



**GWYNEDD AND MON LSCB  
PROTOCOL  
SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN WHO  
MAY HAVE BEEN TRAFFICKED**

**PROTOCOL TO SUPPLEMENT THE ALL  
WALES GUIDANCE ISSUED APRIL  
2008.**

## Safeguarding Children who may have been trafficked

### Protocol to supplement the All Wales Guidance issued April 2008.

The LSCB advises all practitioners to become familiar with the practice guidance issued in the Guidance which can be found on the LSCB website:

[www.gwynedd.gov.uk/safeguarding-children-board](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/safeguarding-children-board)

[www.mon.gov.uk/safeguarding-children-board](http://www.mon.gov.uk/safeguarding-children-board)

Trafficked victims are coerced or deceived by the person arranging their relocation. On arrival in the country of destination the trafficked child 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 has established that any child transported for exploitative reasons is to be considered as a victim whether or not they are aware of any deception, as it is not possible for a child to give informed consent. A child may appear to understand what has happened, and may appear to submit willingly, but it is important that they are protected.

Children are trafficked for financial gain, and may be forced to work in the following areas: sex industry, domestic work, sweatshop and restaurants, credit card fraud, begging or pick pocketing, tending plants in cannabis farms, benefit fraud, drug mules, drug dealing, adoption.

#### Possible Indicators:

- 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- Is withdrawn and refuses to talk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 is 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

#### Action to be taken;

Any person who has concerns that a child might have been trafficked or be at risk of being trafficked should always make a referral to Gwynedd or Mon Children & Family Services or North Wales Police. The NSPCC Child trafficking Advice and Information helpline will provide additional guidance. It is vital that practitioners act promptly without consulting possible family members as this can add to the risk to the child. Delay can mean that a child may be moved out of the area, adding further to the risk.

The initial phone call to the Local Authority should be confirmed in writing within 24 hours.

Children & Families will follow the guidance issued by the WAG in conjunction with the All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008.

Useful contact numbers:

Duty Social Worker Gwynedd: 01758704455

Duty Social Worker Mon: 01248752733

Out of Office Hours: 01248717227/01286675502

Police: 08456071001[Welsh line] 08456071002 [English line]

UK Human Trafficking Centre: 0114 252 3891

NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice & Information help Line: 0800 107 7057

Useful Links:

Safeguarding Children who may have been trafficked:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/childrenyoungpeople/publications/guidance/trafficked/?lang=en>

Wales Strategic Migration Partnership:

<http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/safeguarding-children-board>  
<http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/safeguarding-children-board>

# FLOWCHART OF ACTION PROCESS

## TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN

