

# **Manchester Safeguarding Boards**

## **Staying Safe**

# **Manchester's Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Strategy 2018 to 2020**

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**MSAB**

MANCHESTER SAFEGUARDING  
ADULTS BOARD

**MSCB**

MANCHESTER SAFEGUARDING  
CHILDREN BOARD

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Manchester’s Safeguarding Adults Board (MSAB) and Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) are multi-agency partnerships made up of a wide range of statutory, independent and voluntary agencies and organisations. These all work together to keep children, young people and adults, particularly those who are more vulnerable, safe from the risk of abuse, harm or exploitation

## **Foreword**

Our responsibility is to victims and their futures, and to future potential victims.

Behind this general title there are a range of factors which are impacting on both children and adults in the city of Manchester today.

These individuals are being forced to engage in activities against their will and are often kept away from others who can provide help and support.

This strategy, which has been endorsed by the Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board and the Manchester Safeguarding Children Board, is an extremely important document which summarises the details of modern slavery and human trafficking and provides information as to resources and our overall vision, governance and priorities. It is primarily aimed at organisations who are delivering services and supporting or commissioning those to deliver services, however awareness raising amongst citizens and communities is vital if we are to truly raise awareness of these hidden harms.

This strategy is very much about action. It is the role that you can play as a strategic leader or a front line worker to help raise the profile of these issues in taking action to identify when modern slavery and human trafficking is taking place and help citizens and communities to do so too. It is about appropriate referrals and support to individuals. The focus is on safeguarding and taking a strengths based approach with those caught up in this and prosecuting those who are perpetuating this activity.

Modern slavery is the recruitment, movement, harbouring or receiving of children, young people or adults through the use of force, coercion and abuse of vulnerability, deception or other means for the purpose of exploitation. Individuals maybe trafficked into, out of, or within the U.K. for purposes including sexual exploitation, forced labour, domestic servitude and organ harvesting.

Interagency and partnership working is vital and whilst we are starting from a relatively strong position we all have a responsibility to ensure that the children, young people and adults of Manchester are empowered, supported and offered the best protection possible from being caught up in this activity.

*J B Stephens-Row*  
*Independent Chair of Manchester Safeguarding Boards*  
May 2018

## 1. A Safe City, a Free City.

### ***The Vision and Principles for our strategy***

We want Manchester to be a safe city, free from all manner of exploitation of children and adults. A city that recognises those who have been or could become victims and helps them to live, safe, happy, healthy and fulfilled lives.

We want services to work together, understand and learn from each other, and use our strengths and those of our partners and our communities and those we seek to protect, to intervene early, and build better lives for everyone.

This Strategy will:

- Define what Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking is.
- Identify what the current picture of Modern Slavery and human Trafficking is in Manchester based on data and input from children young people and adults.
- Set out Manchester's ambition for how we will reduce Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking and protect children, young people and protect children, young people and adults.
- Outline how we will know we are making a difference and achieving success.

### ***Our Priorities***

- Increased awareness and understanding of Modern Slavery and Exploitation.
- Integrated training and development opportunities, practice tools, guidance and resources.
- Increased support and protection for people who are being exploited victims, and those at risk of exploitation.
- Greater success in detection, disruption and prosecution.
- Empowered communities to participate and engage in tackling modern slavery and trafficking.

***"Only 1% of victims of slavery have a chance to see their exploiter brought to justice."***

*Kevin Hyland, UK Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner*

### ***Our Guiding Principles***

The multi-agency operational group has defined a set of principles for how we want the future development and implementation of the strategy to progress.

These guiding principles are:

- We will be victim centred and non-judgemental.
- We will be strength based.
- We will work together, are collaborative and actively seeking to develop increasingly effective partnership.
- We will promote a culture of shared learning.
- We will seek to empower and build resilience in people and communities.
- We will be centred in our communities.

## 2. What Is Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking?

### *What is Modern Slavery*

Modern slavery is the recruitment, movement, harbouring or receiving of children, young people or adults through the use of force, coercion, and abuse of vulnerability, deception or other means for the purpose of exploitation. Individuals may be trafficked into, out of or within the UK, and they may be trafficked for a number of reasons including sexual exploitation, forced labour, domestic servitude and organ harvesting.

#### **Someone is in slavery if they are:**

- **Forced to work – through coercion, or mental or physical threat;**
- **Owned or controlled by an ‘employer’, through mental or physical abuse of the threat of abuse;**
- **Dehumanised, treated as a commodity or bought and sold as ‘property’;**
- **Physically constrained or have restrictions placed on their freedom of movement.**

**The Modern Slavery Act 2015** defines offences of Slavery, Servitude and Forced or Compulsory Labour and Human Trafficking. These crimes include holding a person in a position of slavery, servitude forced or compulsory labour, or facilitating their travel with the intention of exploiting them soon after.

Although human trafficking often involves an international cross-border element, it is also possible to be a victim of modern slavery within your own country. It is possible to be a victim even if consent has been given to be moved. Children cannot give consent to being exploited therefore the element of coercion or deception does not need to be present to prove an offence. Section 56 (3)) defines a child as anyone under the age of 18.

National estimates suggest that there are between 10,000-13,000 victims, currently suffering one or often multiple forms of slavery and exploitation in the UK. Which is a fourfold increase on previous years. This exemplifies the root of the problem, that these crimes are all too often hidden crimes - many being shamefully hidden in plain sight.

An Adult at Risk as defined by the **Care Act 2014** states that Local Authorities must make enquiries, or cause others to do so, if it believes an adult is experiencing abuse or neglect. An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent harm or stop abuse or neglect and if so by whom.

Victims of modern slavery therefore may not necessarily have the impairment or injury that would meet the eligibility for care and support under the act.

However, they may be survivors of modern slavery who are subsequently identified via local safeguarding processes, and there may be victims of modern slavery who are subsequently

identified as having care and support needs, and thus entitled to support under current legislation.

### ***Spot the Signs of Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking***

Victims of modern slavery and human trafficking are forced to work illegally in many different sectors, including brothels, cannabis farms, nail bars, car washes, and in people homes.

Things to look for are:

- A lack of self-esteem
- People at existing risk of abuse
- Distrustful
- Living in overcrowded accommodation
- Acting as if instructed by another
- Lacking suitable clothing for their jobs
- Picked up by vehicles at unusual hours
- Injured or in need of medical care
- Fearful and poorly integrated into the local community.

**If you have any concerns about these issues or you know someone who is being exploited in this way, please contact Greater Manchester Police on 999 if there is an immediate threat to a person or people.**

...or you can contact the Modern Slavery Helpline anonymously - 24/7 365 days a year – on 08000 121 700, or report your concerns online at [www.modernslaveryhelpline.org](http://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org)

### 3. Types of Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking?

#### ***Trafficking***

Trafficking is an internationally recognised crime in which people are moved to other locations and exploited. Children, young people and adults can be trafficked, from abroad or within the UK, for the purpose of exploitation. Trafficking causes additional physical, psychological and emotional stresses<sup>1</sup>.

#### ***Separated and unaccompanied children***

Unaccompanied children and young people from outside the UK (including children who are seeking asylum, European Economic Area national children and migrant children not seeking asylum) can be some of the most vulnerable children in the country. Children and young people who have arrived in the UK from other countries on their own or are left behind unaccompanied are particularly vulnerable to going missing or exploitation.

Children and young people that fall within these categories may be victims of trafficking; all are vulnerable to exploitation due to limited support networks and resources upon which they can rely. Children and young people are particularly vulnerable within the first 48 hours after arrival in the UK – particularly if they have been trafficked.

#### ***County Lines – Movement of Drugs***

County Lines exploitation describes how gangs and criminal networks from towns, use children, young people and vulnerable adults to deliver class A drugs to customers in county and rural areas. This often involves vulnerable people being subject to deception, intimidation, violence and grooming. In Greater Manchester the **Trapped** campaign aims to raise awareness of all forms of criminal exploitation, in recognition that young people and adults may feel ‘trapped’ and need protection and support ‘to find a way out’.

#### ***Adult and Child Sexual Exploitation***

Sexual exploitation involves any non-consensual or abusive sexual acts performed without a victim’s permission. This includes prostitution, escort work and pornography. All adults, young people and children of both sexes can be victims. Many will have been deceived with promises of a better life and then controlled through violence and abuse. It is also possible to exploit a person who consensually engages in providing sexual services.

Sexual exploitation involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where or a third person or persons receive ‘something’ (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol,

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<sup>1</sup> Shaker, L. (2014) Evaluation of Barnardo's Safe Accommodation Project for Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People. University of Bedfordshire.

cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.

A person under 18 is sexually exploited when they are coerced, manipulated or forced into sexual activities by an individual for their own or someone else's benefit. A young person would be classed as a victim of trafficking if they are moved from one location to another for the purposes of sexual exploitation.

While some survivors who were groomed as children continue to be abused as adults, others are at risk to exploitation and abuse starting in young adulthood often as a result of having learning disabilities, physical disabilities, mental health problems, substance misuse issues or because they are vulnerable in other ways.

Sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without immediate recognition; for example being persuaded to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones without immediate payment or gain.

In all cases, those exploiting have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationships being characterised in the main by limited availability of choice resulting from social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability.

### ***Labour Exploitation***

Forced or compulsory labour involves victims being compelled to work very long hours, often in hard conditions without relevant training and equipment; and then to hand over the majority if not all of their wages to their traffickers. The types of work and working environment can often be described as 'dirty, demeaning or dangerous'. Forced labour crucially implies the use of coercion and lack of freedom of choice for the victim. In many cases victims are subjected to verbal threats or violence to achieve compliance.

Manufacturing, entertainment, travel, farming and construction industries have been found to use forced labour by victims of human trafficking in various extents. Often large numbers of people are housed in single dwellings and there is evidence of 'hot bunking', where a returning shift takes up the sleeping accommodation of those starting the next shift.

### ***Domestic Servitude***

Domestic servitude involves the victim being forced to work in private households. Their movement will often be restricted and they will be forced to perform household tasks such as child care and house-keeping over long hours and for little if any pay. Victims will lead very isolated lives and have little or no unsupervised freedom. Their privacy and comfort will be minimal, often sleeping on a mattress on the floor in an open part of the house.

In rare circumstances where victims receive a wage it will be heavily reduced, as they are charged for food and accommodation.

### ***Child exploitation***

Persons under the age of 18 are classified as children in the UK; therefore it is not surprising to see many young people who get caught up in aspects of criminal exploitation. They are particularly vulnerable to exploitation by individual opportunists, traffickers and organised crime groups. They can be deliberately targeted by criminals, or ruthlessly exploited by the people who should protect them. About a quarter of the victims referred to the UK National Referral Mechanism are children, a high proportion of which are older teenagers.

Children can be subjected to any of the exploitative conditions as mentioned above and common countries of origin for victims include Vietnam, Nigeria, Romania, Slovakia and the UK.

### ***Forced Criminality***

A child or adult could be forced to participate in a range of illegal activities including pick pocketing, shop lifting, cannabis cultivation, county lines exploitation and other activities.

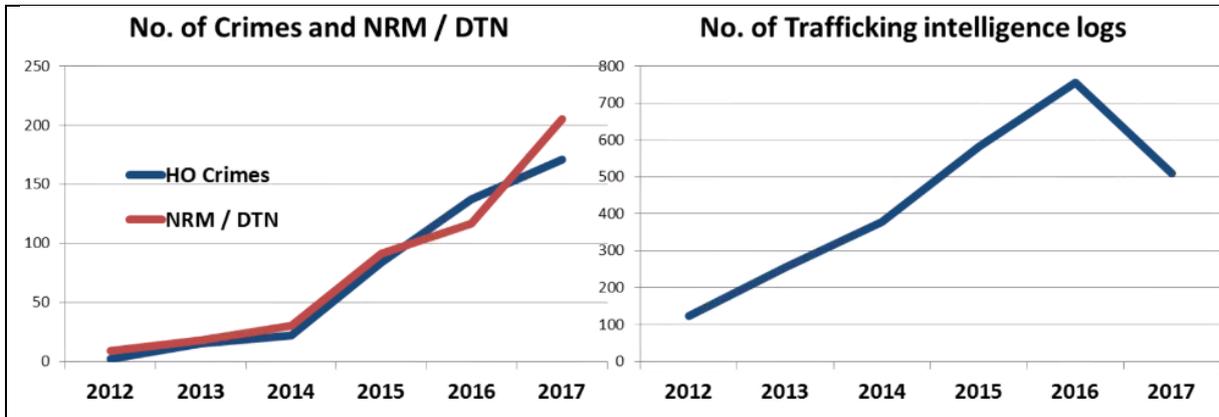
### ***Financial Exploitation***

For example benefit fraud, where benefits are falsely claimed by perpetrators on behalf of their workers; bank accounts being opened in a victim's name but used by the perpetrators; or workers' wages being paid directly into the exploiters bank account by companies who think they are paying the worker individually which may lead to debt bondage.

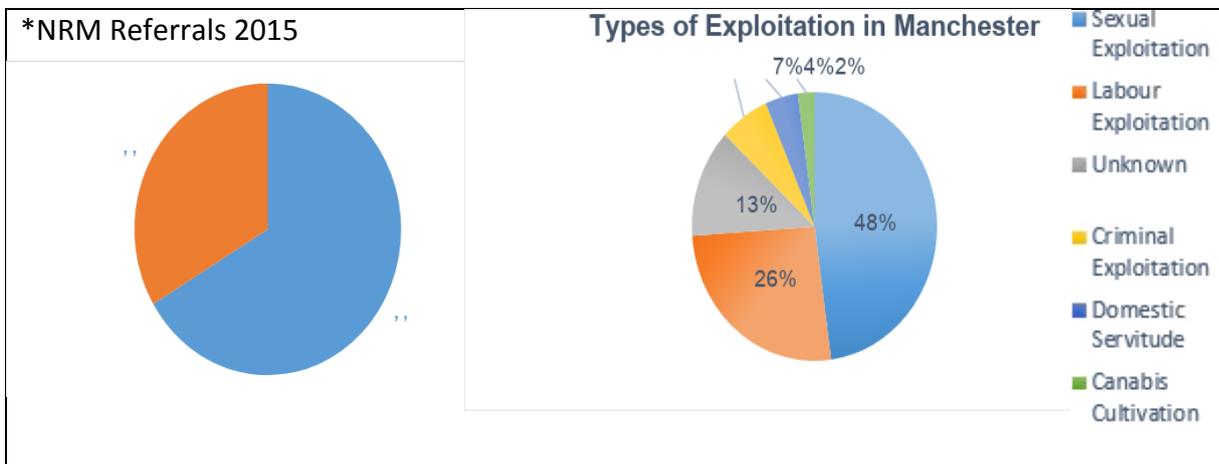
## 4. Facts and Figures

### Facts and Figures

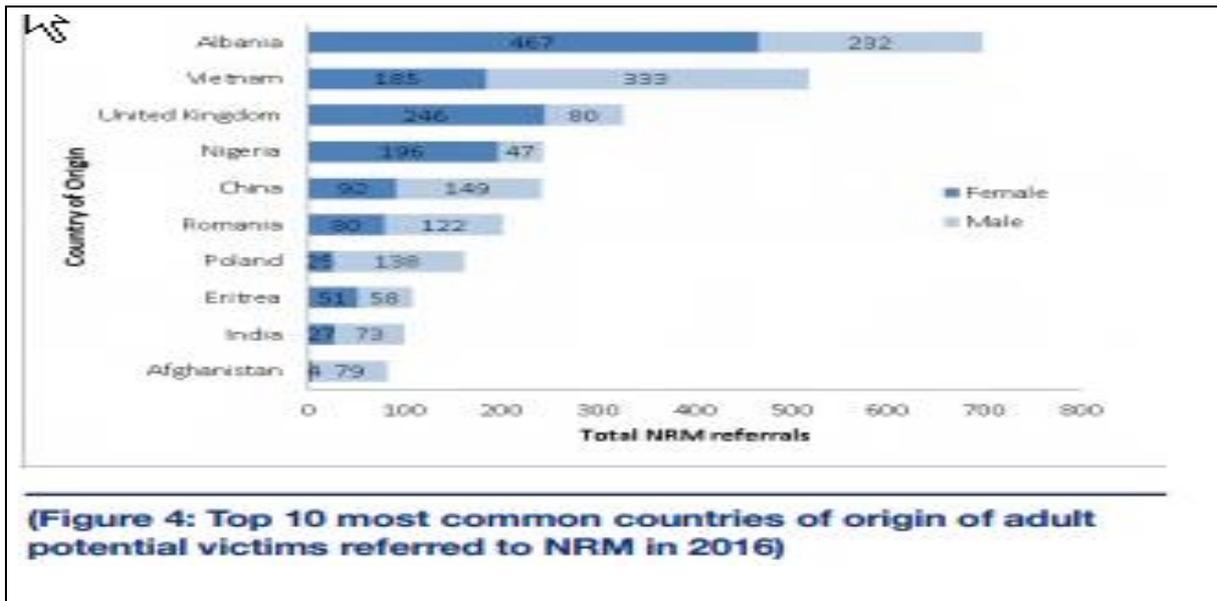
Modern slavery and human trafficking are crimes that affects all areas of society, all communities and knows no bounds of age, gender, nationality, or place boundaries.



We are beginning to see what we did not before; but the crime is still hidden across the country. The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is the process by which an individual is identified as a victim of modern slavery.



Modern Slavery, exploitation and trafficking are affecting adults and children in huge numbers. In the City of Manchester we see all types of exploitation.



It is not just an international issue, the UK was the third most common country of origin for a potential victim, after Albania and Vietnam.

## 5. Responding to the Challenge

### *A National Framework for Action – the 4P's*

The Government has set out a four point strategic approach to improving support and safeguarding for victims and for tackling perpetrators of crime.



### *What Is Your Role?*

Whether you are a strategic leader or a frontline worker, protecting victims and safeguarding people from harm is all our responsibility, ask yourselves these questions.

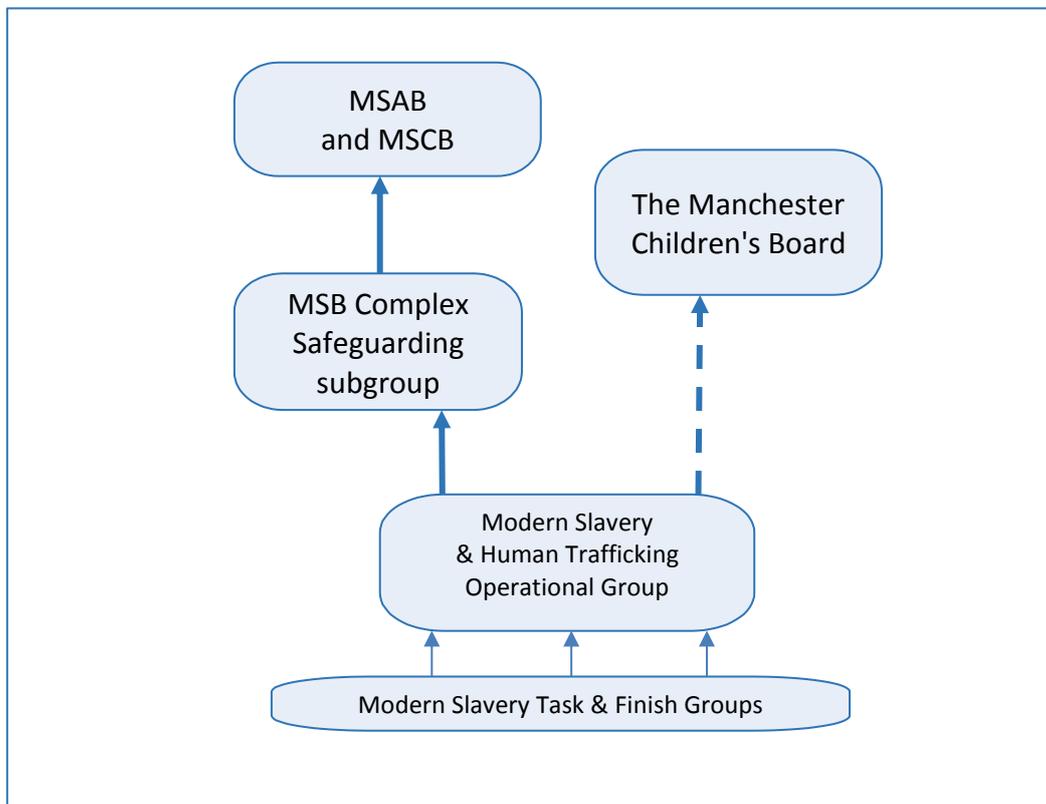
Organisations	Individuals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do you actively raise awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking amongst staff and those they engage with?</li> <li>Do your staff know how recognise the signs of modern slavery and know what to do when they do?</li> <li>Are your services providing the right support and intervention for victims, at the right time?</li> <li>Do your services positively contribute to prevention and disruption?</li> <li>Are you supporting connectivity across services, to promote understanding, knowledge and sharing best practice?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do you know what modern slavery and human trafficking is?</li> <li>Do you know the signs of modern slavery?</li> <li>Do you know how to refer possible victims to services to safeguard them – for example the National Referral Mechanism or the Independent Child Trafficking Advocacy?</li> <li>Do you share your knowledge and expertise with your colleagues and partners?</li> <li>Are you doing everything you can to safeguard victims and prevent future harm?</li> <li>Do you know what services working to support and safeguard victims?</li> <li>Are you up to date on policy and practice?</li> <li>Do you think about your own activity in your community?</li> </ul>

## 6. Governance

The Strategy will be driven by the Manchester Safeguarding Board (MSB) Complex Safeguarding Subgroup. This is a multi-agency subgroup that meets on a monthly basis and is chaired by the Director of Children's Services, Manchester City Council (MCC).

The MSB Complex Safeguarding Subgroup reports directly to the Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board (MSAB) and the Manchester Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB).

A multi-agency Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking operational group will deliver the aims of the strategy and will report into the Complex Safeguarding Subgroup. This will ensure there is good connectivity with the operational delivery of the Strategic and the Vision.



## 7. Delivering Our Five Priorities

### Priority 1 - Increased awareness and understanding of Modern Slavery, Exploitation and Human Trafficking

#### Why?

Modern slavery is a hidden crime, survivors are often those vulnerable children and adults all too easily ignored or missed, and who lack the power, connections and support to speak out for themselves. It is imperative that our services, leaders and staff have knowledge and insight into all issues of complex safeguarding. This will ensure that both our strategy and operational delivery are focussed on what needs to be done to tackle the issue and that we extend our reach and ability to identify victims who come into contact with services, and how to report concerns or suspicions when then do.

How		
We will support and promote campaigns to raise awareness of modern slavery and trafficking across the system. Such as, TRAPPED, Greater Together Manchester & Stop the Traffik.	We will deliver comprehensive training on identification and how to support victims, to professionals and services, whose role it is to directly safeguard victims and prevent further harm.	We will use ongoing analysis and intelligence on victims and criminal trends to target those broader services and workers most likely to encounter potential victims in their routine business. To increase their confidence in identification of concerns and how to respond.

### Priority 2 - Integrated training and development opportunities, practice tools, guidance and resources

#### Why?

There are a number of services and activities in place across Manchester and Greater Manchester working to identify and support children and adults who are at risk, and to prevent further incidence of harm. Whilst services work in isolation or with a lack of comprehensive knowledge of the wider support offer in the City, there is a risk of a less efficient and effective response to safeguarding and support survivors to move on successfully from suffering repeat or future harm.

How		
We will develop a comprehensive and easily accessible menu of services, and detail of roles and responsibilities for all engaged practitioners.	We will make arrangements for direct engagement across service and partners to shared understanding of each other's roles and activity, knowledge of issues and approaches to support victims, and wider mechanisms for ongoing sharing of best practice.	We will establish networks of best practice champions represented across all partner organisations to ensure consistency and live sharing of new policy, practice and learning.

**Priority 3 - Increased support and protection for people who are being exploited, and those at risk of exploitation**

**Why?**

Modern slavery and human trafficking are commonly cyclical harms, with victims or potential victims exposed to multiple risk factors and vulnerabilities. Service provision for safeguarding needs to be responsive to the changing needs of vulnerable people and shifting profile of criminality. We need to act intelligently to keep pace with rapid change in exploitation in the City, and be responsive to our own efforts to increase awareness and ensure that as more instances of exploitation are identified, we are in a position to safeguarding increasing numbers.

<b>How</b>		
<p>We will undertake a detailed analysis of the support offer within the City to assess its suitability to the analysis and intelligence of need profile within the City to identify gaps in provision.</p> <p>We will use the lived experience of people to ensure we as a city and partnership are always learning and that our learning is routed in the real experiences of people and that this informs and drives our future development and delivery of services.</p>	<p>We will use the intelligent analysis of need and capacity to inform future development and arrangements for expanded provision to support and protect victims more effectively.</p> <p>We will engage service users in an open and honest way, at all stages of the development of our approach to tackling the issues faced.</p>	<p>We will use ongoing reviews of intelligence and demand to ensure that service provision continues to meet the capacity requirement to address demand, our responses are coordinated and consistent with best practice to address harm at the earliest intervention.</p>

**Priority 4 - Greater success in detection, disruption and prosecution**

**Why?**

To effectively safeguard people now and in the future it is essential that we take robust and early action to successfully challenge the operations of individual and organised perpetrators of modern slavery and human trafficking.

<b>How</b>		
<p>We will develop specific training for engaged professionals in how to support the systemic gathering of intelligence and evidence required to identify, challenge and ensure successful prosecution of criminality.</p>	<p>We will develop the intelligence and data analysis capacity of frontline services and a complex safeguarding infrastructure to increase systemic identification of risk factors, flags and evidence to support targeted activity to challenge perpetrators. Including more effective and efficient information sharing.</p>	<p>We will support the promotion and development of easy access and quick reference guidance for staff to support their confidence and ability to identify criminality, and ability to refer, commensurate to roles and responsibilities.</p>

**Priority 5 - Empowered communities to participate and engage in tackling modern slavery and trafficking**

**Why?**

Ultimately addressing the circumstances that perpetuate modern slavery and human trafficking lies in our being able to empower and inform our communities to tackle and challenge criminal and normative cultural activity from within.

<b>How</b>		
<p>We will develop a new communications and engagement strategy for communities linked to the wider complex safeguarding agenda.</p>	<p>We will engage third sector, non-governmental organisations (NGO) and other community groups and organisations directly, to raise awareness of issues, and the approach to responding.</p>	<p>We will develop community champions through our engagement with organisations, and we will support our own workforces to recognise their role as members of communities in responding to and tackling issues in their communities.</p>

## **8. Measuring Success – Our Impact**

### ***How will we measure our effectiveness***

We will measure our success against the outcomes achieved and how our strategy positively impacts on the safeguarding of children and adults at risk of exploitation. The strategy will be underpinned by a detailed outcomes framework which will measure the effectiveness of all actions under the core principles and priorities of the strategy.

We will evaluate the impact of our action plan through developing performance and quality measures that will be reported into the MSB Complex Safeguarding subgroup.

These measures should evaluate our impact in line with our aims and priorities.

It is important that we do not see success as just data and numbers, but that all our work is rooted in having a visible and tangible impact on people's lives and that we are making a difference for them and their long term outcomes.

## 9. Modern Slavery in Manchester

Manchester bears witness to examples of all types of modern slavery and human trafficking. In particular we see a high incidence of sexual, labour and domestic exploitation.

**TRAPPED** – Gangs use children, young people and vulnerable adults to deliver drugs, or commit other criminal offences, and this often involves those people being subjected to deception, intimidation, and violence and grooming. This takes place within single areas and across Greater Manchester and beyond.

### Criminal Exploitation

**Tom** - *“Tom was 15 years old at the time, living in Manchester with his mother. Tom had difficulties in school and at home, his relationship with his mum had broken down and he was sent to live with his Dad. Tom hadn’t been close to his dad whilst growing up, after his parents split up due to his father’s alcohol addiction. Tom’s dad often passed out drunk, leaving Tom locked out of the house all night. Their neighbour, Simon, started to offer Tom a bed at his house, and Tom stayed there more and more often, because Simon gave him food, clean clothes, somewhere to sleep and cannabis.*

*After a few months Simon told Tom he needed to pay him back for all the cannabis he had smoked, he told Tom he could start selling cannabis for him. Tom was reluctant but felt he owed Simon. Next Simon sent Tom to Southampton to sell drugs for him. Tom didn’t want to go, he didn’t know anyone there, and he was far from his friends and family, but he still felt like he owed Simon because he took care of him when no-one else would. Tom was given Heroin and Cocaine to sell. Six months later Tom was arrested for possession and intent to supply Class A drugs.*

*Tom was identified as a victim of child trafficking and criminal exploitation. Tom had trusted Simon, he thought he cared about him, he didn’t realise Simon was grooming him for exploitation and taking advantage of his vulnerability to take emotional advantage of him and force him into criminality.”*

**AFRUCA** is working with victims of trafficking in Manchester and across the UK and is the only organisation to provide specialist support exclusively for victims of African descent. Working with young Africans aged 12-25 who have been victims of child trafficking, for domestic servitude and sexual exploitation, AFRUCA provides practical, emotional, therapeutic and peer support to victims.

### Domestic Servitude

**B’s Story** - *“B lived with her father and sister in Luanda, Angola. She overheard her father and uncle having a discussion about travelling to the UK, but thought nothing about it. Her father announced that they would be travelling to the UK on a holiday; B was excited about this upcoming vacation. They arrived in the UK, and stayed with her uncle’s family. Two weeks later, her father told her he was returning to Angola, whilst B and her sister will remain in the UK; B’s uncle told her that she was with family and that they would take care of her. Soon after B’s father had left, the treatment she received from her uncle’s family changed. The family became negative towards her; she was not able to eat with them, endured verbal abuse and was labelled as a ‘witch child’. B was made to look after the young children of the family, and on several occasions, she would go to other homes to care for children of the family’s friends, often left for weeks at a time. She suffered neglect; getting a slice of toast as a daily meal, and given inappropriate clothing during the winter.*

*B was told she had evil spirit by her extended family and was told she would be returned to Angola; forcing her to sign a Home Office voluntary return form. During this time, B became aware of AFRUCA’s services, and made contact with them. When she contacted AFRUCA, they provided her with details of an immigration solicitor. Naively, B informed her family about requesting solicitor advice, which resulted in her being restricted from leaving the house. Three days later, she ran away and spent the night at a police station for safety.*

*AFRUCA have been supporting B through psychotherapy and peer group sessions, and has been supported to apply for college. AFRUCA are supporting B on her application for immigrant status, she is worried that if she were to go home she could be re-trafficked or face reprisals from her family.”*

### **Manchester Action on Street Health (MASH)**

are a charity offering advice & support to women in sex work. MASH run a Drop-In Centre in the 'beat' area, proactively visit women in saunas (massage parlours) and take the MASH Mobile Drop-In out, late at night, around the streets of Manchester and Cheetham Hill to reach women sex working on the streets.

### **Sexual Exploitation**

**Alida's Story** – "Alida was a young mother living in Hungary with her 3 year old son when she was offered the chance to come and work in the UK as a nanny. She was struggling to provide adequately for her child and there were no job prospects in her home town. She was excited to be offered this opportunity and was led to believe that she would be well paid and all the arrangements would be taken care of, by people she thought she could trust and would help her.

Alida left her son with relatives, met another woman at the airport who had also been offered work by the same people and together they travelled to Manchester. On arrival however, they were face with a grim and brutal reality of being forced into street sex work.

Alida witnessed her travelling companion being viciously beaten up by their traffickers and was therefore terrified to speak out or complain herself. She worked on the streets for several weeks, always closely supervised by the female trafficker, until another Hungarian sex worker befriended her. This new friend offered to help her escape and took her to another borough of Manchester, where she was only exploited again by a different gang who forced her into sex work at a car wash.

Eventually she took an offer of help from GMP officers, went into the support offered by the NRM and bravely provided evidence in court against her three traffickers."

### **Labour Exploitation**

**Rob's Story** - "Rob is a British man with learning difficulties and mental health needs. Rob was approached by a family group in a church car park, who offered him some work, somewhere to stay and food to eat. Rob was grateful for this opportunity, having no other real options of ways to support himself or awareness around proper job contracts.

Rob moved into a caravan in the back garden of the family's home in Manchester and began doing ground work, scrap metal collection and domestic chores for them. He was only sometimes paid around £10 a day for working from 7am until 7pm.

As time progressed however, he was also violently and regularly beaten, threatened, denied medical care and never paid any money. Rob was used by the family for many years but he never asked for help as he didn't know where else he could go and regarded his exploiters as his family. He didn't turn to the neighbours for help, as although he did see them around, he wasn't sure if they would take his side or side with the family who were exploiting him.

Rob eventually spoke to police as he was suffering terribly from his multiple injuries. However he could have been identified earlier as he would have been carrying out work across the city on behalf of the family, repairing roofs, gardening, decorating and block paving. Many people would have come into contact with him and could have potentially spotted his injuries, his vulnerability due to learning difficulties or the abusive dynamic between him and the main family member who was controlling his work day to day. The exploiters had specifically targeted someone who was vulnerable and gained control over him for many years, treating him as a slave and benefitting financially from his manual labour."

**Medaille Trust** is a charity founded by groups of religious congregations in 2006 to work against the evils of human trafficking in response to the plight of thousands of people who are being trafficked into the UK each year. They provide safe housing and offer opportunities for physical and psychological healing, rehabilitation and protection.

### **Independent Child Trafficking Advocates**

**(ICTAs)** are specialist professionals who support children who have potentially been trafficked to navigate the complex systems of social care, immigration and criminal justice. Barnardo's have been commissioned to deliver the ICTA service in Greater Manchester, working with children & young people from the UK and abroad who are identified as victims of trafficking.

### **Labour Exploitation**

**Ted's Story** – "Ted travelled from Poland to the UK on January 2005 and found legitimate work as an engineer. His marriage broke down on 2013 and due to that he started drinking, lost his job and ended up homeless. He managed to find accommodation at a night shelter for a while where he met another Polish man and they became friends. The shelter workers sorted out Ted's benefits and he was able to rent a house; he moved in with the Polish friend. Ted was still unemployed and his friend introduced him to a Polish Roma male, who offered them both work in the building industry. He was told he would be paid £30/day and was usually working 10 hours a day, 6 or 7 days a week. The gypsy was driving the men to their place of work, but the wages Ted was promised never materialised and was supplied with cans of beer throughout the day instead.

After a while, the gypsy sold Ted to another Roma who employed him in a team of shoplifters. Ted found himself travelling in different towns shoplifting goods from a variety of cosmetics shops. After a month he stopped working there, he was beaten by the recruiter until he returned to work again.

He was again getting paid with food and cans of beer. Ted managed to escape when he said he would visit his family and never returned. Due to that he lost his house and he ended up homeless again. He was unable to return to previous night shelter as the trafficker would be able to find him."

**Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub** – the Children and Adults Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MSAH) is the City's first line of response to identifying, engaging and supporting and protecting those who have been or are at risk of being exploited. The Children and Adult MASH brings together all the safeguarding partners in the City to coordinate and expedite response to need.

**Cannabis Cultivation** - Hoang is a young man from Vietnam. He approached a member of the public in the centre of Manchester asking for assistance, he was taken to a Police station where he disclosed that he had previously been found by Police in a cannabis farm. Hoang was initially arrested, but was then accommodated by the local authority in a residential home. Shortly after arriving in placement Hoang stated that he was abducted by a Vietnamese man and spent several months being moved around the UK to tend cannabis plants in different locations. One day, when being moved between properties Hoang managed to escape from the vehicle that he was being transported in; he ran, then walked for several hours before approaching someone to ask for help."

### **Adult Sexual & Domestic Abuse Exploitation**

**A's Story** – "A was originally from Vietnam. She was collected and taken to France by a group of men. She was locked in a house where she was repeatedly raped. The men told her that she had been sold to them by her husband in Vietnam and that she had to work for them as a sex worker in order to repay the money they had given to her husband. The men brought her to the UK. When they arrived in the UK. 'A' managed to escape and she found her way to a city centre; whilst crying a woman approached her and asked her why she was upset. The woman then agreed to provide her with accommodation in exchange for her looking after her children and cleaning the house. 'A' again managed to escape this situation and went to a local Vietnamese, where men approached her offering to pay for sex.

Due to her destitute situation she slept with the men for money. After a month had passed she was approached by a man who offered to bring her to Manchester if she would look after his children. 'A' lived with him and cared for his children until a DVA incident took place. A passer-by called the police and 'A' was taken to a local hospital for medical suspected of having a broken nose.

A referral was made to the Adults Safeguarding Hub and a multi-agency response was coordinated across all partners, which ensured 'A' was taken to safety, provided with accommodation and supported to prosecute those who had taken advantage of her. 'A's case is an example of how the multi-vulnerabilities of those who are trafficked and exploited can lead to them being easily targeted by other unscrupulous individuals and groups and being trafficked and exploited all over again."

## 10. Resources & Guidance

We are determined to protect victims of slavery and trafficking, and to help them get the help they need.

**If you have any concerns about these issues or you know someone who is being exploited in this way, please contact Greater Manchester Police on 999 if there is an immediate threat to a person or people.**

**... or you can contact the Modern Slavery Helpline anonymously - 24/7 365 days a year – on 08000 121 700, or report your concerns online at [www.modernslaveryhelpline.org](http://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org)**

To find help and support you can access the following resources:

- Call the **National Modern Slavery Helpline** on **08000 121 700** or visit <https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/>
- Manchester Safeguarding Boards website - [www.manchestersafeguardingboards.co.uk/resource/modern-slavery/](http://www.manchestersafeguardingboards.co.uk/resource/modern-slavery/)
- Greater Manchester Victims Services - [www.gmvictims.org.uk/find-information/ive-been-affected-by/slavery-trafficking](http://www.gmvictims.org.uk/find-information/ive-been-affected-by/slavery-trafficking)
- Stop the Traffik - [www.stopthetraffik.org/modern-slavery-network-in-manchester/](http://www.stopthetraffik.org/modern-slavery-network-in-manchester/)
- Greater Together Manchester - [greatertogethermanchester.org/find-support/human-trafficking-and-modern-slavery/](http://greatertogethermanchester.org/find-support/human-trafficking-and-modern-slavery/)
- Anti-Slavery Commissioner - [www.antislaverycommissioner.co.uk/](http://www.antislaverycommissioner.co.uk/)
- Home Office Guidance & Resources - [www.gov.uk/government/collections/modern-slavery](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/modern-slavery)
- Home Office Modern Slavery Booklet - [www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-awareness-booklet](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-awareness-booklet)
- The National Modern Slavery Strategy - [www.antislaverycommissioner.co.uk/modern\\_slavery\\_strategy\\_final\\_dec2015.pdf](http://www.antislaverycommissioner.co.uk/modern_slavery_strategy_final_dec2015.pdf)
- Barnardo's Independent Child Trafficking Advocacy Service – 24/7 Referral Line: 0800 043 4303
- Guidance & referral form - [www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-trafficking-advocates-early-adopter-sites](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-trafficking-advocates-early-adopter-sites)
- Secure inbox for Criminal Justice Secure eMail (csjm) compatible accounts only [trafficking.referrals@bypmk.cjsm.net](mailto:trafficking.referrals@bypmk.cjsm.net)