



Date: 10 April 2018

Dear Colleagues

**WORKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WELFARE AND
SAFEGUARDING OF CHILD VICTIMS AND POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY, HSCB/PSNI,
January 2018**

The above Guidance replaces the 2011 version of "Working Arrangements for the Welfare and Safeguarding of Child Victims of Human Trafficking" DHSSPS/ PSNI. It has been developed jointly by the HSCB and the PSNI in discussion with the Department of Justice and the Department of Health.

It is intended to provide information on human trafficking and modern slavery and the arrangements in place to identify and support child victims and potential victims of these offences. In particular it sets out the operational working arrangements that should be followed by Trust staff and PSNI when they encounter a child who they suspect may be a victim of human trafficking or modern slavery.

The Guidance is being issued for implementation, effective from 10 April 2018. It is imperative that lead agencies with responsibility for safeguarding and protecting children who are victims or potential victims of human trafficking or modern slavery undertake to disseminate the Guidance within their respective organisations so that staff have a sound and robust understanding and knowledge of the agreed working arrangements.

The PSNI and HSCB will disseminate the Guidance to relevant other agencies who have key or supporting roles in relation to this group of children to ensure extensive awareness and knowledge of the arrangements in place, lead roles and responsibilities and corresponding practice requirements.

The HSCB and PSNI jointly endorse this Guidance and are committed to promoting best practice in Northern Ireland that will afford children who are victims or potential victims of human trafficking and modern slavery a high standard of care and protection.

Yours sincerely



Paula Hilman

D/Chief Superintendent

Head of Public Protection Branch

PSNI



Cecil Worthington

Acting Director

Social Care

HSCB