

# The National Referral Mechanism

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is the framework for identifying victims of trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour and ensuring they receive the right support.

**All police and local authority staff have a legal duty to refer** anyone they think **may** potentially be a victim. They are not expected to be sure.

**It is best practice to submit an NRM in partnership with other agencies** as they may have valuable information to include.

If a child is being used for the benefit of others including to commit any crime, to work inappropriately, or take part in any sexual activity and they are being moved or kept anywhere for that purpose, they are being trafficked and an NRM **must** be completed.

Access the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre video on the NRM here:

[Via YouTube](#)

[Via Police Knowledge Hub](#)

If you cannot access the video, please speak to your National County Lines co-ordinator.