



South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Child Trafficking & the NRM – Fact Sheet

What is child trafficking?

Child trafficking and modern slavery are child abuse. Children are recruited, moved or transported and then exploited, forced to work or sold.

Children are trafficked for:

- child sexual exploitation
- criminal activity such as pickpocketing, begging, transporting drugs, working on cannabis farms, selling pirated DVDs and bag theft.
- benefit fraud
- forced marriage
- domestic servitude such as cleaning, childcare, cooking
- forced labour in factories or agriculture

Many children are trafficked into the UK from abroad, but children can also be trafficked from one part of the UK to another. This can mean a child travelling only a short distance. It is the movement rather than the distance that is important. Agencies working with children who go missing need to carefully consider whether the child has been trafficked during any missing episode. The most common countries for children to be trafficked from are UK, Albania, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Eritrea.

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

The government created the NRM in 2009.

The NRM is a victim identification and support process



which is designed to make it easier for all the different agencies that could be involved in a trafficking and modern slavery case.



First responders (including Local Authorities and police) have a legal duty to refer anyone who they believe to be a victim of trafficking or slavery to the UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC). This duty is discharge via completion of a NRM referral.

Referrals to the NRM should be for all potential victims of trafficking and modern slavery, who can be of any nationality, and may for example include British national children, such as those trafficked for child sexual exploitation or those trafficked as drug carriers internally in the UK.

Potential child victims do not need to consent to their referral.

Safeguarding processes must take priority. A referral into the NRM and the subsequent decisions do not replace or supersede established child protection processes, which should continue in tandem.

If you are worried about a child in South Gloucestershire contact Access and Response (ART) on 01454 866000

Need Training?

Human trafficking and Modern slavery 3 hour awareness course commissioned on behalf of SGSCB and SGSAB - [Book Here](#)

Follow this link to Government guidance about the [National Referral Mechanism](#)