

# Local Authorities Role in Tackling Human Trafficking

*Advice   Awareness   Integration*

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# Role of Migrant Help

- Funded by Scottish Government
- Provide accommodation and support for VoHT
- Categories of VoHT assisted are ALL labour exploitation, ALL domestic servitude and male sexual exploitation cases
- 24/7 helpline

# Local Authority links and referrals

- Number of LA referrals is low
- Mainly from Glasgow
- All from Social Work Services
- Appropriate Advice, Guidance and Assistance available
- Training provided
- Partnership working essential

# Case Study

- Large Eastern European Family
- Presented to Social Work Services seeking financial assistance
- On hearing the family's circumstances, referral made to Migrant Help
- Full investigation revealed labour exploitation, domestic servitude and sexual exploitation

# Case Study

- NRM submitted to UKHTC – positive decisions received
- Further investigations by Social Work Services reveal concerns over the care and welfare of the children
- Checks with police and home government reveal previous child care issues and outstanding warrants

# Responsibilities of Local Authorities

- The Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in Europe declaration on the fight against trafficking in human beings 2006
  - 500 signatories
  - 35 Countries

# Responsibilities of Local Authorities

- “local authorities need to understand the implications of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings for their own local services and partnerships. Councillors, Chief Executives and senior managers, in particular, need to grasp the relevance of human trafficking for the council as a whole.”

# Identifying victims

- Where do we look?
- A range of Council Staff in a variety of settings are likely to be a first point of contact
- These include Licensing officers, Health and Safety Inspectors, Environmental Health Officers, Trading Standards Officers, Housing Officers, Social Work staff.



# Identifying victims

- Where do we look?
- Places where victims may be found by LA staff
- Massage parlours, on the streets, shops, restaurants and factories as well as private homes and local authority premises