

Identification as a Victim of Trafficking

Information for people (adults) from abroad who have experienced human trafficking and/or exploitation, on your rights and support in Scotland.



Have you experienced human trafficking or exploitation?

Being trafficked or exploited can have a long-term impact on you and affect many parts of your life. You may also find it difficult to adjust to living in a new country or place. But you are not alone. There is help for you to start recovering from your experiences and help you settle into your new life.

JustRight Scotland can give you advice and information on any of the issues discussed in this factsheet connected to your trafficking and/or exploitation.

You can find us at:

bit.ly/JustRightScotland

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION?

Human trafficking is the illegal trade and exploitation of human beings. There are many purposes for which people are used, for the financial or personal benefit of someone else. These include commercial sexual exploitation (e.g. prostitution), labour exploitation, criminal exploitation, domestic servitude, sham marriages, and organ trafficking but there are many others.

Being trafficking and/or exploited is a terrible abuse of the victim's human rights. It can have a long-term impact on many parts of a victim's life. Human trafficking is a serious crime and there is help available in Scotland for victims to find safety and start recovering from their experiences.

HOW CAN I TELL IF I AM A VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND/OR EXPLOITATION?

Some of the signs (**there are many others**) are:

- ▶ You are forced to do things, for someone else's gain. These things can be:
 - ◊ providing sexual services
 - ◊ criminal activities (e.g. growing drugs, selling or helping sell drugs, theft, benefit fraud)
 - ◊ labour
 - ◊ domestic work (domestic servitude)
 - ◊ begging
 - ◊ forced marriage
- ▶ You are forced to do these things for money and someone else takes the money
- ▶ You are forced to do these things for little or no pay
- ▶ You have money deducted from your wages unfairly
- ▶ You have to do these things for long hours and have no or few days off
- ▶ You have to do these things to pay off a debt
- ▶ You are under the control of someone else/other people
- ▶ Your movements are monitored and/or controlled by other people
- ▶ You are being moved to different locations by other people
- ▶ You have been mentally, physically or sexually abused, or threatened with harm

- ▶ You have been told not to tell anyone what is happening to you
- ▶ You have been brought to the UK by force or pretence
- ▶ Your passport or documents have been taken from you
- ▶ You had to travel on fake passport/ documents or under a different identity
- ▶ You do not have permission to stay in the UK and have been told you will be forced to leave if you tell the police or authorities what is happening to you.

There may only be one of these signs or you may be experiencing other behaviours – you could still be a victim of human trafficking. If you think you are, **please get help**.

WHO CAN HELP

If you are a victim of trafficking and/or exploitation and need help, you can contact:

- ▶ **Modern Slavery Helpline:**
0800 012 1700
- ▶ **Police Scotland:**
999 for urgent help.
Call 101 if not urgent.

If you are worried that someone else might be a victim of trafficking, you can also contact the Modern Slavery Helpline or Police Scotland.

You can also report anonymously to:

- ▶ **Crimestoppers:**
0800 555 111

SPECIALIST SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS IN SCOTLAND

Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA)

If you are a woman over 18 years old, who has been trafficked for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation you can get help and advice from:

- ▶ **TARA**
(Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance)
0141 276 7724
www.tarascotland.org.uk

Migrant Help

If you are a man over the age of 18 who has been trafficked for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation

or

if you are a man or woman over the age of 18 who has been trafficked and exploited through other forms of exploitation (e.g., forced labour, domestic servitude, forced criminality) you can get help and advice from:

- ▶ **Migrant Help:**
0141 8847900
www.migranthelpuk.org

TARA and Migrant Help may be able to help you with:

- ▶ short-term safe emergency accommodation
- ▶ financial support
- ▶ emotional support
- ▶ getting legal advice
- ▶ accessing health services and counselling

- ▶ speaking to Police Scotland if you want to
- ▶ referring you into the UK National Referral Mechanism (UK Government's process to identify victims of trafficking and/or exploitation)

LEGAL ADVICE

If you have an issue with any of the areas mentioned in this factsheet, then it may help to take legal advice. It is important to find the right solicitor for your legal needs. This will depend on what sort of case you have.

Please check our **LEGAL ADVICE AND COMPENSATION** factsheet for more information on finding a solicitor.

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