A SIMPLE GUIDE TO THE National Referral Mechanism

1. identification by a first responder

- HOME OFFICE
- POLICE
- NGO’S (including Unseen)
- LOCAL AUTHORITY
- NATIONAL CRIME AGENCY
- GANGMASTER’S AND LABOUR ABUSE AUTHORITY

2. online referral to

IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT COMPETENT AUTHORITY (IECA) & SINGLE COMPETENT AUTHORITY (SCA)

3. reasonable grounds decision

- NEGATIVE REASONABLE GROUNDS DECISION
- POSITIVE REASONABLE GROUNDS DECISION

- JUDICIAL REVIEW RECONSIDER REQUEST
- EXIT NRM WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS

- RECOVERY AND REFLECTION SUPPORT (MINIMUM OF 45 DAYS) *ECAT ENTITLEMENT

4. conclusive grounds decision

- NEGATIVE CONCLUSIVE GROUNDS DECISION
- POSITIVE CONCLUSIVE GROUNDS DECISION

- JUDICIAL REVIEW RECONSIDER REQUEST
- EXIT NRM WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS
- NEGATIVE CONCLUSIVE GROUNDS DECISION

- RECOVERY NEEDS ASSESSMENT
- MANDATORY 45 DAYS MOVE ON SUPPORT
- REACH IN SUPPORT*
- EXIT FROM SERVICE

*ECAT (European Convention against Action on Trafficking) entitlements:
- Financial subsistence
- Safe and secure housing
- Access to mental health support
- Access to emergency physical health support
- Access to legal advice
- Access to education for dependants
- Access to interpreters and information in suitable languages

key terms

FIRST RESPONDER
Any authority or organisation that is authorised to refer a potential victim of modern slavery into the National Referral Mechanism, including police, certain parts of the Home Office and some charities.

REASONABLE GROUNDS DECISION
The initial decision indicating whether or not the authorities believe that individual to be a potential survivor of modern slavery.

CONCLUSIVE GROUNDS DECISION
The final decision that determines whether that potential survivor is recognised as a survivor of modern slavery.

RECOVERY NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Following a positive Conclusive Grounds Decision, this assessment enables support workers to consider whether a victim has any ongoing recovery needs arising from their modern slavery experiences.

survivors who have had a positive conclusive grounds after 01/01/2021 can self-refer back into NRM for light touch support