



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
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Safeguarding Children who may have been Trafficked

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A guide to acronyms used in the document

ACPO	Association of Chief Police Officers
ARC	Application Registration Card
ASUs	Asylum Screening Units
BIA	Border and Immigration Agency
CAF	Common Assessment Framework
CAIT	Child Abuse Investigation Team
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
NRUC	National Register for Unaccompanied Children
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
UAS	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker
UASC	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UKHTC	United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre
YOT	Youth Offending Team

Introduction

This document provides good 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 in order to exploit them.

Throughout this document a child is defined according to the Children Acts 1989 and 2004 as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. 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.

Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under the Children Act 2004 (referred to as *Safeguarding Children* throughout this guidance)

(<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/childrenyoungpeople/publications/guidance/?lang=en>) provides guidance on safeguarding all children. It should be followed and used in conjunction with this supplementary practice guidance to help practitioners meet the particular needs of trafficked children. Local procedures for safeguarding children should always be consistent with *Safeguarding Children*.

In all cases anyone who has concerns that a child may have been trafficked should report their concerns to social services or to the police.

On 23 March 2007 the Home Secretary, on behalf of the UK Government, signed the *Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings* (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/human-traffick-action-plan>). 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.

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: <http://www.nspcc.org.uk>).

Definitions

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.

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)

The *Palermo Protocol* (ratified by the UK on 6 February 2006) defines trafficking as:

“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.

- (a) *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.*
- (b) *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*
- (c) *“Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.*

The *Palermo Protocol* 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.

Even when a child understands what has happened, they may still appear to submit willingly to what they believe to be the will of their parents or accompanying adults. It is important that these children are still protected.

Why Do People Traffic Children?

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:

- Sex work
- Domestic servitude
- Sweatshop and restaurant work
- Credit card fraud
- Begging or pick pocketing
- Tending plants in illegal cannabis farms
- Benefit fraud
- Drug mules, drug dealing or decoys for adult drug traffickers

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 have been trafficked for the purposes of adoption are encouraged to notify the police and may wish to refer to the Statutory Guidance for the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

Possible indicators that a child may have been trafficked

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

- Has entered the country illegally
- Has no passport or other means of identification
- Has false documentation
- Is unable to confirm the name and address of the person meeting them on arrival
- Does not appear to have money but does have a mobile phone
- Possesses money and goods not accounted for
- Receives unexplained/unidentified phone calls whilst in placement/temporary accommodation
- 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
- Has gone missing from local authority care
- 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. 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, e.g. for travel costs, before having control over own earnings
- Is permanently deprived of a large part of their earnings by another person
- Is excessively afraid of being deported
- Has had their journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family

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 who have not returned to their countries of origin on the expiry of those visas

4. Practitioners should bear in mind that these indicators do not represent a comprehensive list.

5. While the first port of call for positively identified child trafficking cases should be the local police force and the local authority, the NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice and Information helpline (see Annex 1) can also be used as an alternative first port of call. The helpline supports referrals to local forces and authorities.

Private Fostering

6. Parents and private foster carers are required to notify the local authority of a private fostering arrangement. It is believed, however, that there is significant under-reporting of such arrangements and that private fostering is used for concealing trafficked children.

7. Private fostering is defined in section 66 of the Children Act 1989. A private fostering arrangement is when a child under 16 years (or under 18 if disabled) is to reside for more than 28 days in the care of someone who is not a parent, close relative, or someone with parental responsibility (close relatives are defined by the Act as step-parents, siblings, siblings of a parent and grandparents).

8. Staff or volunteers in an agency who have concerns that a child may be privately fostered should contact local authority children's social services, who can investigate under their statutory duties in relation to private fostering. 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.

Such enquiries should help identify if there are any concerns about the exploitation of the child.

9. There is a requirement on local authorities to raise awareness of the notification obligations within their local communities (paragraph 7a of section 8 of the Children Act 1989 inserted by section 44(7) of the Children Act 2004) and to ensure that staff and volunteers in all agencies encourage notification.

Referrals of trafficked children to local authority children's social services or police

Referral and Initial Information Gathering

10. Any agency or individual practitioner or volunteer who has a concern regarding possible trafficking of a child should follow *Safeguarding Children* guidance, contacting the local authority children's social services or local police service for the area in which the child currently resides.

11. Immigration staff who are concerned about children they suspect might have been trafficked should act quickly and resolutely following the BIA 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 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.

12. Annex 1 of this Guidance sets out what practitioners and volunteers in the different agencies should do when they suspect that a child may have been or is being trafficked. This section describes in more detail the response from local authority children's social services and the police to a referral from one of the agencies.

13. The social worker should obtain as much information as possible from the referrer, including the child's name, date of birth, address, name of carer/guardian, (and 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.

14. The social worker should verify that the child is living at the address as soon as possible and should check if the carer or guardian or other members of the household or the residential address are known to the police or to the local authority children's social services.

15. In the case of a referral from a school or other educational institution the documentation provided at admission should also be obtained.

16. A Home Office BIA 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 BIA to have a digital photograph of the child on their database and this may aid identification.

17. If the child has claimed asylum the social worker should check to see if the child is registered on the National Register of Unaccompanied Children (NRUC) and, if not, should make arrangements for the child's details to be placed on the system. If the child has claimed asylum they will have an Application Registration Card (ARC) in their possession which will contain their photo and other relevant details.

18. 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.

19. Professionals who phone local authority children's social services to express concern that they suspect, or know that, a child has been trafficked should confirm referrals in writing within 48 hours. The Common Assessment Framework provides a structure for the written referral. At the end of any discussion about a child, the referrer (whether a professional or a member of the public or family) and local authority children's social services should be clear about proposed action, timescales and who will be taking it, or that no further action will be taken. Any 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.

20. Local authority children's social services 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 (National Assembly for Wales, 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.

21. All child protection conferences, both initial and review, should have a dedicated person to take notes and produce a record of the meeting. The record of the conference is a crucial working document for all relevant professionals and the family. Cases where section 47 (Children Act 1989) enquiries do not result in the substantiation of referral concerns should be retained in accordance with agency retention policies. These policies should ensure that records are stored safely and can be retrieved promptly and efficiently.

Action after the initial information gathering

22. On completion of the initial information gathering the social worker discusses the referral with their supervising manager to agree and plan one of four ways forward:

- a) Undertake an initial assessment to decide whether –
 - the child is a child in need
 - what services should be provided including accommodation under s20
 - a further, more detailed core assessment should be undertaken
 - a s47 enquiry should be initiated (See Annex 7)

- b) Accommodation of the child under s20 Children Act 1989 – there may be enough information at this stage to support a decision to accommodate the child. A child should be accommodated under s20 Children Act 1989 if:

- The child is lost or abandoned
- There is no person with parental responsibility for the child
- The person who has been accommodating the child is considered unsuitable, for whatever reason, to provide suitable accommodation or care.

If there is reasonable cause to believe that the child is suffering or 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.

c) Initiate a child s47 enquiry and a core assessment of need under s.47 Children Act 1989 (See Annex 7)

or:

d. No further action

23. Even if there are no concerns child welfare agencies should continue to monitor the situation until a child is appropriately settled.

24. The social worker should advise the referrer of their decision about which plan is to be put in place. In the case of all children with immigration issues BIA should be informed in order that the immigration processes may be co-ordinated with the recommended protection plan.

25. 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.

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. 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, proof of guardianship. This list is not exhaustive and all avenues should be looked into. A recent or new photograph of the child must be included in the file together with copies of all relevant identification documentation.

29. 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 it is not, ask why not

30. 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.

31. Immigration staff should be able to provide clear explanation of the immigration process, different forms of documents and leave to enter the UK possibly along with an opinion on the validity of a document.

32. 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.

Decision to interview

33. 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 Team (CAIT), the BIA 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.

34. In the longer term information gathered at an interview might help to resolve the child's immigration status. Intelligence gathered from the interview could stop others being trafficked from overseas.

35. 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 freely until they feel comfortable.

36. Only accredited interpreters should be used. It is not acceptable to use a family member or sponsor.

37. 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
- Who cared for them in their country of origin

38. 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.

39. 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.

40. The interview should be conducted as fully and completely as possible to ensure accuracy and to avoid intrusion into the family for a longer period than is absolutely necessary.

41. On completion of the assessment a meeting should be held with the social worker, their supervising manager, the referring agency, 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.

42. 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.

43. Any action regarding fraud, trafficking, deception and illegal entry to this country is the remit of the police and the Home Office. Although the local authority should assist in any way possible, 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).

Investigating cases of trafficking

44. Whenever a practitioner or volunteer becomes concerned that a child is at risk of significant harm, 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*.

45. 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.

46. After referral, and depending on the outcome of the initial assessment, the local authority children's social services should convene a strategy meeting.

47. The strategy meeting must:

- Share information – this will involve immigration, the police, local authority children's social services and any other relevant professionals
- Develop a strategy for making enquiries into the child's circumstances, including consideration of a video interview
- Develop a plan for the child's immediate protection, including the supervision and monitoring of arrangements (for looked after children this will form part of the care plan)
- Agree what information can be given about the child to any enquirers
- Agree what support the child requires

Action to safeguard and promote the welfare of trafficked children

Issues for Professionals to consider when working with Trafficked Children

48. Children who have been trafficked are likely to need some of the following services:

- Accredited 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)

49. They may also need:

- Access to professionals who are 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 freely until they feel comfortable

50. Practitioners should:

- Consider talking to children and young people using the phone, e-mail, text
- Interview children in locations where they are likely to feel more at ease and more able to talk about their situation
- Ensure that carers are not in the proximity
- Ensure that interpreters are accredited

Trafficked children who are in care

51. The local authority must carry out a core assessment 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
- Assessing the child's vulnerability to the continuing influence/control of the traffickers

52. 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
- 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

53. 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.

54. See Appendix 5 for a list of addresses and contact details for embassies and consulates for various parts of the world.

55. 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.

Missing Children

56. 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'.

57. 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 1989¹. In these circumstances, the local authority will have duties towards the young person as a looked after child. 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.

58. 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.

59. 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.

60. 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.

61. 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 BIA. 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/>

62. 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.

63. In response to notification to the police of a missing child the guidance in '*The Management, Recording and Investigation of Missing Persons*' (http://www.acpo.police.uk/asp/policies/Data/missing_persons_2005_24x02x05.pdf) should be followed.

64. The guidance sets out that:

¹ 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)).

- 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
- Children who go missing from care are vulnerable and the level of risk does not diminish because of frequency of absence

65. 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*. Contact details are available on the NSPCC web site at <http://www.nspcc.org.uk>.

66. 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.

Action against traffickers

67. 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 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.

Returning trafficked children

68. 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.

69. 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.

70. In some cases and with advice from their lawyers children may apply to BIA 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 BIA.

71. 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.

The Role of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs)

72. LSCBs should have an inter-agency strategy and protocols in place for the early identification and notification to the relevant agencies of potential trafficking victims. LSCBs should maintain close links with community groups and have a strategy in place for raising awareness within the local community of the possibility that children are trafficked and exploited. The strategy should explain how to raise a concern.

73. *Safeguarding Children* makes clear that while the work of LSCBs contributes to the wider goals of improving the wellbeing of all children, it has a particular focus on ensuring, as far as possible, that children 'enjoy the best possible health and are free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation', which includes trafficking.

74. LSCBs should work with a range of agencies to deliver preventative measures and consider trafficking as part of local needs assessment, where necessary making action to address this an explicit part of LSCB business planning (which may in turn be part of the Children and Young People's Plan). LSCBs may establish a sub-group specifically to deal with trafficking issues and develop protocols in consultation with other LSCB partners for dealing with these issues.

75. They should also ensure effective working between partners, in particular the police, social services and BIA; ensure 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; consider public awareness campaigns and publicise sources of help for victims.

76. A police representative on the LSCB will help to build better local responses to the identification of trafficked children by using risk profiles, as well as helping to determine the child's welfare needs and future protection requirements.

Development of local protocols

77. LSCBs should develop inter-agency protocols to guide action where there are concerns that a child has been trafficked, including sharing concerns about a child's safety. The protocols should be consistent with LSCB procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, with procedures for working with children in need, and with relevant aspects of youth offending protocols. The identification of a child who has been trafficked, or is at risk of being trafficked, should always trigger the agreed local procedures to ensure the child's safety and welfare, and to enable the police to gather evidence about abusers and coercers.

The roles and responsibilities of specific groups and services

All agencies

1. It is the responsibility of all agency workers to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children trafficked into and within England and Wales (as covered by *Safeguarding Children*).
2. Wherever staff or volunteers in an agency come into contact with a child who has arrived unaccompanied in the country and is not in contact with local authority children's social services, or a child who is accompanied, but for whom they have concerns regarding their welfare or safety, they should follow the guidance set out in *Safeguarding Children*. This should be followed by all practitioners working in any agency that has contact with children.
3. *Safeguarding Children* guides practitioners and volunteers to contact their local authority children's social services if they are concerned that a child has been, is being or could be abused through trafficking.
4. *Safeguarding Children* also contains guidance on the particular needs of children abused or neglected because of a belief in spirit possession. Separate guidance on this issue has been issued (May 2008).

Local authority children's social services

5. Local authority children's social services have responsibility for assisting all unaccompanied children and children who have come to the UK with their parents for whom there are concerns regarding their welfare and safety.
6. *Safeguarding Children* sets out the duties for local authority children's social services to undertake initial assessment and, where appropriate, a section 47 inquiry (*Children Act 1989*). All practitioners should ensure they comply with the guidance in *Safeguarding Children*.

Health services

7. Trafficked children who need healthcare may be seen at Accident and Emergency services, Walk-in Centres, minor injury units, Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) clinics and by 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.
8. When children or their carers give addresses in other countries, stating that the child is resident outside the UK, reception staff should always record the current holiday address as well as the home address in their own country. Staff should be alert to 'local holiday' addresses in case patterns emerge that suggest large numbers of children moving in and out of the same address.

9. Visitors such as Health Visitors and Senior Nurses who may follow up visits to Accident and Emergency and Walk-in Centres, should also be alert to children or their carers giving 'local holiday' addresses in case patterns emerge that suggest large numbers of children moving in and out of the same address.

10. More details relating to the role of health services in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children can be found in *Safeguarding Children* .

Education services

11. Children trafficked into the country may be registered at a school for a term or so, 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.

12. Children who have experienced certain life events are more at risk of going missing from education. Trafficked children are particularly vulnerable (see Annex 5, on the impact of trafficking and exploitation on children). 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.

13. It is strongly recommended that LEAs put in place procedures designed to monitor the whereabouts of a child at risk of going missing from education and to record that they have completed these procedures. Supplementary guidance relating to children missing 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.

Local authority asylum teams

14. Some local authorities have asylum teams who have responsibility for families, single adults and unaccompanied young people for whom there are no concerns additional to their migrant status. Where this is the case, there should be a locally agreed protocol to assist other teams and agencies in working jointly with the asylum team.

15. The Home Office has set up a National Register of Unaccompanied Children (NRUC) which is administered on their behalf by London Councils (formerly ALG). The database contains information on all unaccompanied asylum seeking children supported by local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland and gives access to approved staff.

16. NRUC is a source of information about asylum teams and will be of value to local authorities when, for example, children are placed outside the local area or move to another local authority. Several local authorities across Wales have NRUC lead officers.

Youth Offending Teams

17. Staff working in Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) 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 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.

Police

18. 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 Border and Immigration Agency (BIA) 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.

19. 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.

20. Part of the work of the planned child trafficking desk within 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*.

21. All UK police forces now have a single point of contact (SPOC) for human trafficking issues.

Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)

22. 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.

23. There are specific provisions in the Code for Crown Prosecutors (www.cps.gov.uk/victims_witnesses/further_info) to ensure that young people are not inappropriately criminalised. Paragraphs 8.8 and 8.9 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.

24. 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.

25. 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.

UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC)

26. 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.

27. 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 inter-agency working for safeguarding trafficked children. The involvement of a BIA member seconded to CEOP will ensure that immigration issues relating to trafficked victims will be appropriately responded to by the agency.

Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP)

28. 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.

29. In June 2007, CEOP published a scoping report on child trafficking in the UK. This was commissioned by the Home Office and BIA. 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 www.ceop.gov.uk.

30. In future, CEOP will produce an annual threat assessment of the scale and nature of child trafficking in the UK. The involvement of a BIA member seconded to CEOP will ensure that immigration issues relating to trafficked victims will be appropriately responded to by the Centre.

NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice and Information Helpline

31. The Home Office in partnership with NSPCC, ECPACT UK, CEOP and Comic Relief have launched 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 offers direct assistance to professionals in statutory and non statutory services responsible for children who show signs of having been trafficked and offers advice on how their immediate needs can be addressed. It also offers advice on best safeguarding practice by telephone and a case consultancy service by appointment.

32. The advice line is a conduit for professionals to talk through issues and possible actions about any children who may have been trafficked or still is being trafficked. The line supports referrals to other agencies and uses learning from the service to promote best practice in the safeguarding and welfare of trafficked children. The service works 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 involves the participation of trafficked children in the design and delivery of this and other connected services.

33. 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.

Border and Immigration Agency (BIA)

34. The BIA is a new executive agency of the Home Office which has assumed 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). The Asylum Screening Units (ASUs) in Croydon and Liverpool process all applications for asylum including those from children.

35. BIA may be the first official agency encountered by child victims of trafficking at ports and asylum screening units. 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. BIA are likely to be a source of referrals to child welfare agencies. The BIA is required to develop a code of practice for Immigration Officers to comply with in relation to all their contact with children, including those who may have been trafficked or where there are other safeguarding concerns.

36. The applications for immigration status made on behalf of children may give rise to concerns that they are victims of trafficking.

37. Child victims may also be discovered in routine operations to detect and disrupt trafficking networks both in the UK and abroad. As well as providing referrals, BIA will inform child protection and care plans.

38. It is important for all agencies concerned with protecting children who have been trafficked to develop good working arrangements with the BIA. BIA should also be involved in Local Safeguarding Children Boards where it has a local presence.

39. The Immigration Officer's role, alongside considering the eligibility of the child for entry, is to be alert to child safeguarding issues. The Immigration Officer needs to ensure that immigration processes and decisions made in respect of children take into account their individual situation, views and welfare, with the aim of delivering speedy and durable solutions for the child and family.

40. In addition to formal document control, all entrants are required to satisfy the Immigration Officer that they are genuinely seeking entry in accordance with the immigration rules before being allowed entry. Due regard is given to ensuring that officers operate in accordance with BIA guidance adapted from *Safeguarding Children* when it comes to working with children. When an interview is considered necessary, every care will be taken to conduct it in the light of the child's circumstances and understanding. In most circumstances the interview will be conducted by a specially trained officer with knowledge of child protection issues. For these children only limited information is registered or in some cases, for EU children, none is kept. When any young asylum seeker is interviewed - currently minors are interviewed by BIA case workers only as part of their asylum claim - a responsible adult (a social worker, foster carer or trained volunteer), as well as a translator, 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).

41. However, a number of children arrive in the UK accompanied by adults who are either not related to them or in circumstances which raise child protection concerns – for example there may be little evidence of any pre-existing relationship or even an absence of any knowledge of the sponsor. There may be unsatisfactory accommodation in the UK, or perhaps no evidence of parental permission for the child to travel to the UK or stay with the sponsor. These irregularities may be the only indication that the child is a victim of trafficking.

42. All this will concern immigration officers. If these issues become evident during any interview the immigration officer will resolve them either by further enquiry or by referring the child to a police child protection officer or to local authority children's social services, who should consider applying for an emergency protection order for the child.

43. The identification of children at risk of harm, as they arrive at a port of entry is not an easy task. The ports' Intelligence Units have developed a profile of trafficked children to assist Immigration (see trafficking toolkit www.crimereduction.co.uk/toolkits). Other resources readily available to all staff include the location of Paladin type teams, and the BIA best practice guidance *Safeguarding Children: Border and Immigration Agency guidance on how to identify children in need and instruction and advice on what actions to take*.

44. Immigration officers identify children from abroad who may be at risk of being trafficked. Children who do not meet the immigration criteria for entry and children who, irrespective of their immigration status are believed to be at risk of harm if they are allowed entry, are referred by immigration officers to agencies with statutory responsibilities for safeguarding children's welfare, primarily the local authority children's social services and/or the local police Child Protection Officer. Records for these children exist within BIA and the receiving agency. In addition, when a child is interviewed every effort is made to identify sponsors and others who come to collect the child to ensure that any child protection concerns are addressed.

45. The National Register for Unaccompanied Children (NRUC), managed by London Councils on behalf of the Home Office, aims to gather information on all unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the UK. There are plans to extend it to cover all unaccompanied children from abroad, not just asylum seeking children. It is the first database developed for the purpose of sharing information between children's social services departments (practitioners) and government departments (Immigration Officers). It is envisaged that, in time, NRUC will be used to record child trafficking cases.

Community Groups, Neighbours and the Public

46. Children arriving in the UK, who are victims of trafficking and are often not aware of their rights or that they can claim asylum once they have gained entry to the country, are unlikely to come to the notice of asylum or immigration services.

47. Trafficked and exploited children often come to the notice of an agency only when they have already been abused. Some are enrolled at school and concerns are only raised when their identification at enrolment proves to be problematic or 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 statutory services which could identify concerns about their welfare.

48. However, a neighbour or community group may become aware of a young child or children in a household who do(es) not appear to be attending school or who appears to be withdrawn and lack peer group contact. Younger children may be known to local housing or benefits services. However, many trafficked children are invisible to local authority children's social services. Protecting them and promoting their welfare depends on the awareness and co-operation of community groups, neighbours and the public. Where such concerns exist, these should be brought to the attention of the local authority where the child is resident.

Factors which may make children vulnerable to trafficking:

- **Poverty:** in general, this is the root cause of vulnerability to exploitation. The recruiter's promises of work/income are seen by families as a possible escape route from impoverished circumstances. At the very least a child's departure means one less mouth to feed.
- **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 pay school fees or where schools are difficult to access or are of poor quality.
- **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.

- **Cultural attitudes:** traditional cultural attitudes can mean that some children are more vulnerable to trafficking than others.
- **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.

- **Family circumstances:** children may choose to leave home as a result of domestic abuse and neglect.
- **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.
- **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.

How children are recruited and controlled

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:

- Children are promised education or what is regarded as respectable work – such as in restaurants or as domestic servants
- Parents are persuaded that their children will have a better life elsewhere

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.

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:

- 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
- 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
- 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
- Depriving the child of money

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.

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.

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.

Others may be groomed coercively by being forced to comply with their boyfriends' demands. The girl eventually succumbs to sexual exploitation by older men or 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.

How children are brought to the UK

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.

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.

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, less well known ports, such as Luton and Stansted airports in addition to other regional airports, such as Manchester, Birmingham and Newcastle. Trafficked children are also brought in by sea.

Accompanied children:

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 economic migration with their family, education, re-unification with family or fleeing a war-torn country.

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.

Some accompanied children may 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.

Unaccompanied children:

Unaccompanied children may come to the UK seeking asylum (Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children - UASC). Or they may be here to attend school or join family, close or extended. They may 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.

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 immigration.

Some groups of children will avoid contact with authorities 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.

The impact of trafficking on children

Trafficked children are not only deprived of their rights to health and freedom from exploitation and abuse – they are usually also deprived of their right to an education and the life opportunities this brings. The creation of a false identity and implied criminality of the children, together with the loss of family and community, may seriously undermine their sense of self worth.

Once children have been trafficked and exploited, they are vulnerable to:

Physical harm

- This can range from inappropriate chastisement, not receiving routine and emergency medical attention (partly through a lack of care about their welfare and partly because of the need for secrecy surrounding their circumstances)
- Children in the sex industry are open to sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS; and for girls there is the risk of early pregnancy and possible damage to their reproductive health
- Children frequently suffer physical beatings and rape
- Children also frequently suffer physical deprivations, sensory deprivations and food deprivation
- Some trafficked children are subdued with drugs, which they then become dependent on. They are then effectively trapped within the cycle of exploitation, continuing to work in return for a supply of drugs
- Children often develop alcohol addictions
- Victims can suffer physical disorders such as skin diseases, migraine, backache etc
- Some forms of harm might be linked to a belief in spirit possession

Psychological harm

- Children become disorientated after leaving their family environment, no matter how impoverished and difficult that might have been. This disorientation can be compounded for some children who have to assume a new identity or have no identity at all
- Children can be isolated from the local community in the UK by being kept away from school and because they cannot speak English
- Trafficked and exploited children are living in fear both of the adults who have physical control of them and of the threat that they will be reported to the authorities as immigration criminals
- Victims lose their trust in all adults
- All trafficked and exploited children will suffer from some form of psychological distress owing to their sense of powerlessness. In many cases involving

violence and deprivations at the hands of their traffickers, which can be extreme, it will take the form of post traumatic stress disorder

- Many trafficked and exploited children develop dependent relationships with their abusers
- They suffer flashbacks, nightmares, anxiety attacks, irritability and other symptoms of stress, such as, nervous breakdowns
- Trafficked and exploited children experience a loss of ability to concentrate
- They can become anti-social, aggressive and angry, and/or fearful and nervous – finding it difficult to relate to others, including in the family and at work
- Victims have very low self-esteem and believe that the experience has ‘ruined’ them for life psychologically and socially. They become depressed, and often suicidal
- The children worry about people in their families and communities knowing what has happened to them, and become afraid to go home
- Ascribing a new identity to children that makes them feel like criminals can have long term consequences for their adult social lives

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

Identifying trafficked children

Children are being trafficked to all parts of the UK. During Operation Pentameter officers found 12 child victims of trafficking who had been sexually exploited in the UK during the period of 21 February – 31 May 2006. All ports in the UK are potential channels for trafficking children. However, 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.

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 the 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: <http://www.crop1.org.uk/>.

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.

In some cases the victims of child trafficking are forced to, or unwittingly, take part in criminal activity, such as cannabis cultivation or benefit frauds. It is important that those charged with investigating those offences are able to recognise and identify such cases, so that the child's welfare needs and protection are taken into account, ensuring that all appropriate safeguarding processes are followed. The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) has issued guidance to all police services to this effect. Under the Children Act 1989, local authorities, the police and the NSPCC have powers to safeguard and promote the welfare of any child in England and Wales.

The nationality or immigration status of the child do not affect agencies' statutory responsibilities under the Act. These issues can be addressed in discussion with the BIA when the child's needs for safety and protection have been attended to.

It is incumbent on all agencies to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children trafficked into and within the UK, to provide the same standard of care as that available to any other child in the UK.

All practitioners who come into contact with children and young people in their everyday work need to be able to recognise children who have been trafficked, to understand the areas of vulnerability that this can generate for a child or young person and should be competent to act to support and protect these children from harm. In many cases, practitioners may have to act on and respond to cases where they suspect a child might have been trafficked. They should follow this guidance and the guidance in *Safeguarding Children*.

This may be the crucial intervention which breaks the cycle of the child being vulnerable to continuing or further exploitation.

Policy and Legislation

International

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)

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. 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]'

UK

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)

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.

The trafficking of children is included under the trafficking offences contained in the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Act 2004. In addition, the Sexual Offences Act 2003 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.

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.

Relevant provisions of UK Legislation

i. 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
- s/he is disabled

ii. Children Act 1989, Section 20

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
- 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

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.

iii. Children Act 1989, Section 47

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.

'Harm' is defined as:

- ill treatment, which includes sexual abuse, physical abuse and forms of ill-treatment 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)

This may include seeing or hearing the ill treatment of another (s120 Adoption and Children Act 2002).

iv. Children Act 1989, Section 67 Private Fostering

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.

'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

A child is not a privately fostered child if the person caring for and accommodating him/her:

- has done so for a period of less than 28 days and
- does not intend to do so for any longer period

A child is not a privately fostered child while:

- s/he is being looked after by a local authority;
- s/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:
 - in accommodation provided by or on behalf of any voluntary organisation
 - in any school in which he/she is receiving full-time education
 - in any health service hospital
 - in any care home or independent hospital
 - in any home or institution not specified above but provided, equipped and maintained by the Secretary of State
- s/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;
- s/he is liable to be detained, or subject to guardianship, under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- s/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.

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.

The usual fostering limit applies to private fostering.

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.

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

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.

The local authority may also impose requirements on a carer affecting:

- the number, age and sex of the children to be fostered
- the standard of accommodation and equipment
- health and safety arrangements
- specific arrangements for the children to be fostered

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.

The local authority must be satisfied as to the suitability of each arrangement notified to it.

Regulations prescribe the frequency with which a privately fostered child should be visited.

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.

v. Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 Section 54

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.

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
- failed asylum seekers who refuse to co-operate with removal directions

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.

vi. Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 Section 55

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 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.

Section 55 does not apply to unaccompanied minors.

Those who have not yet officially lodged an asylum claim can be offered assistance with accommodation (usually overnight) and travel to Immigration and Nationality Directorate Public Caller Unit (IND) by social services in order to register the claim with the Home Office. Family can then access NASS support via Refugee Action once IND has accepted the claim and provided written confirmation of this.

vii. Parental Responsibility

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Annex 8

Table showing appropriate 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 <i>(Application for school place, child starts/is attending school, talks to school nurse or unexpectedly leaves school)</i>	Teacher, school nurse, classroom assistant, reception/administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The practitioner discusses concerns with the designated teacher with safeguarding children responsibility The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child Where appropriate a CAF assessment should be undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
Health services: GP surgery, A&E, Ambulance Service, maternity services, hospitals and specialist services <i>(An adult takes a child to the GP/A&E 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)</i>	GP, practice nurse, community health visitors, hospital staff, maternity staff, adult mental health and CAMHS practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practitioner discusses concern with the named/designated doctor or nurse with safeguarding children responsibility The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child where appropriate a CAF assessment should be undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
Police <i>(Family or unaccompanied child comes to notice through criminal activity, illegal immigrant status, domestic violence home visits, missing persons referrals or other)</i>	Police officer, community safety officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local police complete a Coming to Notice (CTN) report and send it to the Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT) Local police discuss case with CAIT Further investigation is undertaken as appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All CTNs are sent to Children's Social Services Where immediate action is needed the CAIT will have a strategy discussion with Children's Social Services See actions Children's Social Care in this column
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
Children's Social Services	Children's social worker, family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Social Services staff discuss case with their 	Children's Social Services

<i>(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)</i>	support worker, foster carer, reception/administrator, residential worker, children's rights officer	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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <i>(The child, accompanied or unaccompanied, is referred by Children's Social Services Referral and Assessment Team to their Local Authority's asylum team)</i>	Asylum team social worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asylum team staff discuss case with their supervising line manager The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. Further assessment can be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to the Child Protection social work team See actions for Children's Social Services (Child Protection team) in this column
Youth Offending Teams, youth clubs & Connexions <i>(The child, accompanied or unaccompanied, commits an offence and is referred to the YOT, joins or attends a youth club, receives services from Connexions)</i>	YOT practitioner, youth worker, youth work volunteer, Connexions Personal Advisor, reception/ administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YOT practitioner's discuss case with their supervising line manager, youth worker and volunteer with their team leader The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child where appropriate a CAF assessment should be undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
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 <i>(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)</i>	Ports immigration officer, asylum screening staff at Croydon and Liverpool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immigration and screening staff member: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> considers the case in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol makes further checks where possible discusses concern with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility discusses the case with Children's Social Services and Police colleagues located at the port of entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services and the Police See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
Fire Service <i>(Family or unaccompanied child comes to notice through fire-related or other accidents and</i>	Fire Service staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire service staff member discusses concern with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility The concerns should be considered in the light of information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services

<i>incidents)</i>		<p>about trafficked children in this Protocol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child • where appropriate a CAF assessment should be undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
<p>Local Authority Housing</p> <p><i>(Homeless adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child apply for to be housed)</i></p>	Housing officer, reception/administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing staff member discusses case with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility, makes further checks where possible • The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. • Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child • where appropriate a CAF assessment should be undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services • See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
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
<p>Benefits Agency</p> <p><i>(Adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child apply for, or notify alterations in, benefits)</i></p>	Benefits officer, assessor, reception/administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits service staff member discusses case with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility, makes further checks where possible • The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. • Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child • where appropriate a CAF assessment should be undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services • See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
<p>LA Leisure Centres, Libraries</p> <p><i>(Adult(s) and child/ren or an unaccompanied child use leisure centres or libraries)</i></p>	Leisure centre worker, librarians, reception/administrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure centre and libraries' staff member discusses case with the designated officer with safeguarding children responsibility • The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. • Further checks should be made. HOWEVER not if this will heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child • where appropriate a CAF assessment should be undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services • See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
<p>Independent private & voluntary agencies</p> <p><i>(Families and children, including unaccompanied children, receive a range of social care and other services from these agencies)</i></p>	Solicitor, interpreter and others coming into contact with children, young people and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solicitors, interpreters and others coming into contact with children should telephone the local Children's Social Services for advice about whether to make a referral 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services • See actions for Children's Social Services in this column
Setting/circumstance where a child may be identified as a trafficked child	Practitioner or volunteer who may identify a child who has	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

	been trafficked		are concerns that a child may have been trafficked
Community, faith groups and others <i>(Families and children, including unaccompanied children, participate in a range of social care activities and other services from these agencies)</i>	Organisers & volunteers for community and private sports, music, drama, church and other activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned adult discusses case with the designated person with safeguarding children responsibility • The concerns should be considered in the light of information about trafficked children in this Protocol. • HOWEVER concerned adults should not do anything which could heighten risk of harm or abduction to the child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all cases where action, including further assessment (more specialist than CAF) is felt to be needed, a referral should be made to Children's Social Services • See actions for Children's Social Services in this column

Annex 9

Useful UK Contacts

NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice and Information Help Line
Tel: [To be available shortly]

United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre
Tel: 0114 252 3891
www.ukhtc.org

Children's Legal Centre
www.childrenslegalcentre.com

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 Stationery Office – Tel: 0870 600 5522.
or on the website – www.fco.gov.uk

International Social Services of the UK,
Cranmer House, 3rd Floor
39 Brixton Road, London SW9 6DD
Tel: 020 7735 8941/4
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: 020 7238 2320/2307
www.ceop.gov.uk

ECPACT UK (End Child Prostitution, Pornography and Child Trafficking)
Grosvenor Gardens House, 35 – 37 Grosvenor Gardens,
London, SW1W 0BS
Tel: 020 7233 9887
www.ecpat.org.uk or info@ecpat.org.uk

UNICEF
Africa House, 64 – 78 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6NB
Tel: 020 7405 5592
info@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
19 Springbank
Hull, East Yorkshire, HU3 1AF
Tel. 01482 325 552
Fax. 01482 585 214

Annex 10

List of addresses and contact details for embassies and consulates

We thank the NSPCC and the London Child Safeguarding Committee for allowing the inclusion of this list of worldwide organisations concerned with children's welfare; also accessible at:

www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/OnlineResources/CH_Resources.asp_ifega26416.html

The list is arranged A-Z by country, however organisations that work internationally (i.e. in more than one country) are listed under International Organisations.

- A -

AFRICA

African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN)

PO Box 1768

00200 - City Square

Nairobi

Kenya

Tel: 254 20 3873990/3861086

Fax: 254 20 3876502

www.anppcan.org

Anti-Child Abuse Society of Africa (ACASA)

P.O. Box 8179 Wuse

Abuja

NIGERIA

Tel: 234 09 6705329 / 234 08 044135581

Further details available on the Child Rights Information Network (CRIN)

ARGENTINA

Association Argentina Para La Prevencion Del Abuso y Abandono Infantil (APAI)

Casacuberta 2881

Avellaneda

Buenos Aires 1872

ARGENTINA

Tel: 54 1 203 1900

AUSTRALIA

Australian Childhood Foundation

PO BOX 525

Ringwood, VICTORIA 3134

Tel: (03) 9874 3922

Fax: (03) 9874 7922

www.childhood.org.au

- B -

BELGIUM

Vertrouwenscentrum Kindermishandeling

AZ-VUB

Laarbeeklaan 101

1090 Brussel

BELGIUM

Tel: 32 02 477 6060

Fax: 32 02 477 8750

www.kindinnood.org

- C -

CANADA

Canadian Red Cross

National Office

170 Metcalf Street

Suite 300

Ottawa

Ontario

K2P 2PZ

CANADA

Tel: (613)740-1900

Fax: (613)740-1911

www.redcross.ca

Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies

75 Front Street East

2nd Floor

Toronto

Ontario

CANADA

Tel: 1 416 987 7725

Fax: 1 416 366 8317

www.oacas.org

CZECH REPUBLIC**Detskaprava.cz****Project for Support of Children's Rights**

Ustavni, 91/95

181 21 Praha 8

CZECH REPUBLIC

Tel: (+420) 266 727 933

Fax: (+420) 266 727 911

www.detskaprava.cz/english/index.htm**- D -****DENMARK****Red Barnet (Save the Children Denmark)**

Red Barnet

Rosenørns Allé 12

DK - 1634 Copenhagen V

Tel: (+ 45) 35 36 55 55

Fax: (+ 45) 35 39 11 19

www.redbarnet.dk**- E -****ENGLAND****ChildLine**

45 Folgate Street

London

E1 6GL

Tel: 020 7650 3200

Fax: 020 7650 3201

Helpline: 0800 1111 (24-hr/every day)

www.childline.org.uk**Children's Society**

Edward Rudolf House

Margery Street

London

WC1X 0JL

ENGLAND

Tel: 0845 300 1128

Fax: 020 7837 0211

www.the-childrens-society.org.uk**National Children's Bureau (NCB)**

8 Wakley Street,

London

EC1V 7QE

ENGLAND

Tel: 020 7843 6000

Fax: 020 7278 9512

www.ncb.org.uk**NCH**

85 Highbury Park

London

N5 1UD

ENGLAND

Tel: 020 7704 7058

Fax: 020 7704 7006

www.nch.org.uk**Save the Children UK**

17 Grove Lane

Camberwell

London

SE5 8RD

ENGLAND

www.savethechildren.org.uk**UNICEF**

Africa House

64 – 78 Kingsway

London

WC2B 6NB

Tel : 020 7405 5592

info@unicef.org.uk**ESTONIA****Estonian Children's Fund**

Lai31/Suurtuki 1

10133 Tallin

ESTONIA

Tel: +372 641 1188

Fax: + 372 64 111 89

www.elf.ee**FINLAND****Central Union for Child Welfare in Finland**

Armfeltintie 1

FIN-00150 Helsinki

FINLAND

Tel: +358- 9-3296 011

Fax: +358-9-3296 0299

www.lskl.fi

Mannerheim League For Child Welfare

The Central Office

Toinen linja 17

FIN-00530 Helsinki

FINLAND

Tel: +358 753 2451

Fax: +358 9 3481 1508

www.mll.fi

FRANCE

Centre Français de Protection de l'Enfance (CFPE)

23, Place Victor Hugo

94270

Kremlin Bicêtre

Paris

FRANCE

Tel: 01 43 90 63 00

Fax: 01 43 90 63 07

www.cfpe.asso.fr

**Union Nationale des Associations de Sauvegarde des
Enfants, des Adolescents et des Adultes (UNASEA)**

118, rue du Château des Rentiers

75013 Paris

FRANCE

Tel: +33 [0] 1 45 83 50 60

Fax: +33 [0] 1 45 83 80 36

www.unasea.org

- G -

GERMANY

Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kinder und Jugendhilfe

Bonner Str. 147

50968 Köln

GERMANY

Tel: 030/400 40-200

Fax: 030/400 40-232

www.agj.de

Deutscher Kinderschutzbund

Bundesgeschäftsstelle

Hinüberstr. 8

30175 Hannover

Tel: 0511 30 4850

Fax: 0511 30 48549

www.dksb.de

Die Kinderschutz-Zentren

Spichernstr. 55

50672 Köln

Tel: 0221-56 97 53

Fax: 0221-56 97 550

www.kinderschutz-zentren.org

GHANA

Rights of the Child Foundation

PO Box 2502

Accra GA District

GHANA

Tel: 233 21 767271

Fax: 233 21 772753

GUATEMALA

Nacional Contra el Maltrato Infantil

3a.Avenida

11-28 Zona 1

4o. Nivel

Guatemala

Tel: (502) 253-5303

Fax (502) 253 2984

Email: conacmi@concyt.gob.gt

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HONG KONG

Hong Kong Family Welfare Society

Room 2010 20/F.

Southern Centre

130 Hennessy Road

Wanchai

HONG KONG

Tel: 2527 3171

www.hkfws.org.hk

**Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children
(HKSPC)**

387 Portland Street

Mogkok

Kowloon

HONG KONG

www.hkspc.org

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INDIA

ChildLine India

2nd Floor, Nana Chowk Municipal School,
Frere Bridge, Low Level, Nana Chowk
Near Grant Road Station,
Mumbai - 400007
INDIA
Tel: (91-22) 2388 1098 / 2384 1098 / 2387 1098
Fax: (91-22) 2388 1098
www.childlineindia.org.in

INDONESIA**Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation**

Jl. Teuku Umar No:10
Jakarta Daerah Khusus Ikuot 10350
Tel: 62 21 310 7030
Fax: 62 21 310 6977
Email: icwfjkt@lbn.net

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**Child Rights Information Network (CRIN)**

c/o Save the Children
1 St. Johns Lane
London EC1M 4AR
UK
Tel: (+44) 20 7012 6865
Fax: (44) 20 7012 6952
www.crin.org

Childwatch International Research Network

Secretariat
P.O. Box 1132 Blindern
N - 0317 Oslo
NORWAY
Tel: +47 22 85 43 50
Fax: +47 22 85 50 28
www.childwatch.uio.no

Defence for Children International

1 rue de Varembe PO Box 88
1221 Geneva 20
SWITZERLAND
Te: +41 22 734 0558
Fax: +41 22 740 1145
www.dci-is.org/

**ECPAT (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and
Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes)**

www.ecpat.net

International Forum for Child Welfare

20 Spadina Road
Toronto, Ontario
M5R 2S7
Tel: +1 416 968 0650
Fax: +1 206 694 4509
www.ifcw.org

International Save the Children Alliance

Second Floor
Cambridge House
100 Cambridge Grove
London
W6 0LE
UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8748 2554
Fax: +44 (0) 20 8237 8000
www.savethechildren.net

**International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse
and Neglect (ISPCAN)**

245W. Roosevelt Road
Building 6, Suite 39
West Chicago
IL 60185
USA
Tel: +1 630 876 6913
Fax: +1 630 876 917
www.ispcan.org

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

www.unicef.org

IRELAND**Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
(ISPCC)**

29 Lower Baggot Street
Dublin 2
IRELAND
Tel: (01) 679 7960
Fax: (01) 679 9012
www.ispcc.ie

ISRAEL

National Council for the Child

38 Pierre Koenig St.
Jerusalem 93469
ISRAEL
Tel: 00 972 2 678 0606
Fax: 00 972 2 679 0606
Email: ncc@children.org.il

ITALY

**Centro di Documentazione sul Maltrattamento e Abuso
sui Minori**

c/o la Biblioteca Provinciale di Salerno
V. Valerio Laspro
n. 1
84100 Salerno
ITALY
Tel: +089 22 61 95
www.infanziaviolata.org

**Centro per il bambino Maltrattato e la cura della crisi
familiare (CBM)**

Via Spadini, 15
20161
Milano
Tel: +02 66201076
Fax: +02 6456705
www.cismai.org

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JAPAN

Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse (APCA)
www.apca.jp

- K -

KENYA

Child Welfare Society of Kenya
PO Box 43982
Child Welfare Building
Langata Road
Nairobi
KENYA
Tel: +254 02 603301
Fax: +254 02 605382
Email: cwsk@nbi.ispkenya.com

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NETHERLANDS

Netherlands Institute for Care and Welfare / NIZW
www.nizw.nl

NEW ZEALAND

Barnardos New Zealand

National Office
85-87 Ghuznee Street
PO Box 6434
Wellington
NEW ZEALAND
Tel: +04 385 7560
Fax: +04 382 6700
www.barnardos.org.nz

Office of the Commissioner for Children

PO Box 5610,
Wellington
NEW ZEALAND
TEL: +64 4 471 1410
FAX: +64 4 471 1418
www.occ.org.nz

Royal New Zealand Plunket Society

Level 5 Plunket House
126-132 Lambton Quay
PO Box 5474
Wellington
NEW ZEALAND
Tel: +64 04 471 - 0177
Fax: +64 04 471 - 0190
www.plunket.org.nz

NORTHERN IRELAND

ChildLine Northern Ireland

1st Floor
Queens House
14 Queen Street
Belfast
BT1 6ED
Helpline: 0800 1111
Tel: 0870 336 2945

Fax: 0870 336 2946
www.childline.org.uk/Nl.asp

NSPCC

Jennymount Court
North Derby Street
Belfast
BT15 3HN
NORTHERN IRELAND
Tel: 02890 351135
Fax: 02890 351100

Save the Children Northern Ireland

Popper House
15 Richmond Park
Belfast
BT10 0HB
NORTHERN IRELAND
Tel: 02890 431123
Fax: 02890 431314

NORWAY

Redd Barna (Save the Children Norway)

PO Box 6902, St Olavs Plass
0130 Oslo
NORWAY
Tel: +47 22 99 09 00
Fax: +47 22 99 08 70
www.reddbarna.no

UNICEF (Norway)

Radhusgatea 24
PO Box 438 Sentrum
0103 Oslo
NORWAY
Tel: + 47 24 14 51 00
Fax: + 47 24 14 51 01
www.unicef.no

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PAKISTAN

Sahil, www.unicef.pl

13 Al Babar Centre
F-8 Markaz
PO Box 235

Islamabad
PAKISTAN
Tel: 0092-51-2260636
www.sahil.org

PERU

Save the Children

Tripoli 345
Miraflores
Lima 18
PERU
Tel: (51-1)242-9215
Fax: (51-1)446-1359
Email: postmaster@savethechildren.org.pe

PHILIPPINES

Children and Youth Foundation of the Philippines

27 Floor Citibank Tower
Paseo de Roxas
Makati City
PHILIPPINES
Tel: 848-1865 to 67: 750-2215 to 17
Fax: 848-0051

POLAND

Nobody's Children Foundation

Fundacja Dzieci Niczyje

ul. Walecznych 59
03-926 Warszawa
Tel: (+48 22) 616-02-68
Fax: (+48 22) 6160314
www.fdn.pl/nowosci/?lang_id=2

Polish Committee for UNICEF

Pl. Defilad 1
00-901
Warsaw
Tel.: (22) 6566610
Fax: (22) 6566613

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ROMANIA

Children and Family International Foundation

Str. Occidentului nr.44
Sector 1
78111 Bucharest

ROMANIA

Tel: +401 659 32 61

Fax: +401 311 23 05

Foundation Our Children

Str Frumoasa nr 36

Sector 1

Cod 78116

Bucharest

ROMANIA

Tel: +401 659 3507

Fax: +401 659 3507

Heart of Romania's Children Foundation

www.heartofromania.com

Save the Children Romania

Salvati Copiii (Save the Children)

3 Intrarea Stefan Furtuna, Sector 1

010899 Bucharest, Romania

Tel: +40 21 316 6176 / 21 314 4050

Fax: +40 21 312 4486

Email: rosc@salvaticopiii.ro

RUSSIA

Child Abuse Protection Foundation

Ozon Center

Leninsky Prospect 88-1-49

Moscow 117313

RUSSIA

Tel: 7.095.138.90.01

Fax: 7.095.265.26.63

Email: Chapf@Vitep3.ittep.ru

St Petersburg Social Fund for the Assistance of Children in Need

195-197 St Petersburg

Ul. Zhukova, d.23

Office 225

St Petersburg

RUSSIA

Tel: +812 540 95 63

Fax: +812 540 12 64

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SCOTLAND

ChildLine Scotland

18 Albion Street

Glasgow

SCOTLAND

Helpline: 0800 1111

Tel: 0870 336 2910

Fax: 0870 336 2911

www.childline.org.uk/Scotland.asp

Children First – Formerly Royal Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

83 Whitehouse Loan

Edinburgh

SCOTLAND

EH9 1AT

Tel: 0131 446 2300

Fax: 0131 446 2339

www.children1st.org.uk

SEYCHELLES

National Council for Children

P.O. Box 377

Bel Eau, Mahé

Seychelles

Tel: +(248) 224390

Fax: +(248) 225688

www.seychelles.net/ncc

SINGAPORE

Singapore Children's Society

Corporate Office

298 Tiong Bahru Road

#09-05 Central Plaza

Singapore 168730

Tel: (65) 6273 2010

Fax: (65) 6273 2013

www.childrensociety.org.sg

SOUTH AFRICA

Children's Inquiry Trust

PO Box 784678

Sandton 2146

SOUTH AFRICA

Tel: +2711 884 2647

Fax: +2711 784 3142
Email: chit@wn.apc.org

SPAIN

Save the Children Spain

Plaza Puerto Rubio,
28. 28053
Madrid
Tel: +91 513 0500
Fax: +91 552 3272
www.savethechildren.es

**Federación de Asociaciones para la Prevención del
Maltrato Infantil (FAPMI)**

Delicias 8
Entreplanta
28045. Madrid
SPAIN
Tel/Fax: +91 4682 662
www.fapmi.es

SRI LANKA

Redd Barna Sri Lanka

No.15 Bagatelle Road
Colombo 3
SRI LANKA
Tel: 94.1.594799
Fax: 94.1.597246

SWEDEN

BRIS (Children's Rights In Society)

Karlavagen 121
SE-115 26 Stockholm
SWEDEN
Tel: +46 8 5988 8800
Fax: +46 8 5988 8801
www.bris.se

Child Centre for Children at Risk in the Baltic Sea

Region

The Council of the Baltic Sea States
Stromsburg
P.O. Box 2010
SE-103 11 Stockholm
SWEDEN
Tel: +46 8 440 19 24
www.childcentre.info

Rädda Barnen (Save the Children Sweden)

Torsgatan 4
107 88 Stockholm
SWEDEN
Tel: +46 8 698 90 00
Fax: +46 8 698 90 10
www.rb.se

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THAILAND

Centre for the Protection of Children's Rights (CPCR)

185/16 Charansanitwongse 12 RD
Bangkokyai, Bangkok 10900
THAILAND
Tel: (662) 412-1196, (66 2) 412-0739
Fax: (66 2) 412-9833

Child Workers in Asia

PO Box 29
Chandrakasem Post Office
Bangkok 10904
THAILAND
Tel: +66 2 930 0855
Fax: +66 2 930 0856
www.cwa.tnet.co.th

TURKEY

**Turkish Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and
Neglect**

ZuhtuTigrel
Cad.15/37
Ankara
TURKEY
Tel: +90 212 230 00 00
Fax: +90 212 248 40 30
Email: magister_pco@turk.net

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Humane

63 Inverness Drive East
Englewood
CO 80112-5117
USA
Tel: 1.303.792.9900
Fax: 1.303.792.5333
www.americanhumane.org

**American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children
(APSAC)**

Daphne Wright & Associates
Management Group
PO Box 30669
Charleston SC 29417
USA
Tel: 1.877 402 7722
Fax: 1.843.744.7188
www.apsac.org

Child Abuse Prevention Foundation

9440 Ruffin Court, Suite 2
San Diego, CA 92123
USA
Tel: (858) 278 4400
Fax: (858) 278 1307
www.capfsd.org

Child Welfare Information Gateway

Children's Bureau/ACYF
1250 Maryland Avenue, SW
Eighth floor
Washington DC 20024
Tel: 800 394 3366
Fax: 703 385 3206
www.childwelfare.gov/

Child Welfare League of America

2345 Crystal Drive, Suite 250
Arlington, VA 22202
Tel: 703/412-2400
Fax: 703/412-2401
www.cwla.org

**National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
(NCMEC)**

Charles B. Wang International Children's Building
699 Prince Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3175
USA
Tel: 703-274-3900
Fax: 703-274-2200

Hotline:1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678)
www.missingkids.com

**National Council on Child Abuse and Family Violence
(NCCAFV)**

1025 Connecticut Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington D.C. 20036
USA
Tel: +202 429 6695
Fax: +202 521 3479
www.nccafv.org

**New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to
Children (NYSPCC)**

161 William Street
New York
NY 10038
Tel: +212 233 5500
Fax: +212 791 5227
www.nyspcc.org

Prevent Child Abuse America

500 N. Michigan Avenue
Suite 200
Chicago
IL 60611
USA
Tel: 312-663-3520
Fax: 312-939-8962
www.preventchildabuse.org

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WALES

NSPCC

13th Floor
Capital Tower
Greyfriars Road
Cardiff
CF10 3AG
WALES
Tel: 029 2026 7000
Fax: 029 2022 3628

Childline Cymru

9th Floor
Alexandra House
Alexandra Road
Swansea
SA1 5ED
WALES
Helpline: 0800 1111
Tel: 0870 336 2935
Fax: 0870 336 2936
www.childline.org.uk/cymruwales.asp

Childline Cymru

Royal Alexandra Hospital
Marine Drive
Rhyl
LL18 3AS
Tel: 0870 336 2930
Fax: 0870 336 2931
www.childline.org.uk/cymruwales.asp

Children in Wales/Plant Yng Nghymru

25 Windsor Place
Cardiff
CF10 3BZ
WALES
Tel: 029 2034 2434
Fax: 029 2034 3134

www.childreninwales.org.uk

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

Oystermouth House,
Charter Court,
Phoenix Way,
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

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