A SIMPLE GUIDE TO THE
National Referral Mechanism

1. identification by a first responder

- HOME OFFICE
- POLICE
- NGOs (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

(made within 5 days)

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

- POSITIVE REASONABLE GROUNDS DECISION
- JUDICIAL REVIEW RECONSIDER REQUEST
- EXIT NRM WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS

- NEGATIVE CONCLUSIVE GROUNDS DECISION
- MANDATORY 45 DAYS MOVE ON SUPPORT

- POSITIVE CONCLUSIVE GROUNDS DECISION
- RECOVERY AND REFLECTION SUPPORT (MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS) *ECAT ENTITLEMENT

4. conclusive grounds decision

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

- RECOVERY NEEDS ASSESSMENT
- 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

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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.

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