

Launch of the Trafficking Survivor Care Standards

16th June 2015



The Human Trafficking Foundation today announced the official public launch of the 'Trafficking Survivor Care Standards'. The standards aim to provide a blueprint for UK-wide service providers offering high quality care to adult survivors of modern slavery, including trafficking. Unseen's, Managing Director, Kate Garbers, was a pivotal part of the Expert Working Group who collaborated to develop these standards.

The Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, Kevin Hyland, today said he commended those who have been part of the standards and that they offer clear pathways to ensure every victim across the nation gets the support they need.

Garbers says 'It was good to work with fellow experts in the sector to develop these standards.

Our aim is that the standards provide a good starting point for any agency working in the sector with potential victims of trafficking. They offer both solid recommendations to how to address the issues victims face as well as aspirational ideas and suggestions as to what best practice could look like here in the UK.

We are excited to see how this collaborative piece of work will be used and embedded across the sector to directly impact the level of care and support victims receive'

The Trafficking Survivor Care Standards provide a flexible framework with guiding principles and practical recommendations for support agencies to incorporate into their own existing policies and procedures. The ultimate goal of the standards are to promote an integrated, holistic and empowering approach that places the real needs of survivors at the centre of the process of sustained recovery for the duration of the support. For a copy of the standards and for further information please visit: <http://www.humantraffickingfoundation.org/trafficking-survivor-care-standards>

Tatiana Jordan, Director of the Human Trafficking Foundation, who were responsible for pulling the experts together, said: 'We believe that establishing care standards is the first step towards ensuring consistent protection and high quality support for all trafficking survivors. However, the vital second step is implementation. We are delighted to have the full support of a number of front-line organisations, as well as the Anti-Slavery Commissioner, to ensure that, ultimately, survivors feel protected and better assisted'

Note for editors

Unseen

- Unseen began in 2008.
- Figures released for 2014 by the National Crime Agency states there were 2,340 reported potential victims of human trafficking victims in the UK, including 671 children – a 34% increase on 2013's figures. However, the Home Office estimates there are between 10-13,000 victims of Modern Slavery in the UK.

- Unseen's WATER (Women's Anti-Trafficking Emergency Refuge) project is the only safe-house in the South West and is one of only three services in the country offering 24/7 support to victims of human trafficking.
- For women who have left the safety of our WATER project, we also offer a resettlement service (RIO – Resettlement, Integration and Outreach) to help them continue on their journey of recovery within their chosen community. This project is supported by the Commissioner's Community Action Fund awarded by the Police Community Trust. The Commissioner's Community Action Fund was set up by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset to tackle ASB, domestic and sexual violence, burglary and provide support for victims of crime.
- Unseen runs a [Room Sponsorship Scheme](#) for people to directly support women survivors at our WATER project.
- Unseen is currently working towards opening the UK's first [specialist accommodation project for child victims of modern slavery](#).
- The charity was instrumental in setting up an [Anti-Slavery Partnership](#) with Avon & Somerset Police and Bristol City Council, which brings together 22 agencies in fighting human trafficking in the South West, including other NGOs and local government.

The Big Lottery Fund

The Big Lottery Fund is responsible for giving out 40% of the money raised for good causes by the National Lottery.

The Fund is committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need and has been rolling out grants to health, education, environment and charitable causes across the UK. Since its inception in 2004 we have awarded close to £6bn.

The Fund was formally established by Parliament on 1 December 2006.

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