

Independent Trafficking Advocates provided by Barnardo's National Counter Trafficking Service

A referral for an Independent Child Trafficking Advocates (ICTAs) is statutory when there is suspicion or evidence that a child is at risk of or has experienced trafficking &/or Modern Day Slavery.

The referral is often made at the time of the referral to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and is undertaken by the first responder. However, Social Workers must follow this up and check that this referral has been made by Police if the Police are making the NRM referral.

ICTA's are specialist professionals who support children who have been identified as trafficked or potentially trafficked to navigate the complex systems of social care, immigration and criminal justice.

The role of and ICTA is outlined in s.48 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and within the following Home Office interim guidance 2017.

What do ICTAs do?

- Support children to understand and navigate the complex systems of social care, immigration and criminal justice.
- Enable children's voices to be heard.
- Ensure children are referred into the National Referral Mechanism.
- Support in keeping children safe and work toward the prevention of re-trafficking.
- Provide advocacy, guidance and signposting to relevant services.
- Raise awareness and support professionals in their work with trafficked children

How to make a referral:

- Check that the child/young person lives in, is supported by a local authority in one of the three Early Adopter Sites. (Derby City is)
- Send a completed referral form to our secure mailbox. The form is available in both English and Welsh.

Or

- Call our 24/7 Support Line and we will support you to make the referral over the phone.

Contact and referral details

- 24/7 referral and support line: 0800 043 4303
- Email: secure inbox for CJSM compatible accounts only.

If you don't have access to a CJSM account, please ring the referral and support line. Independent Child Trafficking Advocacy is part of the National Counter Trafficking Service.

Please e-mail countertrafficking@barnardos.org.uk for general enquiries about the ICTA or National Counter Trafficking Service.