

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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What is Trafficking?

The definition of trafficking contained within the 'palermo (united nations) protocol, to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children', (which was ratified by the UK in 2006) is as follows:

'Trafficking of persons, shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of a person, 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 or 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.'

It is important to note that any child under the age of 18, transported for exploitative reasons are considered to be trafficking victims, whether or not they have been forced or deceived. This is due to a child in this situation, being unable to give their informed consent to their own exploitation. Particularly as a child may not understand what is happening and will willingly appear to comply with the wishes of their parents or accompanying adults.

Most children are trafficked for financial gain.

Trafficking is carried out by organised gangs, individual adults or agents.

Trafficked children may be used for:

- . Sexual exploitation
- . Domestic servitude
- . Sweatshop, restaurant and other catering work
- . credit card Fraud
- . Begging or pick pocketing or other forms of petty criminal activity
- . Agricultural labour, including tending plants in illegal cannabis farms
- . Benefit fraud
- . drug mules, drug dealing or decoys for adult drug traffickers
- . Illegal inter-country adoptions

What is the difference between Trafficking and Smuggling/facilitation?

. Smuggling/facilitation – government guidance on safeguarding children who may have been trafficked states that **smuggling** describes an event, whereby migrants or asylum seekers, pay people to help them enter the country illegally, after which there is no longer a relationship.

. Trafficked children, however are forced into exploitation, by the trafficker or person into whose control they are delivered or sold, either during transportation and/or on arrival in the country of destination, sometimes following coercion or deception (Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), 2007).

What are the trafficking Indicators?

The following indicators are not a definitive list and are primarily intended to guide a wider assessment of a child's circumstances.

At Port of Entry (Gatwick), the child:

- . Has entered the country illegally, has no passport or means of identification or has false documentation
- . Is unable to confirm the name and address of the person meeting them on arrival
- . Has had their journey or visa arranged by someone other than themselves or their family
- . Is accompanied by an adult who insists on remaining with the child at all times
- . Is withdrawn and refuses to talk or appears afraid to talk to a person in authority
- . Says that they are in the UK to study, but school/college is in a different area to the sponsors address
- . Has a prepared story similar to those that other children have given
- . Is unable or is reluctant to give details of accommodation or other personal details
- . Does not appear to have any money but has a mobile phone or sim card
- . Appears significantly younger than their documents state.
- . Accompanying adult has a history of facilitation and/or trafficking

Children trafficked internally within the UK, Indicators include;

- . Child receives unexplained/unidentified phone calls whilst at home, in placement or temporary accommodation.
- . Located at a cannabis factory or brothel
- . Has a history of missing links and unexplained moves
- . Is required to earn a minimum amount of money every day, works in various locations, has a limited amount of movement, is known to beg for money
- . Is being cared for by an adult/s who are not their parents and the quality of the relationship between the child and their adult carer is not good
- . Is one among a number of unrelated children found at one address
- . has not been registered with or attended a GP practice; has not been enrolled in school
- . Physical symptoms indicating physical or sexual assault
- . Behaviour indicating sexual exploitation
- . Phone call or letters from adults outside of their usual range of contacts
- . Persistently missing; missing for long periods; returning looking well cared for despite having no known base
- . Possession of large amounts of money; acquisition of expensive clothes, mobile phones without plausible explanation
- . Low self-image, low self-esteem, self-harming behaviour, truancy and disengagement with school.

Gatwick Children’s Service – West Sussex County Council;

Are a specialist Social services childcare team that works primarily with unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) and trafficked young people from abroad, who enter the UK and are referred to us via Gatwick airport. We have a multi-agency approach (called Operation Newbridge) to safeguarding children and young people believed to be trafficked from abroad. This involves working in partnership with UKBF/Gatwick Immigration, the Police, West Downs Police (Police child protection team, PCPT) and Gatwick Children’s service (GCS). This multi-agency approach has greatly assisted in protecting young people who are identified as trafficked into the UK and in minimising the number of foreign national children who go missing from care.

We also undertake Age Assessments of young people, when their age is disputed by, in addition to providing a dedicated duty social work service to Gatwick airport, to advise on concerns around children from abroad and other safeguarding issues that may relate to unaccompanied children and drug smuggling. We also work in partnership with many other services, to meet the needs of this vulnerable group of children, as indicated below, to ensure Children and young people’s safety and to ensure that the best possible outcomes are received for them, as children first and foremost, who need our protection.



Who can help to stop this Crime – (this is not a definitive list)

- . UKBF/immigration officers
- . Airline Cabin Crew
- . G4S staff
- . Police
- . Social workers
- . Youth workers
- . Residential workers
- . Youth offending/probation services
- . Housing officials
- . Health professionals (Paramedics, GP's, GUM clinics, Health visitors, Midwives, etc)
- . Fire Service
- . Schools
- . Faith organisations/Churches/Mosques
- . Benefits agency
- . Community Groups/organisations
- . Refugee council
- . Interpreters and Translators

Have you SEEN or HEARD anything that you are concerned about? Seek advice, seek further information, refer it on or report it.

Useful organisations to contact:

- . The police/crime stoppers – 0800 555 111
- . UKHTC (United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre) – 0114 252 3891
- . Children’s Legal Centre – 01206 872 466
- . NSPCC – Child trafficking advice centre – 0808 800 500
- . CFAB – (Children and Families across Borders) – 0207 7358941
- . CEOP – (Child Exploitation and online protection) 020 7238 2320/2307
- . UNICEF - 020 7490 2388
- . ECPAT – (End child Prostitution and trafficking) – 020 7233 9887
- . Refugee Council Children’s Panel – 020 7346 1134

Please also look on the individual services websites, for further information, advice and support.