK, CEOP and Comic Relief will, in the autumn of 2007, launch the NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice and Information line. This is in response to an extensive consultation highlighting issues for identifying children and young people who may have been trafficked and the challenge to deliver an appropriate welfare approach. It will offer direct assistance to professionals in statutory and non-statutory services responsible for children who show signs of having been trafficked and will provide advice on how their immediate needs can be addressed. It will offer advice on safeguarding best practice by telephone and a case consultancy service by appointment.
  - **8.5.1.** The advice line will be a conduit for professionals to contact to talk through issues and possible actions regarding any children who may have been, or still is being, trafficked. The line will support referrals to other agencies and will use learning from the service to promote best practice in the safeguarding and welfare of trafficked children. The service will work closely with a range of other agencies and experts on child trafficking through an advisory group in order to ensure that advice given is up to date, relevant and useful. It will involve the participation of trafficked children in the design and delivery of this and other connected services.
  - **8.5.2.** Over time the service will build a knowledge base which will inform service delivery development and permit the sharing of good practice and intelligence with CEOP and the UKHTC.

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#### 9. Section Three

## 9.1. Recognition and assessment of information

- 9.1.1. Unsubstantiated allegations that a child may be being exploited through trafficking should be treated with caution, but should be noted. None of the following indicators listed in the risk profile below, whether individually or together, should be viewed as conclusive proof, but any of them may be suggestive of the possibility. They can alert professionals to difficulties that particular children are experiencing which may include abuse through exploitation resulting from trafficking. Some of these indicators that children may be at risk from trafficking may be noted more readily if the child is looked after by Children's Services, but they apply equally to children living in the community.
- **9.1.2.** Indicators suggested by ECPAT (2004) for turning suspicions into evidence include situations in which the child:
  - 9.1.2.1. has entered the country illegally;
  - 9.1.2.2. has no passport or other means of identification;
  - 9.1.2.3. has false documentation:
  - 9.1.2.4. is unable to confirm the name and address of the person meeting them on arrival;
  - 9.1.2.5. does not appear to have money but does have a mobile phone;
  - 9.1.2.6. possesses money and goods not accounted for;
  - 9.1.2.7. receives unexplained/unidentified phone calls whilst in placement/temporary accommodation;
  - 9.1.2.8. is driven around by an older male or 'boyfriend';
  - 9.1.2.9. pre-verbal babies travelling with lone male parent or carer;
  - 9.1.2.10. is withdrawn and refuses to talk:
  - 9.1.2.11. shows signs of sexual behaviour or language:
  - 9.1.2.12. shows signs of physical or sexual abuse, and/or has contracted a sexually transmitted disease;
  - 9.1.2.13. has a history with missing links and unexplained moves;
  - 9.1.2.14. has gone missing from local authority care:
  - 9.1.2.15. is required to earn a minimum amount of money every day;
  - 9.1.2.16. works in various locations;
  - 9.1.2.17. has limited freedom of movement:
  - 9.1.2.18. appears to be missing for periods;
  - 9.1.2.19. is known to beg for money;
  - 9.1.2.20. is being cared for by adult/s who are not their parents. The quality of the relationship between the child and their adult carers is not good;
  - 9.1.2.21. has not been registered with or attended a GP practice;
  - 9.1.2.22. has not been enrolled in school;
  - 9.1.2.23. has to pay off an exorbitant debt, e.g. for travel costs, before having control over own earnings;
  - 9.1.2.24. is permanently deprived of a large part of their earnings by another person;
  - 9.1.2.25. is excessively afraid of being deported;

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- 9.1.2.26. has had their journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family;
- 9.1.2.27. or the person in control of the child has previously made multiple visa applications for other children and/or has acted as the guarantor for other children's visa applications or is known to have acted as the guarantor on the visa applications for other visitors; and
- 9.1.2.28. who have not returned to their countries of origin on the expiry of those visas.

#### **9.1.3.** Other factors to watch out for include:

- 9.1.3.1. are there any signs of neglect? e.g. unkempt appearance, non-engagement with health services and/or school;
- 9.1.3.2. look out for obvious signs of "wealth" mobile phones, designer clothes, money;
- 9.1.3.3. are they truanting from school; and
- 9.1.3.4. are there signs of abuse? Can be found in:

<u>The All Wales Practice Guidance for Safeguarding Children Who May Have Been Trafficked Indicators of abuse.</u>

# 9.1.4. See figure 1 for common scenarios that should lead practitioners to consider a child may be trafficked.

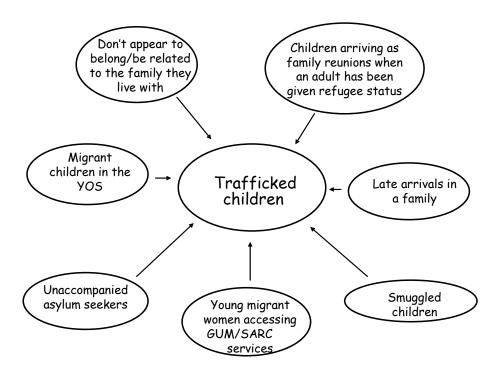


Figure 1.0: Consider trafficking when meeting any of these scenarios

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**9.1.5.** All children who have been exploited will suffer some form of physical or mental harm. Usually the longer the exploitation the more health problems that will be experienced.

# 9.2. Referral process

- **9.2.1.** Comprehensive information regarding how to make a referral and the referral process can be found in Appendix 2.
- **9.2.2.** The multi-agency process map and multi-agency referral form can be found in Appendices 4 and 3 respectively.

#### 9.3. Action for services

- 9.3.1. Where there is concern that a child is the victim of trafficking they may be at risk of immediate harm and time is of the essence. A referral must be made in the first instance to the Children's Services Duty Team Manager at Intake and Assessment in accordance with the All Wales Child Protection Procedures. Children's Services will notify the Police as a matter of urgency to ensure there are no unnecessary delays. Further information on how to make a referral if there are concerns a child is trafficked can be found in Appendix 2.
- 9.3.2. In situations where it becomes apparent that Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) has taken place, professionals should be aware of the <u>All Wales Female Genital Mutilation Protocol</u>. It recognises that FGM places a child at risk of significant harm and will therefore be investigated (initially) under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 by Children's Services and the Police Child Protection Team. The FGM Protocol provides professional guidance for health professionals, Children's Services staff, the Police, Education and the voluntary sector.
- **9.3.3.** Similarly Safeguarding Children contains guidance on the particular needs of children abused or neglected because of a belief in spirit possession. The Welsh Government is planning to issue separate guidance on this issue shortly.

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# **Appendix 1: Legislation**

## 1. International Legislation

- 1.1. International agreements and legal instruments relevant to trafficked and exploited children include:
  - The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (United Nations, 1989) and its Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (2000) and the Optional Protocol on the involvement on children in armed conflict (2000)
  - The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (2000)
  - International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention 182 concerning the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (2000)
  - The Declaration and Agenda for Action agreed at the First World Congress on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Stockholm, 1996)
  - The Yokohama Global Commitment agreed at the Second World Congress on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Yokohama, 2001)
  - Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (2005)
- 1.2. In 2000 trafficking became enshrined in international law for the first time through the Palermo Protocol within the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.
- 1.3. The Protocol defines trafficking as: '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 (elsewhere in the Palermo Protocol)'.

# 2. United Kingdom Legislation

- 2.1. UK legislation and guidance relevant to trafficked and exploited children includes:
  - The Children Act 1989
  - The Children Act 2004
  - Working Together to Safeguard Children (2006)
  - Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under the Children Act 2004
  - Children and Young People: Rights to Action (2004)
  - What to do if you are worried a child is being abused (2006)
  - The Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002
  - The Sexual Offences Act 2003
  - The Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants) Act 2004
  - The UK Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking (2007)
  - Welsh Government Guidance on Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation (2010)

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- 2.2. The Sexual Offences Act 2003, which came into force on 1st May 2004, introduced wide-ranging offences covering trafficking into, out of, or within the UK for any form of sexual offence. These carry a 14 year maximum penalty. An offence of 'trafficking for exploitation', which covers non-sexual exploitation, including trafficking for forced labour and the removal of organs, was included in the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Act 2004.
- 2.3. The trafficking of children is included under the trafficking offences contained in the Sexual Offences Act and the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Act. In addition, the Sexual Offences Act introduced new offences of "abuse of children through prostitution and pornography" which aim 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 penalty ranges from 7 years to life 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 will be 14 years imprisonment.
- 2.4. The offences of people trafficking and of prostitution and child sex 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 that the proceeds of those crimes, and assets, may be seized. The Director of the Assets Recovery Agency also has powers to recover property obtained through unlawful conduct, even if that conduct took place abroad and even if there has not been a criminal prosecution.

## 3. Relevant provisions of UK Legislation

## 3.1. Children Act 1989, Section 17

## A child is defined as 'in need' by Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 if.

- s/he is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him/her of services; or
- his/her health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for him/her of such services; or
- she/he is disabled.

# 3.2. Children Act 1989, Section 20

- 3.2.1. Every Local Authority shall provide accommodation for any child in need within their area who appears to them to require accommodation as a result of:
  - there being no person who has parental responsibility for him/her; or
  - his/her being lost or having been abandoned; or

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- the person who has been caring for him/her being prevented (whether or not permanently and for whatever reason) from providing him/her with suitable accommodation or care.
- 3.2.2. Every Local Authority shall provide accommodation for any child in need within their area who has reached the age of sixteen and whose welfare the authority consider is likely to be seriously prejudiced if they do not provide him/her with accommodation.

## 3.3. Children Act 1989, Section 47

- 3.3.1. Where a Local Authority has reasonable cause to suspect that a child who lives, or is found, in their area is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, the authority shall make, or cause to be made, such enquiries as they consider necessary to enable them to decide whether they should take any action to safeguard or promote the child's welfare.
- 3.3.2. 'Harm' is defined as:
  - ill treatment, which includes sexual abuse, physical abuse and forms of illtreatment which are not physical, for example, emotional abuse; or
  - impairment of health (physical or mental); or
  - Impairment of development (physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural).
- 3.3.3. This may include seeing or hearing the ill treatment of another (s120 Adoption and Children Act 2002).

# 3.4. Children Act 1989, Section 67 Private Fostering

- 3.4.1. Under section 67 of the Children Act 1989 a Local Authority is under a duty to satisfy itself that the welfare of children who are privately fostered within its area is being satisfactorily safeguarded and promoted and to ensure that such advice is given to those caring for the child as appears to the authority to be needed.
- 3.4.2. 'A privately fostered child' means a child who is under the age of sixteen (eighteen if disabled) and who is cared for, and provided with accommodation in their own home, by someone other than:
  - a parent;
  - a person who is not his/her parent of his but who has parental responsibility for him/her; or
  - a relative.
- 3.4.3. A child is not a privately fostered child if the person caring for and accommodating him/her:

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- has done so for a period of less than 28 days and
- does not intend to do so for any longer period.
- 3.4.4. A child is not a privately fostered child while:
  - she/he is being looked after by a local authority;
  - she/he is in the care of any person in premises in which either of his/her parents; a person who is not his/her parent but who has parental responsibility for him/her; or a person who is a relative of his/hers and who has assumed responsibility for his/her care, is for the time being living:
    - o in accommodation provided by or on behalf of any voluntary organisation
    - o in any school in which he/she is receiving full-time education
    - o in any health service hospital
    - o in any care home or independent hospital
    - o in any home or institution not specified above but provided, equipped and maintained by the Secretary of State;
  - she/he is in the care of any person in compliance with an order under section 63(1) of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000; or a supervision requirement within the meaning of Part II of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995;
  - she/he is liable to be detained, or subject to guardianship, under the Mental Health Act 1983;
  - she/he is placed in the care of a person who proposes to adopt him/her under arrangements made by an adoption agency or s/he is a protected child; or
  - a child who is a pupil at a school, and who lives at the school during the holidays for more than two weeks, is under 16 and to whom none of the above exemptions applies is regarded as a private foster child during that time.
- 3.4.5. A carer, who is disqualified from being a private foster carer or who lives with someone else who is disqualified, cannot privately foster without the consent of the Local Authority. There is a right of appeal against a refusal of consent.
- 3.4.6. A Local Authority is empowered to prohibit a carer from being a private foster carer if they are of the opinion that:
  - the carer is not a suitable person to foster a child; or
  - the premises in which the child is, or will be, accommodated are not suitable; or
  - it would be prejudicial to the welfare of the child to be, or continue to be, accommodated by that carer in those premises.
- 3.4.7. A prohibition may prevent the carer fostering anywhere in the area, restrict fostering to specific premises, or restrict fostering to a particular child in those premises. There is a right of appeal against the imposition of a condition.
- 3.4.8. The Local Authority may also impose requirements on a carer affecting:
  - the number, age and sex of the children to be fostered;

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- the standard of accommodation and equipment;
- health and safety arrangements; or
- specific arrangements for the children to be fostered.
- 3.4.9. The Local Authority must be given notice of the placement by both the parent and the carer and any other person involved in its arrangement.
- 3.4.10. The Local Authority must be satisfied as to the suitability of each arrangement notified to it.
- 3.4.11. Regulations prescribe the frequency with which a privately fostered child should be visited.
- 3.4.12. Where a Local Authority is not satisfied that the welfare of a privately fostered child is being satisfactorily safeguarded or promoted it must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that the care of the child is undertaken by a parent, a holder of parental responsibility, or a relative (unless not in the interests of the child to do so) and consider exercising its functions under the Children Act 1989.

### 4. Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 Section 54

- 4.1. Section 54 is intended to discourage the concept of 'benefit shopping' within Europe. It is retrospective and applies to anyone who comes within the categories set out below. This is not dependent on the length of time they have been in the UK.
- 4.2. The Act has the effect of preventing local authorities and NASS from providing support under certain provisions, including section 21 of the National Assistance Act and section 17 of the Children Act (1989) to:
  - those with refugee status in another European Economic Area state;
  - persons unlawfully present in the UK who are not asylum seekers, including those who have overstayed visa entry limit and those without confirmation of leave to remain; or
  - failed asylum seekers who refuse to co-operate with removal directions.
- 4.3. The Act does not, however, prevent the provision of support to children, or the exercise of a power or the performance of a duty to prevent a breach of the European Convention on Human Rights or rights under the European Community treaties.

# 5. Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 Section 55

5.1. Section 55 applies to those who have made or are intending to make an asylum claim in the UK. It prevents NASS from providing asylum support, and local authorities from providing certain support, unless the Secretary of State is satisfied that the person

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applied for asylum as soon as reasonably practicable after arrival in the UK. The section does not prevent the provision of asylum support to families with dependent children, nor does it prevent the provision of support by the Secretary of State (via NASS) to prevent a breach of human rights.

- 5.2. Section 55 does not apply to unaccompanied minors.
- 5.3. Families who have not yet officially lodged an asylum application can be offered assistance with accommodation by Social Services prior to travelling to the Croydon Asylum Screening Unit to register their asylum application. Families can then access NASS support via the Welsh Refugee Council once UKBA has accepted the application and provided written confirmation of this.

### 6. Parental Responsibility

- 6.1. The Children Act 1989 introduced the concept of 'parental responsibility', which means all the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his/her property. This legal framework provides the starting point for considering who has established rights, responsibility and duties towards a child.
- 6.2. A child whose parents' whereabouts are not known has no access to parents for consent when making important choices about their life. Whilst the parents still have parental responsibility, they have no way of exercising it.
- 6.3. Children who do not have someone with parental responsibility caring for them can still attend schools, which are normally pragmatic in allowing the carer to make most decisions normally made by the parent.
- 6.4. A child in this position is entitled to health care and has a right to be registered with a GP. If there are difficulties in accessing a GP, the local Patients Services will assist. Emergency life-saving treatment will be given if required. However, should the child need medical treatment such as surgery or invasive treatment in a non life-threatening situation, the need for consent would become an issue and legal advice would be required.
- 6.5. A main route for a carer to obtain parental responsibility is by obtaining a Residence Order. However, an adult whose immigration status is unresolved cannot apply for a Residence Order.

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### Appendix 2 – Referral Procedure & Multi-Agency Strategy Meeting

### 1. Referral and Initial Information Gathering

- 1.1. Any agency or individual practitioner or volunteer who has a concern regarding possible trafficking of a child should follow *Safeguarding Children* guidance and the All Wales Child Protection Procedures, contacting the Local Authority Children's Social Services or local Police Service for the area in which the child currently resides.
- 1.2. Appendix 5 of this protocol sets out how practitioners and volunteers should respond when they suspect that a child may have been, or is being, trafficked. This chapter (Appendix 2) relates to the referral procedure and describes comprehensively the response from Local Authority Children's Social Services and the Police once a referral is received from an agency.
- 1.3. Immigration staff who are concerned about children they suspect might have been trafficked should act quickly and resolutely following the Border and Immigration Agency guidance (based on Safeguarding Children). In such circumstances staff will contact the Child Protection Police Officer and/or the Local Authority Children's Social Services by phone, followed-up by fax. As it is recognised that children who go missing shortly after Asylum Screening Unit (ASU) screening may have been trafficked, immigration staff should follow an agreed process to inform the appropriate authorities.
- 1.4. The Social Worker to whom the referral is made should obtain as much information as possible from the referrer. This should include the child's name, date of birth, address, name of carer/guardian, address if different, phone number, country of origin, first language and whether s/he speaks English, names of any siblings or other children including whether there might be an ongoing risk of harm from the trafficker. If so, this information must be shared with the police.
- 1.5. The Social Worker should verify, as soon as possible, that the child is living at the address. They should also check if the carer, guardian or other members of the household, and residential address, are known to the Police or to the Local Authority Children's Social Services.
- 1.6. In the case of a referral from a school or other educational institution the documentation provided at admission should also be obtained.
- 1.7. A UKBA check should be completed to clarify the status of the child/ren and the adult/s caring for them. It is increasingly common practice for the UKBA to have a digital photograph of the child on their database and this may aid identification.
- 1.8. As the child may have no documented identification, or their documents could be forgeries, it is essential that a photograph of the child be taken and attached to their file.
- 1.9. Professionals who phone Intake & Assessment to express concern that they suspect, or know that, a child has been trafficked should confirm referrals in writing within 48 hours. At the end of any discussion or dialogue regarding a child, the referrer (whether a

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professional, member of the public, or family member) and Local Authority Children's Social Services should be clear about any proposed action, timescales and who will be taking it, or that no further action will be taken. The decision should be recorded by Local Authority Children's Social Services and by the referrer, if a professional in another service. Local Authority Children's Social Services should acknowledge a written referral within one working day of receiving it. If the referrer has not received an acknowledgement within three working days, they should contact the Local Authority Children's Social Services again.

- 1.10. Intake & Assessment should decide and record next steps of action within one working day. This information should be consistent with the information set out in the Referral and Information Record (Department of Health, 2002). This decision should normally follow discussion with any referring professional/service and consideration of information held in any existing records. It should also involve discussion with other professionals and services as necessary (including the Police, where a criminal offence may have been committed against a child). This initial consideration of the case should address, on the basis of the available evidence, whether there are concerns about the child's health and development or actual and/or potential harm that justifies an initial assessment to establish whether this child is possibly a Child In Need. Further action may also include referral to other agencies or the provision of advice or information. It might be decided that no further action is necessary.
- 1.11. If there is reasonable cause to believe that the child is suffering, is likely to suffer significant harm, or is in imminent danger from the trafficker or any other person, then an Emergency Protection Order may be sought. Consideration should be given to Police Powers of Protection in an emergency.
- 1.12. If there is no imminent danger to the child that warrants emergency protection but there are grave concerns regarding the child's welfare then section 47 enquiries should be initiated under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 (paragraph 36).
- 1.13. If there is no imminent danger or need to protect the child from any other party then a child in need assessment under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 should be initiated.
- 1.14. Even if there are no concerns agencies should continue to monitor the situation until a child is appropriately settled.
- 1.15. The Social Worker should advise the referrer of their decision regarding which plan is to be put in place. In the case of all children with immigration issues UKBA should be informed in order that the immigration processes may be co-ordinated with the recommended protection plan.
- 1.16. The discussion between the Social Worker and their supervising manager, after completion of the initial information gathering, should be recorded, tasks outlined and signed off by the manager.

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- 1.17. If further (non emergency) action is required, consideration should be given to involvement of the Police, Education, Health Services, the referring agency and other relevant bodies e.g. Housing, the Benefits Agency and Immigration Service. Careful consideration should be given to the effect of any action on the outcome of any investigation. Use of intelligence from the port of entry may help Local Authority Children's Social Services in pursuing further enquiries about the child.
- 1.18. In undertaking any assessment and all subsequent work with the child, the Social Worker must ensure that they use a suitable approved interpreter. In no circumstances should this be the sponsor or another adult purporting to be a parent, guardian or relative. Every child should be given ample opportunity to disclose any worries away from the presence of the sponsor.
- 1.19. The Social Worker must check all documentation held by the referrer and other relevant agencies. Documentation should include (if available), passport, Home Office papers, birth certificate and proof of guardianship. This list is not exhaustive and all avenues should be investigated. A new or recent photograph of the child must be included in the file, together with copies of all relevant identification documentation.
- 1.20. When assessing documentation attention should be given to the details. If a passport is being checked the official should:
  - verify the date of issue;
  - · check the length of the visa;
  - check whether the picture resembles the child;
  - check whether the name in the passport is the same as the alleged mother/father. If not, why not; and
  - when assessing documentation the official should check whether it appears original. If it does, the official should take copies to ensure that further checks can be made.
- 1.21. Once all papers have been checked, the Social Worker should clarify with the referrer what his/her concerns are. They need to find out why they made the referral, what led them to believe the child might have been trafficked or that s/he might be here illegally; and they must request that they put their concerns in writing to ensure that an accurate and clear audit trail is maintained.

#### 2. Decision to interview

2.1. Once all possible information has been gathered, the Social Worker and their supervising manager, together with the Police, should decide whether to conduct joint interviews. These could involve the Child Abuse Investigation Unit (CAIU), the UKBA and the local Police. It might be helpful to involve immigration officials at such a decision-making meeting as immigration concerns might need to be resolved.

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- 2.2. In the longer term information gathered at an interview might help to resolve the child's immigration status. Intelligence gathered from the interview could also stop others being trafficked from overseas.
- 2.3. Where it is decided that the family should be visited and interviewed standard social work practice should be followed. The child should be seen alone, preferably in a safe environment. Ensure that the carers are not in the proximity. Children will usually stand by their account and not speak until they feel comfortable.
- 2.4. Professional interpreters, who have been approved and CRB checked, should be used. It is not acceptable to use a family member or sponsor.
- 2.5. Questions should focus on the following:
  - family composition, brothers, sisters, ages;
  - parents' employment;
  - tasks they do around the house;
  - length of time in this country;
  - where they lived in their country of origin:
  - where they went to school in their country of origin; and
  - who cared for them in their country of origin.
- 2.6. The adults in the family should be interviewed (separately if possible) on the same basis, using the same questions. A comparison can then be made between the answers to ensure they match.
- 2.7. All documentation should be seen and checked. This includes Home Office documentation, passports, visas, utility bills, tenancy agreements and birth certificates. Particular attention should be given to the documentation presented to the school at point of admission. It is not acceptable to be told 'the passport is missing' or 'I can't find the paperwork right now'. It is extremely unlikely that a person does not know where their paperwork/official documentation is kept.
- 2.8. The interview should be conducted as fully and completely as possible to ensure accuracy and avoid intrusion into the family for a longer period than is absolutely necessary.
- 2.9. On completion of the assessment a meeting should be held with the Social Worker, their supervising manager, the referring agency as appropriate, the Police and any other professionals involved to decide on future action. Further action should not be taken until this meeting has been held and multi agency agreement obtained.
- 2.10. Where it is found that the child is not a family member and is not related to any other person in this country, consideration should be given to whether the child needs to be moved from the household and/or legal advice should be taken on making a separate application for immigration status.

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2.11. Any action regarding fraud, trafficking, deception and illegal entry to this country is the remit of the Police and the Home Office. The local authority should assist in any way possible. However, the responsibility for legal action usually remains with the other agencies (exceptions include benefit fraud which is the responsibility of the Department of Work and Pensions, and education offences which are pursued by the local authority).

### 3. Investigating cases of trafficking

- 3.1. Whenever a practitioner or volunteer becomes concerned that a child may be trafficked, a referral must be made to the Local Authority Children's Social Services, (verbal referral, followed by a written referral within 48 hours) in accordance with *Safeguarding Children*.
- 3.2. If the concern is identified by immigration staff then the case must be referred to the Police Child Protection Officer and Local Authority Children's Social Services in line with local safeguarding children guidance.
- 3.3. After referral, and depending on the outcome of the initial assessment, the Local Authority Children's Social Services should convene a strategy meeting where they suspect a child is being trafficked.

### 4. Multi-agency strategy discussion/meeting

- 4.1. This must be held whenever there is a referral to Children's Services where there is evidence or suspicion that a child/ren is/are being exploited through trafficking. Due to the need to act promptly, the discussion/meeting must be held within 48 hours of receipt of the referral. However, information should be shared between the key agencies wherever possible within 24 hours.
- 4.2. When the Duty Manager at the Intake and Assessment Team receives a referral with concerns about a child who may be trafficked, the following action will be taken.
  - Discussion will take place with the referrer to gather as much information as possible.
  - Checks will be made with the Children's Services Client Record System (Care First) to check on any history.
  - Discussion with the South Wales Police Child Protection Unit, to include:
  - Whether or not the carer(s) of the child to be informed that a referral has been received.
  - Whether or not to obtain permission from the carer(s) to undertake enquiries with other agencies.
  - In both instances, it is important to ascertain whether any of the above action will place the child at further risk of significant harm and/or whether imparting this information will impact on any police investigation.
  - A decision will be made **within 24 hours** about what course of action will be taken, i.e. s17 or s47 of the Children Act 1989, based on the available evidence.

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- The enquiries/discussion may show that a child is "in need" (s17 of the Children Act 1989) with no concerns that the child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. (A Core Assessment may be needed).
- A Section 47 investigation will be undertaken if the child is at risk of suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.
- A strategy meeting will be held to plan the course of action following the procedures laid down in the "All Wales Child Protection Procedures".
- 4.3. The meeting should strive to work by consensus. Any disagreements should be noted and if they cannot be resolved, should be raised within the relevant management structures. A record of the meeting should be circulated to all attending, who must ensure that it is held securely within their agency.
- 4.4. A Children's Services Manger will chair the meetings. The Chair should always inform the Children's Services Lead Officer on Child Trafficking about a meeting-taking place, even if she/he is unable to attend. Membership of the meeting will be:
  - the referrer if a professional;
  - Lead Officer for Police Child Protection Team or nominee:
  - Lead Officer for Schools and Lifelong Learning or nominee;
  - Lead Officer for Health or nominee;
  - Lead Officer for Leisure and Parks (if appropriate);
  - Lead Officer for UKBA;
  - Social Worker;
  - Lead Officer from Children's Services:
  - Lead Officer for the Voluntary Sector;
  - Service Manager, Intake and Assessment Team; and
  - any other relevant person (e.g. Foster Carer, Residential Manager etc).
- 4.5. Please see Appendix 6 for contact details of the posts identified as covering the Lead Officer role for child trafficking.
- 4.6. The purpose of the meeting is to:
  - share and clarify information;
  - establish the exact nature of the concerns; and
  - agree on actions and make recommendations to address the concerns
- 4.7. Plans must specify who is responsible for undertaking the tasks unless no further action is taken, or child protection procedures are invoked.
- 4.8. See Appendix 3 for Children's Service Multi-Agency Referral Form and Appendix 6 for Cardiff Council, Children's Services Intake and Assessment Team contact details.

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### 5. Action to safeguard and promote the welfare of trafficked children

- 5.1. Below are issues for Professionals to consider when working with Trafficked Children.
- 5.2. Children who have been trafficked are likely to need some of the following services:
  - appropriately trained and CRB checked interpreters;
  - counselling;
  - child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS);
  - independent legal advice;
  - medical services;
  - education;
  - family tracing and contact (unless it is not consistent with their welfare); and
  - repatriation.

#### 5.3. They will also need:

- practitioners to be informed and competent in matters relating to trafficking and exploitation;
- someone to spend time with them to build up a level of trust;
- a safe placement if they are victims of an organised trafficking operation;
- legal advice about their rights and immigration status;
- their whereabouts to be kept confidential;
- discretion and caution to be used in tracing their families;
- a risk assessment to be made into the danger they face if they are repatriated;
- accommodating under section 20 of the Children Act 1989 for those who meet the criteria;
- to be interviewed separately. Children and young people will usually stand by their account and not speak until they feel comfortable;
- consider talking to children and young people using the phone, e-mail, text; and
- practitioners should:
  - consider interviewing children in school as they may feel more able to talk there;
  - ensure that carers are not in the proximity; and
  - ensure that interpreters are agency approved and are CRB checked.

#### 6. Trafficked children who are in care

- 6.1. The local authority must carry out a core assessment (section 17 of the Children Act 1989) of the child's needs once the child becomes looked after, if it has not already done so. It should be led by the residential worker/carer. The assessment should include:
  - establishing relevant information about the child's background;
  - understanding the reasons why the child has come to the UK; and
  - assessing the child's vulnerability to the continuing influence/control of the traffickers.
- 6.2. Planning and actions to support the child must minimise the risk of the traffickers being able to re-involve a child in exploitative activities. Thus:
  - the location of the child must not be divulged to any enquirers until they have been interviewed by a Social Worker and their identity and relationship/connection with the child established, with the help of Police and Immigration Services if required;
  - foster carers/Residential workers must be vigilant about anything unusual e.g. waiting cars outside the premises and telephone enquiries; and
  - the Social Worker must immediately pass to the police any information on the child (concerning risks to her/his safety or any other aspect of the law pertaining either to child protection or immigration or other matters), which emerges during the placement.
- 6.3. The child's Social Worker must try to make contact with the child's parents in the country of origin (Immigration Services may be able to help), to find out the plans they have made for their child and to seek their views. The Social Worker must take steps to verify the relationship between the child and those thought to be her/his parent/s and exercise caution in case a parent has knowingly sold their child to a trafficker.
- 6.4. See Appendix 7 for a list of addresses and contact details for embassies and consulates for various parts of the world.
- 6.5. Anyone approaching the local authority and claiming to be a potential carer, friend, member of the family etc, of the child, should be investigated by the Social Worker, the Police and Immigration Service. Only if the supervising manager is satisfied that all agencies have completed satisfactory identification checks and risk assessments can the child transfer to their care.

# 7. Missing Children

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- 7.1. Research from ECPAT and CEOP provides evidence that significant numbers of children who are categorised as Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) have also been trafficked. Significant numbers of these children go missing (back into the care of the traffickers) before being properly identified as victims of trafficking. Reporting such cases to the Police urgently is critical. The Border and Immigration Agency is working closely with DCSF, Police, Local Authorities and the Missing People Helpline (formerly the National Missing Person's Helpline) to develop practices, which alert the police at the earliest opportunity to children who are potentially 'at risk'.
- 7.2. Where a young person, such as for example an unaccompanied asylum seeking child (UASC), presents to a local authority as having no parent or guardian in this country, then in fulfilling its duties to assess and respond to their needs, the local authority may conclude that it should "accommodate" the young person using its powers under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989<sup>1</sup>. In these circumstances, the local authority will have duties towards the young person as a looked after child. In these circumstances, then like other looked after children, UASC must have a care plan (known as a "pathway plan" when they are aged 16+ and are entitled to care leaving support) based on a thorough needs assessment outlining how the local authority proposes to meet their needs.
- 7.3. Where there is reason to believe that a young person has been trafficked into the UK, then this care plan should include a "risk assessment" setting out how the local authority intends to safeguard the young person so that, as far as possible, they can be protected from any trafficker. This risk assessment might also include contingency plans to be followed should the young person go missing.
- 7.4. Given the circumstances in which potentially trafficked young people present to local authorities it will be extremely important that any needs assessments and related "risk assessments" are sensitively managed. The child needs to be in a safe place before any assessment takes place. Any assessment needs to take into account that the child might not immediately be able to disclose full information about their circumstances as they or their families might have been intimidated by traffickers.
- 7.5. It will also be very important that no assumptions are made about young people's language skills and that assessments can call on the services of impartial translators with the necessary competences in responding to children.
- 7.6. The contingency plan could include contact details of agencies that must be notified if a potentially trafficked young person goes missing. This includes the Police and the "case-manager" in the UKBA. Where there are concerns that a trafficked child has been moved elsewhere in the country away from their care placement, then it may be desirable to contact Missing People Helpline:

http://www.missingpeople.org.uk/

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer to National Assembly for Wales Circulars 29/2003 (Guidance on Accommodating Children in Need and their Families) and 23/2005 (Guidance on Support for Asylum Seeking Families and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)).

- 7.7. The Missing People Helpline has a team that offers support to local authorities when young people in their care go missing and this service can advise on issues such as contact with Police Forces and national publicity.
- 7.8. In response to notification to the Police of a missing child the guidance in <u>The Management, Recording and Investigation of Missing Persons</u> should be followed.

#### 7.9. The guidance sets out that:

- every missing person report should be assessed to identify the level of risk (high, medium or low) to the missing person;
- the response must be appropriate to the level of risk;
- risk assessment must be continuously reviewed; and
- children who go missing from care are vulnerable and the level of risk does not diminish because of frequency of absence.
- 7.10. Where missing children come to the attention of Local Authority Children's Social Services or the Police a 24-hour enquiry service from the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) may help in providing guidance. Additionally, to help Social Workers, Police and other practitioners better assist children whom they suspect might have been trafficked, the NSPCC has set up a *Child Trafficking Information and Advice Line* (to become operational shortly). Contact details will be available on the NSPCC web site at <a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk">http://www.nspcc.org.uk</a>.
- 7.11. The Welsh Government plans to issue separate guidance shortly on children who go missing from care and from home.
- 7.12.All local authorities must appoint a designated senior manager with responsibility for monitoring missing from care incidents, so that trends can be identified and action taken in conjunction with the LSCB to respond to the problem. Trends should also be shared with the LSCB. The designated senior manager could potentially take an important strategic role in identifying whether there are any particular patterns of UASC going missing that could provide evidence suggesting that young people are being trafficked. Such information might be used by a local authority to inform their analysis as to how they might better safeguard these young people.

# 8. Action against traffickers

8.1. Assessing the willingness and capacity of a child victim to testify against a trafficker is complicated. This will apply to the process of gathering information that might support care proceedings, as well as assisting in criminal prosecutions. Like the victims of domestic abuse, the child usually fears reprisal from the traffickers and/or the adults with whom s/he was living in the UK if they co-operate with Social Services or the Police. In the case of children trafficked from abroad an additional level of anxiety may exist

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because of fear of reprisals against their family in their home country. They may also fear being deported because they entered the UK illegally. Children who might agree to testify fear that they will be discredited because they were coerced into lying on their visa applications/ immigration papers. No child can be coerced into testifying against a trafficker.

### 9. Returning trafficked children

- 9.1. A decision to return a child victim of trafficking to their country of origin should be made on the basis of the best interests of the child and after a careful consideration of all the evidence, including considering the wishes and feelings of the child and information provided by the child's Social Worker. It is particularly important to gather information about the child's family, community and country of origin.
- 9.2. Amongst other factors the risk assessment should consider whether there is a risk of the abusers gaining access to the child and their family in order to take revenge. The risk of re-trafficking needs to be considered as well as social attitudes to the victims of various forms of abuse including sexual abuse.
- 9.3. In some cases and with advice from their lawyers children may apply to UKBA for international humanitarian protection on the basis of the risk assessment. In other cases the timing and nature of a return may be planned with help from UKBA.
- 9.4. Returning those, including unaccompanied children, who have no right to stay in the UK, is necessary in the interests of maintaining immigration control, but safeguarding the welfare of the child would always be a key consideration in any decision to return a child. A child with no legal right to remain in the UK would only be returned to their country of origin if the Border and Immigration Agency is satisfied that safe and adequate reception arrangements are in place.

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# **Appendix 3a – Multi-Agency Referral Form – Restricted** when Completed.

Cardiff Multi-Age	ency	Referral Form fo	r Children	and	d Fami	ilies FOR	RM CP1(N	(AN
CR NUMBER:	Ref	erral type: CHILD	PROTEC	ΤΙΟΙ	N/CHIL	_D IN NEED (	olease dele	te)
Date received:	ls F	Parent/Carer aware	e of the refe	erra	l?		YES	
							NO	
Date entered:	Has	s consent been ob	tained to m	ake	this re	eferral?	YES	
							NO	
Signed:	If Y	ES, is consent				WI	RITTEN	
						V	ERBAL	
(Social Services	Wa	s consent refused	?				YES	
only)	Only)						NO	
CHILD/YOUNG P	ERS	ON'S NAME & A	DDRESS D	)ET	AILS			
SURNAME:	FORENA	MES	3					
ADDRESS:		DOB:						
		AGE:						
			GENDER:					
			MARITAL STATUS:					
DOCTOODE:			TEL NUMBER:					
POSTCODE:			IEL NUM	BEI	₹:			
OTHER FAMILY HOUSEHOLD	MEN	IBERS OR SIGNI	FICANT O	ТНЕ	R PEC	OPLE IN THE		
Name		Relationship to	child/young	per	son	Parental re	sponsibili	ty
						Yes	No	
Name of sibling	s	D.O.B.	N	ame	of Sib	olings	D.O.E	3.
J								
ETHNICITY OF C	HILL	D/YOUNG PERSO	N	T	his se	ction must be	comple	ted
Black Caribbear	١		Indian		Pakistani			
Black Africar	١	Mixed Whit	e & Asian				te British	
Bangladesh		Mixed White & 0					hite Irish	_
Black Othe		Mixed White		White Other			1	
Chinese	Chinese Other mixed ba		ackground		Any other ethnic group			

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SPECIAL NEEDS		Yes	No
Does the child/young person have spec	ial needs?		
Does the child/young person have comr			
Is an interpreter/signer required?			
Preferred Language:	Religion:	<u>.</u>	
INFORMATION ON STATUTORY STA	TUS	Yes	No
Have any of the children in the family be	·		
Have any of the children in the family be Register?			
Have any of the children in the family be	een Looked After?		
Please detail any incidents or cobeen taken		•	ŕ
KEY AGENCIES (please tick if working			
GP:	Health Visitor:		
Tel Number:	Tel Number:		
Nursery:	<b>Education Welfare Officer</b>	•	
Tel Number:	Tel Number:		
School:	Police:		
Tel Number:	Tel Number:		
Y.O.T.	Dentist:		
Tel Number:	Tel Number:		-

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Community/Mental Health:	Community Paediatrician:
Tel Number	Tel Number:
School Nurse:	Other:
Tel Number:	Tel Number
DETAILS OF REFERRER	
Name:	Designation:
(Please print)	
Agency:	
Address:	
Contact telephone number:	
Signature	Date:
	Consideration Record (CS1) accompanies this
referral	

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

Section A - Personal Details
Last name: First name(s):
Also known as:
D.O.B (if known):/ Age (approx. if not known): Sex:
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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<b>Exploitation</b>	Υ	S
Claims to have been exploited through sexual exploitation,		
criminality, labour exploitation, domestic servitude, forced		
marriage, illegal adoption, 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		
Significantly older boyfriend		
Harbours excessive fears / anxieties (e.g. about an		
individual, of deportation, disclosing information etc)		
Movement into, within or out of the UK	Υ	S
Withdrawn and refuses to talk / appears afraid to talk to a		
person in authority		
Significantly older boyfriend		
Oth an violations		
Other risk factors	Υ	S
Shows signs of physical neglect – basic care,	Υ	S
2	Υ	S
Shows signs of physical neglect – basic care,	Y	S
Shows signs of physical neglect – basic care, malnourishment, lack of attention to health needs	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	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	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	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 /	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	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	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	Y	<u>S</u>
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	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	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	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	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	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	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	Y	S

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Exploitation	Υ	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, within or out of the UK	Υ	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	Υ	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		

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Exploitation	Υ	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	Υ	S
UK		
Entered country illegally		
Journey or visa arranged by		
someone other than themselves or		
their family		
Registered at multiple addresses		
Other risk factors	Υ	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		

### Section C - POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

Child Development Parenting Capacity
Family/Environment

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

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

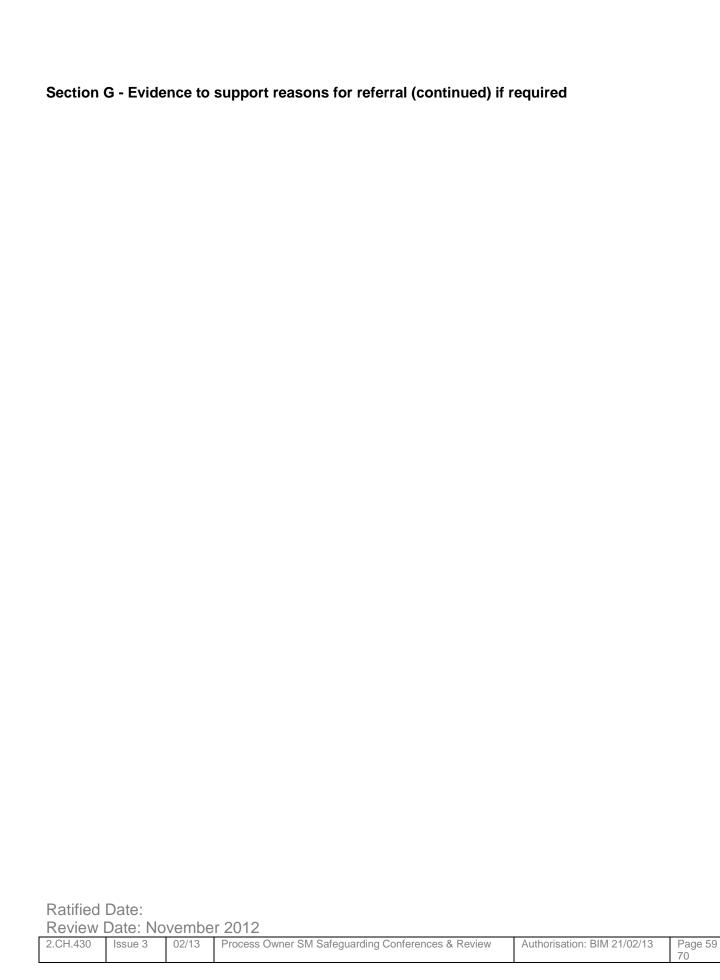
Please use this section to:

- 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
- 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,

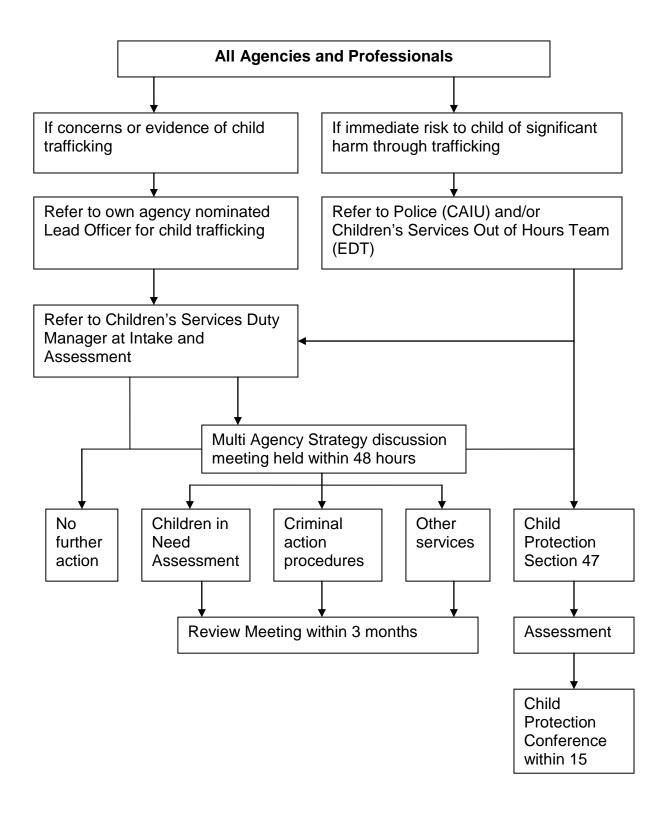
(if a separate sheet is required, please indicate that section G is continued and provide with referral)

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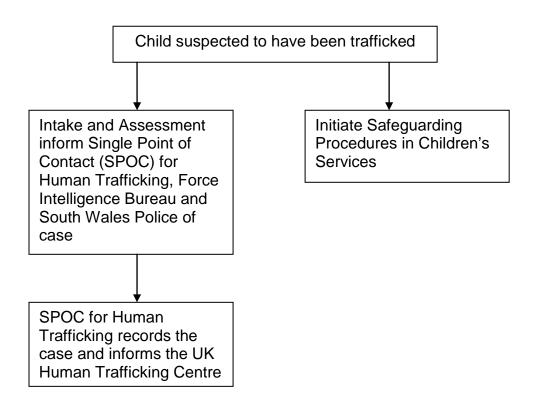
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**Appendix 4: Multi-Agency Referral Process Map** 



## **Appendix 4a: Process Map for Notification to UK Human Trafficking Centre**



# Appendix 5: Practitioner responses for safeguarding trafficked children

Staff in any of the settings or circumstances in this table may become aware, immediately or over time, of the quality of relationships, patterns of behaviour displayed, or inconsistent/contradictory information provided to them, by their clients, which raises concerns that a child has been or is being trafficked and exploited. This table provides non-exhaustive indicators of actions which should be considered and/or taken by frontline practitioners/volunteers and their supervising managers.

Setting/circumstance where a child may be identified as a trafficked child	Practitioner or volunteer who may identify a child who has been trafficked	Initial action & assessment within a single agency where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked	Early multi-agency intervention: referral and the involvement of other agencies where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked
Schools, Colleges, Local Education Authority (Application for school place, child starts/is attending school, talks to school nurse or unexpectedly leaves school)	Teacher, School Nurse, Classroom Assistant, Reception/Administrator	<ul> <li>The practitioner discusses concerns with the designated teacher with safeguarding children responsibility</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child</li> </ul>	In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake & Assessment See actions for Intake & Assessment in this column
Health services: all health staff including ambulance service, hospitals, specialist services, community services, primary care and HMP health provision (An adult takes a child to the GP/EU or an unaccompanied child seeks services, maternity services/health visitor talk to women and visit homes, LAC or other child sees community paediatrician, optician, dentist)	Any health practitioner who has concerns a child may be trafficked.  NB: this includes staff who work primarily with adults	<ul> <li>Practitioner discusses concern with the Named/Designated Doctor or Nurse with safeguarding children responsibility</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child</li> </ul>	In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake & Assessment  See actions for Intake & Assessment in this column
Police  (Family or unaccompanied child comes to notice through criminal activity, illegal immigrant status, domestic violence home visits, missing persons referrals or other)	Police Officer, Community Safety Officer	<ul> <li>Local police complete a Coming to Notice (CTN) report and send it to the Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT)</li> <li>Local police discuss case with CAIT</li> <li>Further investigation is undertaken as appropriate</li> </ul>	All CTNs are sent to Intake & Assessment     Where immediate action is needed the CAIT will have a strategy discussion with Intake & Assessment     See actions Intake & Assessment     in this column

Setting/circumstance where a child may be identified as a trafficked child  Children's Social Services	Practitioner or volunteer who may identify a child who has been trafficked Children's Social Worker,	Initial action & assessment within a single agency where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked  • Children's Social Services staff discuss case with	Early multi-agency intervention: referral and the involvement of other agencies where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked Intake & Assessment
(Adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child seeks help directly from the Referral and Assessment Team', a child already receiving services or looked after is identified as being trafficked, a referral of concern is received from another agency/person)	Family Support Worker, Foster Carer, Reception/Administrator, Residential Worker, Children's Rights Officer	their supervising line manager, Foster Carers with their supervising Social Worker and the child's Social Worker, Children's Rights Officer with the child's Social Worker  The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.  Further checks can be made by the child's Social Worker. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child	will advise the referrer which plan is in place.
Local Authority Asylum Team  (The child, accompanied or unaccompanied, is referred by Intake & Assessment to the Local Authority's asylum team)	Asylum Team Social Worker	<ul> <li>Asylum team staff discuss case with their supervising line manager</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further assessment can be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to the Child Protection social work team</li> <li>See actions for Children's Social Services (Child Protection team) in this column</li> </ul>
Youth Offending Teams & Youth Clubs  (The child, accompanied or unaccompanied, commits an offence and is referred to the YOS, joins or attends a youth club)	YOS practitioner, Youth Worker, Youth Work volunteer, Personal Advisor, Reception/ Administrator	<ul> <li>YOS practitioner's discuss case with their supervising line manager, Youth Worker and volunteer with their team leader</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>

Setting/circumstance where a child may be identified as a trafficked child	Practitioner or volunteer who may identify a child who has been trafficked	Initial action & assessment within a single agency where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked	Early multi-agency intervention: referral and the involvement of other agencies where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked
Immigration Service, Asylum Screening Unit, Refugee Council's Children's Panel  (Adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child present at port of entry or at Lunar House in Croydon after entering the UK. In the latter case they may have first made contact with another service e.g. Children's Social Services)	Ports Immigration Officer, asylum screening staff at Croydon and Liverpool	Immigration and screening staff member: a) considers the case in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. b) makes further checks where possible. c) discusses concern with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility. d) discusses the case with Intake & Assessment and Police colleagues located at the port of entry.	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment and the Police.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>
Fire Service  (Family or unaccompanied child comes to notice through fire-related or other accidents and incidents)	Fire Service staff	<ul> <li>Fire service staff member discusses concern with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility.</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>
Local Authority Housing  (Homeless adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child apply for to be housed)	Housing officer, Reception/Administrator	<ul> <li>Housing staff member discusses case with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility, makes further checks where possible.</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>

Setting/circumstance where a child may be identified as a trafficked child	Practitioner or volunteer who may identify a child who has been trafficked	Initial action & assessment within a single agency where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked	Early multi-agency intervention: referral and the involvement of other agencies where there are concerns that a child may have been trafficked
Benefits Agency  (Adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child apply for, or notify alterations in, benefits)	Benefits officer, Assessor, Reception/Administrator	<ul> <li>Benefits Service staff member discusses case with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility, makes further checks where possible.</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>
LA Leisure Centres, Libraries  (Adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child use Leisure Centres or Libraries)	Leisure Centre worker, Librarians, Reception/Administrators	<ul> <li>Leisure centre and Libraries' staff member discusses case with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility.</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>
Independent private & voluntary agencies  (Families and children, including unaccompanied children, receive a range of social care and other services from these agencies)	Solicitor, interpreter and others coming into contact with children, young people and families.	Solicitors, interpreters and others coming into contact with children should telephone Intake & Assessment for advice about whether to make a referral.	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>
Community, Faith Groups and others  (Families and children, including unaccompanied children, participate in a range of social care activities and other services from these agencies)	Organisers & volunteers for community and private sports, music, drama, church and other activities.	<ul> <li>Concerned adult discusses case with the designated person with safeguarding children responsibility</li> <li>The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol.</li> <li>HOWEVER concerned adults should not do anything which could heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In all cases where action, including further assessment is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Intake &amp; Assessment.</li> <li>See actions for Intake &amp; Assessment in this column.</li> </ul>

# **Appendix 6: Useful Contacts in Cardiff, Wales or the UK**

#### **Lead Officer Contacts**

#### Intake & Assessment

Children's Services Cardiff Council Global Link PO Box 97 Cardiff CF11 1BP Tel: (029) 2053 6400

#### Service Manager Safeguarding & Reviewing Unit

Children's Services Cardiff Council Trowbridge Centre Greenway Road Rumney Cardiff CF3 1QS Tel: (029) 20774600

Tel: (029) 20774600 Fax: (029) 2079 1791

#### **Detective Inspector South Wales Police**

Public Protection Unit Cardiff Central Police Station King Edward VII Avenue Cathays Park Cardiff CF10 3NN

#### **Named Doctor for Child Protection**

Cardiff & Vale University Health Board Children's Centre St David's Hospital Cowbridge Road East Cardiff CF11 9XB Tel: (029) 2053 6789 Fax: (029) 2053 6779

#### Named Nurse Safeguarding Child

Cardiff & Vale University Health Board Corridor 500 Lansdowne Hospital Sanatorium Road Cardiff CF11 8PL Tel: (029) 2093 2645 Fax: (029) 2022 2730

# Health Visiting and Flying Start Headquarters

Lansdowne Hospital Sanatorium Road Cardiff CF11 8PL Tel: (029) 2093 2634

# Head of Achievement (Outcomes & Partnership)

Room 317a
Education Services
Cardiff Council
County Hall
Altantic Wharf
Cardiff CF10 4UW
Tel: (029) 2087 2710
Fax: (029) 2087 2705

UKBA Phoenix House 389 Newport Road Cardiff CF24 1TP Tel: (029) 2048 9800 Fax: (029) 2043 2980

#### **Voluntary Action Cardiff**

Ground Floor, Brunel House 2 Fitzalan Place Cardiff CF24 0BE Tel: (029) 2048 5722 Fax: (029) 2046 4196

#### **Additional Contacts**

#### **Emergency Duty Team (EDT)**

Out of hours service only Tel: (029) 2044 8360

# Single Point of Contact, UK Human Trafficking Centre

Detective Sergeant Force Intelligence Bureau Cardiff Central Police Station King Edward VII Avenue Cathays Park Cardiff CF10 3NN

Tel: (029) 20527372

# Welsh Consortium for Refugees & Asylum Seekers

C/o Newport City Council Brynglas Bungalow Brynglas Road Newport NP20 5QU Tel: (01633) 855 095

Fax: (01633) 858 468

#### Welsh Refugee Council

Phoenix House 389 Newport Road Cardiff CF24 1TP Tel: (029) 2048 9800

Fax: (029) 2043 2980

#### **Achievement & Inclusion Officer**

Pupil Support Services Schools & Lifelong Learning The Mynachdy Centre Cefn Road Mynachdy Cardiff CF14 3HS Tel: (029) 2062 9800 Fax: (029) 2052 1687

#### **Child Protection Coordinator**

Pupil Support Services Schools & Lifelong Learning The Mynachdy Centre Cefn Road Mynachdy Cardiff CF14 3HS Tel: (029) 2062 9886

# Looked After/Leaving Care Service (including UASC workers)

Suffolk House Romilly Road Canton Cardiff

Tel: (029) 2023 9827 Fax: (029) 2064 4992

#### **St Mellons Family Centre**

Heol Maes Eirwg St Mellons Cardiff CF3 0JZ Tel: (029) 2036 9700 Fax: (029) 2036 9998

#### **Ely Family Centre**

Cardiff Council Grand Avenue Ely Cardiff CF5 4LE Tel: (029) 2057 8918

#### Llanedeyrn Family Centre

Cardiff Council Global Link PO Box 97 Cardiff CF11 1BP Tel: (029) 2053 6333

#### **Deane House**

Cardiff Council Global Link PO Box 97 Cardiff CF11 1BP Tel: (029) 2053 6300

#### **Asylum Seeker and Refugee Team**

Adult Services Cardiff Council 158-164 Newport Road Cardiff CF24 1DL Tel: (029) 2045 4854

# Black Association of Women Step Out (BAWSO)

195 Newport Road Cardiff CF24 1AJ Tel: (029) 2043 7390

# **NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice & Information Help Line**

Tel: 0800 107 7057

#### **United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre**

Tel: 0114 252 3891 www.ukhtc.org

#### Children's Legal Centre

www.childrenslegalcentre.com

#### Children & Families Across Borders (CFAB)

(Previously International Social Services) Canterbury Court, Unit 1.03

1-3 Brixton Road London SW9 6DE Tel: 020 7735 8941

Fax: 020 7582 0696

#### **Foreign and Commonwealth Office**

Tel: 020 7008 1500

#### **CEOP (Child Exploitation Online Protection** Centre)

33 Vauxhall Bridge Road London SW1V 2WG Tel: 0870 000 3344 www.ceop.police.uk

#### **ECPAT UK (End Child Prostitution,** Pornography and Trafficking)

Grosvenor Gardens House 35 – 37 Grosvenor Gardens London SW1W OBS

Tel: 020 7233 9887 www.ecpat.org.uk

#### UNICEF

**UNICEF House** 30a Great Sutton Street London EC1V 0DU Tel: 020 7490 2388

www.unicef.org.uk

#### Afruca (Africans Unite Against Child Abuse)

Unit 3D/F Leroy House 436 Essex Road London N1 3QP Tel: 020 7704 2261

#### www.afruca.org

#### Childwatch

7 Jarratt Street Hull

East Yorkshire HU1 3AB Tel: (01482) 325 552 Fax: (01482) 585 214

#### **NSPCC**

13<sup>th</sup> Floor **Capital Tower Grevfriars Road** Cardiff CF10 3AG Tel: (029) 2026 7000 Fax: (029) 2022 3628

#### **Childline Cymru**

9<sup>th</sup> Floor Alexandra House Alexandra Road Swansea SA1 5ED Helpline: 0800 1111 Tel: 0870 336 2935 Fax: 0870 336 2936

www.childline.org.uk/cymruwales.asp

#### **Childline Cymru**

Royal Alexandra Hospital Marine Drive Rhvl LL18 3AS Tel: 0870 336 2930 Fax: 0870 336 2931

www.childline.org.uk/cymruwales.asp

#### Children in Wales/Plant Yng Nghymru

24-26 Stryd Fawr Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1RH Tel: 01286 677570

Fax: 01286 676095

www.childreninwales.org.uk

#### Children's Commissioner for Wales

Ovstermouth House **Charter Court** Phoenix Wav Llansamlet Swansea SA7 9FS

Tel: 01792 765600 Fax: 01792 765601

post@childcomwales.org.uk

#### Children's Commissioner for Wales

Penrhos Manor Oak Drive Colwyn Bay Conwy LL29 7YW Tel: 01492 523333

Fax: 01492 523336

post@childcomwales.org.uk

#### **CLIC**

Careers Wales Association Van Court Caerphilly Business Park Van Road Caerphilly CF83 3ED

### Barnardo's Cymru

(National Office) Trident Court East Moors Road Cardiff CF24 5TD Tel: 029 2049 3387

Fax: 029 2048 9802

Upper Offices 11 College Street Swansea SA1 5AF Tel: 01792 463357 Fax: 01792 463149

21 Wynnstay Road Colwyn Bay Conwy LL29 8NB Tel: 01492 532756 Fax: 01492 535053

Wales' Anti-human Trafficking Co-ordinator Gwent Police HQ Croesyceiliog, Cwmbran, NP44 2XJ 07855544109

# **Appendix 7: Contact Details for Embassies and Consulates**

Contact details for embassies and consulates are available from <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/OnlineResources/CH\_Resources\_asp\_ifega26416.html">www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/OnlineResources/CH\_Resources\_asp\_ifega26416.html</a>

Details of the appropriate consulate or embassy in London can be found in the London Diplomatic List (ISBN 0 11 591772 1), available from the Government Stationary Office – Tel: 0870 600 5522. or on the website – <a href="https://www.fco.gov.uk">www.fco.gov.uk</a>