

# Safeguarding Children Who May Have Been Trafficked

## Ealing Local Policy, Procedures and Practice Guidance June 2019

### 1. Introduction

This document provides guidance to professionals in Ealing council working to safeguard children, who are abused and neglected by adults who traffic them in, out of and/or around the UK in order to exploit them, and those children who are trafficked within the country. This Procedure should be read in conjunction with

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018;  
<http://www.workingtogetheronline.co.uk/>

'Safeguarding Trafficked and Exploited Children' practice guidance in the London Safeguarding Children's Board, London Child Protection Procedures  
[https://www.londoncp.co.uk/chapters/sg\\_trafficked\\_ch.html](https://www.londoncp.co.uk/chapters/sg_trafficked_ch.html)

The Department for Education statutory guidance '*Care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery statutory guidance for local authorities*.  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/656429/UASC\\_Statutory\\_Guidance\\_2017.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/656429/UASC_Statutory_Guidance_2017.pdf)

*Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked* published by the Department for Education and Home Office in 2011,  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf)

### 2. Policy & Legislation

#### The Modern Slavery Act 2015

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 received royal Assent on 26th March 2015. The act will ensure that the National Crime Agency, the Police and other law enforcement agencies have the powers they need to pursue, disrupt and bring to justice those engaged in human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.

The 2015 Act also introduced measures to enhance the protection of victims of slavery and trafficking. It concerns the exploitation of people who are coerced, deceived, forced into, or expected to accept, a life of abuse, servitude, inhumane and degrading treatment.

The modern slavery of children is child abuse, and safeguarding children from abuse procedures should be followed by all agencies and direct safeguarding steps must be taken by any agency that comes into contact with a child at risk.

People who become victims of modern slavery are exploited for many reasons including sex, labour, organ donation, domestic servitude, financial benefit to the exploiter, and

other criminal purposes. They may become victims through circumstance or association and are vulnerable.

For the exploiters, modern slavery is a means of financial gain, and of exerting power and control over another human being who is used as a commodity. It is a profitable method of criminal activity for organised crime groups. Victims are often paid less than the minimum wage but do not recognise that they are exploited because the sum is more than they would otherwise be paid in their home country.

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 also defines the mean of exploitation and travel. 'Exploitation' for the purposes of the offence means:

- Slavery, Servitude and Forced or Compulsory Labour;
- Sexual Exploitation;
- Removal of Organs;
- Securing Services etc. by Force, Threats or Deception;
- Securing Services etc. from Children and Vulnerable Persons.

"Travel" means:

- Arriving in, or entering, any country;
- Departing from any country;
- Travelling within any country.

### National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking and ensuring they receive the appropriate protection and support. The NRM was introduced in 2009 to meet the UK's obligations under the Council of European Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.

The NRM is also the mechanism through which the Modern Slavery Human Trafficking Unit (MSHTU) collects data about victims. This information contributes to building a clearer picture about the scope of human trafficking and modern slavery in the UK. All children who are suspected of being a potential victim of modern slavery should be referred into the NRM.

## **3. Definitions**

### Trafficking

The Palermo Protocol (2000) defines trafficking as:

*"the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat 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... The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth [above] shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth [above] have been used."*

To be considered trafficking in persons, a situation must meet three conditions: act (i.e., recruitment), means (i.e., through the use of force or deception) and purpose (i.e., for the purpose of forced labour) however for children only the act and purpose need be met, even when a child understands what has happened and may appear to have submitted willingly. It is important that professionals understand that these children are potential victims and in need of protection. A child is defined by the Palermo Protocol and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as any person under the age of 18.

Trafficking can occur across international borders (i.e. into and out of the UK) (known as international trafficking) but also within borders, for example between counties, cities and towns (known as internal trafficking). This means that children who are exploited in the UK, whether they are children from abroad or citizen children, can be considered victims of trafficking. It is important to note that movement is not required in order to meet the trafficking definition. The key elements are: the recruitment, transportation, harbouring or reception of a person, including the exchange or transfer of control over those persons... for the purpose of exploitation.

Child trafficking is child abuse and should be treated within a child protection context. It is also a crime, where children (under 18s) are the victims of organised or opportunistic criminality and exploited for sex, forced labour, domestic servitude or criminal activities. In the UK, trafficking is regarded as a form of modern slavery.

Local authorities have a duty to protect and support these very vulnerable children who may often have complex needs in addition to those faced by looked-after children more generally. The support required to address these needs must begin as soon as the child comes to the attention of the local authority.

#### Modern Slavery

Modern Slavery is an umbrella term used within the UK and is defined within the Modern Slavery Act, 2015. The Act categorises offences for Slavery, Servitude and Forced or Compulsory Labour and Human Trafficking.

#### Smuggling

Whilst the terms “trafficking” and “smuggling” are often confused, there is an important distinction between the two. Smuggling describes an event whereby migrants or asylum seekers pay people to help them enter the country illegally, after which there is no longer a relationship. Trafficking, however, is where the individuals are exploited or intended to be exploited in a country.

In short, the relationship between the smuggler and the smuggled person ends on entry into the country of destination, whereas when a person is trafficked an exploitative relationship continues. However, it is important to understand that smuggled children may also end up in situations of exploitation sometime after their arrival.

## **4. Forms of Trafficking**

### Sexual Exploitation

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a form of sexual abuse that involves the manipulation and/or coercion of young people under the age of 18 into sexual activity. This includes abuse of the child for the production of child abuse images or videos.

### Domestic Servitude

Domestic servitude involves the victim being forced to work in private households. Their movement will often be restricted, and they will be forced to perform household tasks such as childcare and housekeeping over long hours and for little, if any, pay. Victims will usually lead very isolated lives and have little or no unsupervised freedom but may still attend school. Their own privacy and comfort will be minimal. In rare circumstances where victims receive a wage, it will be heavily reduced, ostensibly to pay for food and accommodation.

### Forced Labour

The term "child labour" is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that: is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and interferes with their schooling by: depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; obliging them to leave school prematurely; or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work. Victims can be forced to work in various industries, such as manufacturing, catering, entertainment, travel, farming and construction

### Forced Criminality

Forced Criminality can be understood as the exploitation of a person to commit a crime, such as pick-pocketing, shoplifting, cannabis cultivation, drug trafficking and other similar activities that are subject to penalties and imply some kind of gain for the trafficker, commonly financial.

### Organ Harvesting

This is rare in the UK but there have been reported cases of potential organ trafficking in children in the UK. Kidneys are in the greatest demand and are the only major organs that can be wholly transplanted with relatively few risks to the life of the donor.

### Forced Begging

Children, including babies and young children, can be used as tools for begging. Children may also be forced to beg alone, with the money handed to adults and gangs controlling them.

### Benefit Fraud

Benefit fraud commonly involves adults who exploit children to facilitate fraudulent claims of Child Benefit and Working Tax Credits. HM Revenue & Customs will often seek to verify if a claim is genuine by checking if a child has been registered at a local school and/or doctors' surgery. Child traffickers are aware of these checks and often place a child in a school for a short period of time before removing them. In some instances, where enquiries have been made in relation to the whereabouts of non-attending/withdrawn children, they have been returned to the school. In other cases, children have been registered at schools with long waiting lists. This process generates a letter that can be used to facilitate fraudulent claims.

### County Lines

Offending through "county lines" is a national issue involving the exploitation of vulnerable children and adults by violent gang members in order to move and sell drugs across the country. It is often associated with city-based organised crime gangs.

## Other Types of Exploitation

Other activities, such as illegal adoption or forced marriage, may be considered trafficking in so far as they fulfil the constitutive elements of trafficking in human beings.

## **5. Related Issues**

### 5.1 Missing

Children who go missing are extremely vulnerable to trafficking and in most instances children who have been trafficked may well have missing episodes.

When a child is missing the local Ealing Missing protocol needs to be followed.

[http://ealing.proceduresonline.com/p\\_sg\\_ch\\_missing.html](http://ealing.proceduresonline.com/p_sg_ch_missing.html)

### 5.2 Internationally Trafficked Children

#### 5.2.1 Recruiting and Controlling Children

Even before they travel, children can 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:

- Confiscation of the child's identity documents.
- Threats of reporting the child to the authorities.
- Violence, or threats of violence, towards the child.
- Threats of violence towards members of the young person's family.
- Keeping the child socially isolated.
- Keeping the young person locked up.
- Some children are told that they owe large sums of money for their air fares, accommodation and food, and that they must work to pay this off – however they never earn enough to do this.
- Depriving the child of money.
- Voodoo is used to frighten children (usually girls) into thinking that if they tell anyone about the traffickers, they and their families will die. They will also be forced to take part in a ceremony whereby fingernail clippings and or pieces of their hair will be taken and placed in a glass jar within the holy serene. They are told that if they disobey their handlers or run away then the glass jar will be broken and they will die. The belief in this power is real and very strong within the child to the extent that some rescued children found within the UK have had to be taken back by the authorities to their country of origin and their glass jar removed from the holy serene before they would assist and make disclosure against those involved in their abuse and trafficking.

Many children travel on false documents or traffickers may take any documents they may have possessed.

### 5.2.2 Entering the UK

Children are trafficked into the UK using a number of routes and methods of transportation. Children may be accompanied by adults, (who are not always related to them), or they may be on their own. Children on their own may claim asylum and become Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC), or they may come to attend school or join family. They may be privately fostered. Even children who arrive unaccompanied and subsequently cared for by Ealing Council may be found by the traffickers and then disappear.

### 5.2.3 Children Already in the Country

Trafficking into the UK is highly organised and children who are already in the country may have been told not to bring themselves to the attention of authorities or simply may not be aware that they can seek help. Some are enrolled at school and concerns are only raised when they leave unexpectedly, and there is no trace of them or their 'family' at their home address. Others are never registered at school or with a GP. These children do not come into contact with the statutory services that could raise concerns about their welfare. Younger children may be known to local housing or benefits services. However, most trafficked children are 'invisible'. Protecting them and promoting their welfare depends on the awareness and co-operation of community groups, neighbours and the public. This has implications for awareness raising campaigns.

### 5.2.4 Private Fostering:

There are occasions when a child who has been trafficked may be privately fostered. Private fostering is defined in the Children Act 1989, as occurring when a child under 16 years (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 by the Act as parents, step-parents, siblings, siblings of a parent and grandparents).

The current system relies on the parents and the foster carers to notify the local authority of a private fostering arrangement, (preferably before, but certainly within 48 hours, of the child arriving to stay).

Staff or volunteers in an agency, who have concerns that a child may be trafficked and privately fostered, should contact Children's Social Care via Ealing Children's Integrated Response Service (ECIRS) who can investigate under their regulatory duties in relation to private fostering (Children Acts 1989 & 2004). These duties are to identify private fostering arrangements, inspect the home and assess the suitability of the arrangement in terms of the child's welfare, visit the child regularly, and monitor and keep records of the placement.

There is also a requirement on local authorities to raise awareness of the notification requirements within local communities, (Section 7A of the Children Act 1989, as amended by the Children Act 2004) and to ensure that staff or volunteers in all agencies encourage notification

### 5.2.5 Returning Trafficked Children to their Country of Origin

Once identified, Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children, including those who may have been trafficked, will be offered legal advice arranged by Children's Social Care. All relevant information about the child, family and general conditions in their country of origin will be gathered when considering such an application. There is close liaison between the Home Office, Children's Social Care and the child's lawyer. If any application made is unsuccessful, a period of discretionary leave can be granted until the young person is 18, at which time a further application can be submitted.

A child can return on a voluntary basis, which is always the preferred option. It is important to try and ensure a child does not go missing before leaving the UK, as they will be very vulnerable should that occur.

### 5.3 Internally Trafficked Children

In addition to children being trafficked into the country from abroad, there is growing awareness of the incidence of children born, normally resident in the UK or who have been trafficked and are living in the country undetected, becoming victims of trafficking within the UK. This is often identified in situations where the victims are moved from one location to another irrespective of distance, within a town or between towns and cities in the UK, very often for the purposes of sexual exploitation. This is a serious organised crime, often involving a network of abusers. Following a grooming process the victim will be encouraged to go missing from home and cut off all contact with friends and relatives.

## **6. PROCEDURES**

6.1 If you suspect that a child may have been trafficked/be at risk of being trafficked discuss your concerns with your manager. Professionals should consider carefully any involvement with "family members/carers" before making a referral as to do so may heighten the risk of harm or abduction to the child/young person.

### 6.2 Responsibilities of the Local Authority

Protecting children and young people who are subjected to or are at risk of trafficking and modern slavery requires a multi-agency response, which includes working in partnership with the non-statutory sector and specialist NGOs.

#### 6.2.1 Identification and Indicators

Possible indicators of modern slavery and trafficking can be found in appendix 1

#### 6.2.2 Referral

Referral information should include:

- the child's name, d.o.b., address, name of guardian, address if different, phone number, country of origin, home language and whether he/she speaks English, names of any siblings or other children.
- In the case of a referral from a school or education department, the list of documentation provided at admission should also be obtained.

- A Home Office check should be completed to clarify status of the child/children and the adult/adults caring for them.
- Any concerns that a criminal offence has been committed e.g. trafficking, illegal entry, fraud or deception, is the remit of the Police.

### 6.2.3 Initial Assessment:

An initial assessment of the child's needs and circumstances should be undertaken which is in accordance with guidance in *Working together to safeguard children 2018*

Practitioners should:

- Consider interviewing children in school, as they may feel more able to talk.
- Consider talking to children and young people using phone, email and text.
- Ensure that carers/sponsors are not in the proximity.

Questions should focus on the following:

- Family composition, brothers, sisters, ages.
- Parent's 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.
- Who cared for them in their country of origin.

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.

- 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.
- This interview should be conducted as fully and complete as possible, to ensure accuracy and to avoid intrusion on the family over a longer period than is absolutely necessary.
- 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 establishing status and assisting the child as an Unaccompanied Minor.

The Vulnerability Screening Tool should be completed and forwarded to the Partnership Leads for Vulnerable Adolescents at the earliest opportunity.

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, the responsibility of the Department of Work and Pensions, and Education offences, pursued by Children's Services).

#### 6.2.4 Immediate Protection

Where there is an assessed risk of serious, immediate harm to the child, it is necessary to ensure that the child remains in a safe place or be removed to a safe place.

Immediate protection may be required to ensure the child is in a safe and beyond the reach of suspected traffickers.

#### 6.2.5 Placement Consideration

The location of the child must not be divulged to anyone making enquiries until they have been interviewed by a social worker and their identity and relationship/connection with the child established, with the help of the Police and immigration services, if required.

Foster carers/residential workers/school staff must be vigilant about anything unusual e.g. waiting cars outside the premises and telephone enquiries.

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.

#### 6.2.6 Strategy Meeting

A strategy meeting will need to be convened with the Police in the case of child victims of trafficking. The meeting needs to consider safety, planning and placement moving forward as well as referral to the National referral mechanism. Strategy meetings should be chaired by a Partnership Lead for Vulnerable Adolescents or a Team Manager. A suggested agenda can be found in appendix 3.

Please note that in some instances a strategy meeting may be required prior to an initial assessment where there are concerns that approaching the young person and/or their family for assessment may increase risk to the young person.

#### 6.2.7 Section 47 Enquiry

Section 47 enquiries should commence once any emergency action has been executed or further to the initial assessment if no emergency action has been taken.

#### 6.2.8 Planning

Planning and actions to support the child must minimize the risk of the traffickers being able to re-involve a child in exploitative activities.

#### 6.2.9 For internationally trafficked children:

- 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 make steps to verify the relationship between the child and those thought to be her/his parent/s.
- 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. If the supervising manager is satisfied that all agencies have completed satisfactory identification checks and risk assessments, the child may transfer to their care.

All Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children are to be regarded as vulnerable to trafficking.

Following the location of an Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child, UK Border Agency (UKBA) will conduct identification checks. Ealing Children's Social Care will carry out age assessments and make arrangements to accommodate children where necessary. All agencies will consider any evidence of trafficking.

Information about who to contact in the child's home country can be obtained via the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (0207 008 1500) or the appropriate Embassy or Consulate (for further information: [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)).

All documentation held by the referrer and other agencies should be checked by the social worker. This should include, if available:

- Passport (check date of issue; length of visa; whether picture resembles child; name in passport is same as alleged mother/father, and if not why not; whether it appears to be original and take copies to ensure further checks can be made if necessary).
- Home Office papers.
- Birth certificate.
- Proof of guardianship.
- Any papers/documentation relating to their home country.
- Place of birth – town.
- National identity number.

A new or recent photograph of the child should be included in the social work file. Immigration staff from the United Kingdom Border Agency will be able to provide information regarding the child, if known.

If a child is not known to the UKBA, this agency will take forward the immigration processes required in liaison with Children & Young People's Services.

If there are no concerns, all involved agencies should continue to monitor the situation until the child is appropriately settled. The referrer should be advised of the outcome by the social worker.

If there are concerns, following the initial assessment, a decision will be made regarding Section 47 enquiries, a Strategy Discussion and subsequently a Strategy Meeting will be held:

#### 6.2.10 Age Determination

If a victim states they are a child, they should be viewed as such until their age can be verified by identification or an independent age assessment is carried out by the local authority or a court determination. Section 51 Modern Slavery Act 2015 provides for presumption about age. Until an assessment is made of the person's age by the local authority, there is an assumption that the person is under 18.

#### 6.2.11 Use of appropriate interpreting services for non-English speakers

All interpreters should be DBS checked in line with other Ealing policies.

#### 6.2.12 For internally trafficked young people:

Consideration needs to be given to disruption activity around the perpetrators. Liaison with police will be vital and information and intelligence sharing key.

Opportunities for the young person to build a trusted relationship with a key professional are vital and consideration needs to be given as to who in the professional network may be best placed to do this.

Consideration for opportunities to engage the young person in positive activities to help disrupt engagement with traffickers is important.

It is important to remember that if a young person tries to remove themselves from an exploitative situation there may be an increased risk to them and to their families and appropriate planning needs to take place to manage risk appropriately.

### 6.3 Duty to Notify

From 1 November 2015, specified public authorities, including local councils, have a duty to notify the Secretary of State of any individual encountered in England and Wales who they believe is a suspected victim of slavery or human trafficking. This is done through a referral to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). NRM referrals need to be made for both internationally and internally trafficked young people. Support and consultation for completing the referral form can be obtained from the Partnership Lead for Vulnerable Adolescents.

The referral form can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms>

## **7. Issues for Consideration by Agencies Working with Trafficked Children**

### 7.1 Children who have been trafficked and exploited 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 house' if they are victims of an organized trafficking operation.
- Access to medical advice/treatment.
- 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 Children Act 1989 or Section 38 Children Act.
- To be interviewed separately. Children and young people will usually stick to their account and not speak until they feel comfortable.
- Access to therapeutic services.

## 7.2 Independent Advocacy

### Supporting Child Witnesses

No child should be coerced into giving evidence in court against a trafficker. Assessing the willingness and capacity of a child to give such evidence is complicated. The threat of repercussions and reprisals against the child and family either in the UK or in the home country may be realistic. Support is available to child witnesses and if it is felt that a child could benefit from specialist support, either during a police investigation or during a court trial, a referral for therapy can be made.

## Appendix 1: Risk Factors

There are a number of circumstances which could indicate that a child may have been trafficked to the UK and may still be being controlled by the traffickers or receiving adults. These include situations in which the child:

- Does not appear to have money but does have a mobile phone;
  - Is driven around by an older male or 'boyfriend';
  - Is withdrawn and refuses to talk;
  - Shows signs of sexual behaviour or language;
  - Shows signs of physical or sexual abuse, and/or has contracted a sexually transmitted disease;
  - Has a history with missing links and unexplained moves;
  - Is required to earn a minimum amount of money every day;
  - Works in various locations;
  - has limited freedom of movement;
  - Appears to be missing for periods;
  - Is known to beg for money;
  - Is being cared for by adult/s who are not their parents. Children in these circumstances are being privately fostered - see Children Living Away from Home Procedure, Foster Care. The quality of the relationship between the child and their adult carers is not good;
  - Has not been registered with or attended a GP practice;
  - Has not been enrolled in school;
  - Has to pay off an exorbitant debt, perhaps for the travel costs, before being able to have control over his/her own earnings;
  - Hands over a large part of their earnings to another person;
  - Is excessively afraid of being deported;
  - Has had their journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family;
  - Does not have possession of their own travel documents;
  - Has false papers, and these have been provided by another person;
  - Is unable to confirm which adult is going to accept responsibility for her/him;
  - Fits current profiles for those at risk of exploitation;
  - Has entered the country illegally;
- or, the person:
- In control of the child has applied for visas on behalf of many others, or acts as guarantor for other visa applications;
  - Who guarantees the visa application has acted for other visitors who have not returned to their countries of origin on the expiry of the visa.

For internally trafficked children risk factors may include:

- Missing periods
- Evidence of travel to other parts of the country, particularly with no previously known connection to the area
- Is driven around by an older person or 'boyfriend/girlfriend'
- Has train tickets/travel cards but no means to have purchased these
- Receipts from shops/restaurants outside of own home area

## **Appendix 2: Information, Advice and Support**

### **Local:**

Ealing Partnership Leads for Vulnerable Adolescents:

Contact: [vulnerabilitiestool@ealing.gov.uk](mailto:vulnerabilitiestool@ealing.gov.uk)

### **For Young People:**

#### **Advocacy/Support**

**Coram Voice – Always Heard Helpline for children and young people (and for self referral for advocacy)**

Tel: 0808 800 5792 (Freephone)

<https://coramvoice.org.uk/>

#### **Missing People**

Upper Richmond Road West, London SW14 7JE

Tel: 020 8392 4590

Fax: 020 8878 7752 284

E-mail: [www.missingpeople.org.uk](http://www.missingpeople.org.uk)

**HELPLINE: IF YOU'RE MISSING, THINKING OF GOING MISSING OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS MISSING, AND YOU WANT TO TALK**

Call Freephone: 116 000

Text: 116 00

Email: [116000@missingpeople.org.uk](mailto:116000@missingpeople.org.uk)

### **General Information:**

NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice and Information Line: 0800 107 7057

UK Human Trafficking Centre: 0114 252 3891 <http://www.uknswp.org/projects/uk-human-trafficking-centre/>

Foreign & Commonwealth Office: 020 7008 1500 [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

CEOP [Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

Tel: 0207 2382320/2307

[www.ceop.gov.uk](http://www.ceop.gov.uk)

### **Refugee Council Children's Panel:**

The Refugee Council Children's Panel of Advisers comprises of approximately 30 advisers who travel all over the country to support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. The Panel offers support to children who:

- Have applied for asylum on entering the UK.
- Have lived in the UK for some time before applying for asylum.
- Are abandoned by relatives, agents or friends.
- Have been picked up by the Police.
- Are in detention centres or prisons. • Are living on the streets or are already in the care of Children's Social Services, carers or community groups.

The support includes:

- Assisting children in accessing quality legal representation.
- Guiding children through the complexities of the asylum procedure.
- If necessary, accompanying children to asylum interviews, tribunal and appeal hearings, magistrates and crown court appointments.
- Building up a support network for children, involving a range of statutory and non-statutory service providers.
- Accompanying children to appointments with GP's, hospitals, Children's Social Care Services or other agencies.

Tel: Refugee Council: 01473 297900

### Appendix 3: Strategy meeting agenda

Agenda Item	
1	Introductions, apologies, confidentiality, etc
2	Information on young person and family and presenting risks, and background of young person
3	Current concerns, contextual safeguarding indicators
4	Sharing of the Vulnerabilities Screening Tool
5	Young person's views
6	Parental/carer involvement/notification
7	Identified Relationships/Networks (consider referral to MAVES if of concern)
8	Identified locations, venues etc (consider inviting community safety if this is a known issue and referral to MAVES if of concern)
9	Referral to National Referral Mechanism (if required)
10	Referral to risk panels (MAVES, MARAC, Channel) and consideration of notifying comms department and senior managers if likely to go to press.
11	Risk Level (for CSE specifically, based on police definitions, see note 1)
12	Consideration of younger siblings and risks to them/their own needs
13	Consideration of any other family issues impacting on risk
14	Chair's summary
15	<p><u>Formulation of Initial Safety Plan to address immediate risk of harm</u></p> <p>Consideration of disruption strategies</p> <p>Safety planning with young person and parents (see safety planning template)</p> <p>What information is needed to be gathered and from whom</p> <p>Consideration of mapping exercise</p> <p>Consideration of referrals for young person (to be agreed at Young Person Led Meeting)</p> <p>Consultation with a CPA as to threshold advice which should be scheduled for within 24 hours</p>

	Discussion with Young Person as to whether they would want a Young Person Led Meeting to be undertaken within 24 hours
16	Identification of who attends the Contextual Safeguarding Oversight Meeting
17	Timetabling of Young Person Led Meeting and Contextual Safeguarding Oversight Meeting

**NOTE 1**  
**Risk Level definitions**

<b>CSE Risk Category 1</b>	A vulnerable child or young person, where there are concerns they are being targeted and groomed and where any of the CSE warning signs have been identified. However, at this stage there is no evidence of any offences
<b>CSE Risk Category 2</b>	Evidence a child or young person is being targeted for opportunistic abuse through the exchange of sex for drugs, perceived affection, sense of belonging, accommodation (overnight stays), money and goods etc. This will also include a child or young person being sexually exploited through the use of technology and without the child or young person receiving any reward. IE: the exchange of indecent images on-line. The likelihood of coercion and control is significant.
<b>CSE Risk Category 3</b>	A child or young person whose sexual exploitation is habitual, self denied and where coercion/control is implicit. This is often carried out by multiple perpetrators.