



Reference Number: FOI-101004907114

Response provided under: Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request and response:

- 1. The number of individuals under the age of 18 who are potential victims of modern slavery/human trafficking and have been interviewed by a Joint Investigation Team comprised of both children's social care/children's social services department and the local police force from April 2018 till present?**

There have been no individuals confirmed to be 18 years of age or under in Cornwall who have been referred to Social Care or through the National Referral Mechanism as potential victims of modern slavery/human trafficking, who have been interviewed by a joint Investigation Team comprised of both children's Social Care and the local police force from April 2018 to present.

- 2. Please detail if the children's services department and the local police force in your area are co-located?**
 - o The term co-location to mean not only physically located together, but also the sharing of case management systems and processes.**

Within the Multi Agency Referral Unit there is co-location of Children's Social Care and the local police force. Children's Social Care and the local police force based within the Multi Agency Referral Unit share access to a case management system.



3. Please provide a copy of any policy, guidance, training and/or instruction document on the use of joint interviewing for social workers and police officers in your Local Authority area.

In terms of policies, we adhere to:

- South West Child Protection Procedures, which documents our policy procedures around trafficking, Modern Slavery, and unaccompanied children
 - https://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/cornwall_scilly/index.html
- Care of Unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery Statutory guidance for local authorities and
 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-of-unaccompanied-and-trafficked-children>
- Working Together to Safeguard Children Guidance.
 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

There is a whole day multi-agency training session held on 4th December 2019 for 130 staff was held at Truro NCH to provide key staff from Children's, Adults, Police Officers, and other professionals from Health with CPD skills in this key area of work. This session focused on statutory guidance, NRM, and multi agency investigation and support. This session was to be repeated for an additional 120 staff on 25th March 2020, but this was postponed owing to Covid 19 restrictions.

There is also Achieving Best Evidence Training for staff who are likely to be involved in supporting children in Police interviews. This training is delivered by Devon and Cornwall Constabulary. There are usually 2 cohorts per year.

Devon and Cornwall Police can be contacted via the below website to request further information on this course:

<https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/your-right-to-information/freedom-of-information/>

More information about Council offered training can be found on the below link:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/cornwall-and-isles-of-scilly-safeguarding-children-partnership/learning/safeguarding-training/>

All our cases for Modern Slavery and Trafficking both for Children and Adults are conducted in a multi-agency arena to achieve the best outcomes for the individuals at risk, and this takes preference over any evidential and investigation objectives.

Information provided by: Together for Families

Date of response: 29th May 2020