

National referral mechanism pathway for potential adult and child victims of modern slavery

Step 1

A FIRST RESPONDER/PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFIES, OR IS MADE AWARE OF, A POTENTIAL VICTIM (PV) OF MODERN SLAVERY AND/OR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

CALL 999 where there is an immediate threat to a PV or related individuals, emergency medical treatment is needed or the PV is still in the place of exploitation.

Call Essex Police on 101/online reporting if it is purely a suspicion modern slavery is taking place. Suspicions can also be reported to Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111 or to the 24 hour Modern Slavery Helpline - 0800 012 1700.

If the PV is under the age of 18 years old, or there are children linked to the adult PV please contact: Children's Social Care Duty Team on 01375 652802 or email: thurrockmash@thurrock.gov.uk

Step 2

CONTACT YOUR SAFEGUARDING LEAD, AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE FOR SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

Once responsibility for the potential victim is handed over, put concerns in writing to ensure audit trail.

Consider taking the PV to a place of safety to allow for a safe conversation/ address any self-care needs.

END OF PROCESS FOR INITIAL REFERRER.

Step 3

Carry out initial assessment

Safeguarding Team, ASC will carry out an initial needs and risk assessment strategy meeting within 24hrs

Urgent Assessment: Three key immediate questions: Are they still being or likely to be targeted by their trafficker? Are they housed? Do they have income, food & warm clothes? If at immediate risk then consider moving to the next NRM stage. Consider legal and third sector support, interpreters, welfare entitlements, health checks, accommodation, asylum.

Step 4

Safeguarding Team, ASC will EXPLAIN THE NRM PROCESS TO THE PV

Unless the PV consents to the NRM referral, they will not be entitled to access the support provided through the NRM but may still be eligible for state support (unless they are under 18 years of age when consent is not required and support will be provided by Children's Social Care).

Has the PV given consent to referral into the NRM?

If No

Step 5

COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE ONLINE DUTY TO NOTIFY www.modernslavery.gov.uk/start sections 1-4 and 7. Do not include any personal details without PV's permission. Select 'No' in section 4 N.B With support, some PVs will agree to go into the NRM at a later date.

Step 6

CONSIDER THE LEVEL OF NEED/RISK Safeguard the PV and try to reduce the risk of re-exploitation. Consider a referral for non-statutory support. With support some PVs will agree to go into the NRM at a later date.

If Yes

Step 5

COMPLETE DIGITAL REFERRAL FORM Complete online referral form www.modernslavery.gov.uk/start. The form must be completed in one go as progress cannot be saved. Consider 'Act, Means, Purpose' definitions when completing section 3.

Step 6

PRE-RG HOUSING Safeguarding and duty of care processes must be adhered to. If PV has No Recourse to Public Funds and there is no duty to provide housing/support under other safeguarding/human rights legislation contact the Salvation Army (TSA) for accommodation &/or outreach support (0300 303 8151), including Pre-RG housing, subject to assessment if PV is destitute.

Step 7

Multiagency meeting or refer into mainstream group within 35 days i.e. MASH/MARAC to develop a care plan If the PV remains in the borough or is likely to return to the borough, develop a plan around safety, housing, mental/physical health, legal advice, immigration.

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