

Vulnerable to Exploitation

Safeguarding

Version Control Sheet

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Version History

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V1	18 th December 2019	Initial draft
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Change Control

Any requested changes to this document should be emailed to:

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1. Purpose and Aim

This policy has been developed to provide information and detail practice requirements regarding the management of Service Users who are accommodated with Serco who are vulnerable to exploitation. The purpose of this advice is to:

- Provide a clear process to follow when a Service User is identified as being vulnerable to exploitation;
- Outline the reporting requirements;
- Reduce the level of uncertainty and stress for staff in managing service users who are vulnerable to exploitation.

2. Summary

Definition of **exploitation**:

There are many forms of exploitation into which people can be trafficked and held in slavery. These crimes are happening in every corner of the world and can include any person, regardless of age, socio-economic background or location.

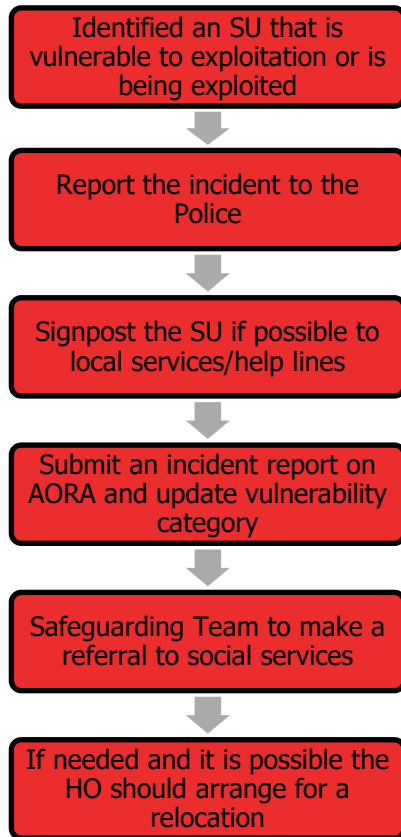
Types of exploitation:

- Sexual - This is when someone is deceived, coerced or forced to take part in sexual activity
- Labour - This refers to situations where people are coerced to work for little or no remuneration, often under threat of punishment.
- Domestic servitude - A domestic worker or helper is a person who works within their employer's home, performing a variety of tasks. This arrangement becomes exploitative when there are restrictions on the domestic worker's movement, and they are forced to work long hours for little pay. They may also suffer physical and sexual abuse.
- Forced Marriage - This is when a person is put under pressure to marry someone. They may be threatened with physical or sexual violence or placed under emotional or psychological distress to achieve these aims.
- Forced criminality - This is when somebody is forced to carry out criminal activity through coercion or deception.
- Child soldiers - These are children and young people, ranging from as young as four up to 18, who are used for any military purpose. It affects both males and females. Children may be used for frontline combat – which means they are made to commit acts of violence – or within auxiliary roles, such as informants or kitchen hands. Often, the children are also sexually abused. This type of practice is most prevalent in parts of Africa and Asia.
- Organ harvesting - The trafficking in organs involves removing a part of the body, commonly the kidneys and liver, to sell often as an illegal trade

Signs of exploitation:

- change in physical appearance- new clothes, more/less make up, poor self-image, weight gain/loss
- expressions of despair (self-harm, overdose, eating disorder, challenging behaviour, aggression, appearing drunk or under the influence of drugs/alcohol, suicidal tendencies, looking tired or ill, sleeping during the day.)
- becoming involved in criminality/repeat offending
- being secretive or withdrawn
- disappearing with no contact or support
- volatile/criminal behaviour
- having marks or scars on their body which they try to conceal by refusing to undress or uncover parts of their body
- being hostile and aggressive
- returning to the accommodation after long intervals but appearing well cared for

3. Process



If someone is concerned about a SU's welfare they should tell the Safeguarding Manager, Housing Officer and Field Operations Manager. For further guidance around Safeguarding please see the Safeguarding Policy.

4. What information to record

We need to record:

- Name
- NASS/Port Ref
- Address
- Details of what was disclosed or the signs that were witnessed
- Crime reference number
- Details of referrals already made
- Details of any contacts for other stakeholders involved.

5. Contact Details

The following people must always be made aware:

- Housing Officer of the property

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- Field Operations Manager
 - Safeguarding Team –
 - Home Office -
 - Home Office Safeguarding Hub
 - NW –
 - MEE –

In the appendix you will find national agencies that you can sign post or refer Service Users to.

The Safeguarding Team will be responsible for making the referrals during normal working hours, support from the Housing Officer may be needed. If anything, urgent is needed out of hours the on-call Housing Officer should complete.

6. Confidentiality

Information should only be shared with people who need to know. This includes the above contacts and any relevant external stakeholders i.e. social services. If there is a request for information regarding a case that they have not previously been in contact about or we have not referred to them you must advise that they contact .

Refer to

7. Appendix

National

Modern Slavery Helpline - 08000 121 700

Police - 101/999

The Salvation Army Helpline – 0300 303 8151

NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice Centre – 0808 805 000

Barnardo's National Counter Trafficking Service – 0800 043 4303

Victim Support Line (can provide Interpreter) – 0808 168 9111

British Red Cross – Find Local Support/Drop-in at: <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-help/get-help-as-a-young-refugee-or-asylum-seeker>