

GLOSSARY

Glossary of terms and phrases commonly used in safeguarding

Term	Meaning
Abuse	Actions and behaviour, or a lack of action, which causes harm, pain or distress to others with whom the person has a familial or professional relationship
Adult	A person over the age of 18 years
Adult at risk	An adult who is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and, having care and support needs, is less able to protect themselves from the abuse or neglect
Advocacy	Support to help people say what they want, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain services they need. Under the Social services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014, the local authority must arrange for an advocate to represent and support a person who is the subject of a safeguarding enquiry or a safeguarding adult review if they need help to understand and take part in the enquiry or review and to express their views, wishes, or feelings. This is known as the 'active offer' and if no family or friend can provide advocacy then the LA must appoint an independent advocate.
Child	A person who has not yet attained the age of 18 years
Child at risk	A child who is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and has care and support needs (whether these are being met or not)
Child sexual exploitation	The coercion or manipulation of children/young people into sexual activities, involving some form of payment which can include money, mobile phones/data or drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, 'protection' or affection. The grooming process employed by perpetrators renders the child powerless to recognise the exploitative nature of relationships and unable to give informed consent
Coercive control	When a person in a close relationship makes the other person repeatedly feel controlled, isolated or scared by their behaviour
Competent Authority	In the UK the two Competent Authorities are:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC), which deals with referrals from the police, local authorities, and NGO's • The Home Office Immigration and Visas (UKVI), which deals with referrals identified as part of the immigration process, for example where trafficking or modern slavery may be an issue as part of an asylum claim <p>Once a referral has been made to a competent authority via the National Referral Mechanism, trained decision makers in the Competent Authority will assess and make a decision on whether an individual is a victim of trafficking or modern slavery.</p>
Consent	When one person freely gives their permission for something to another person
“Cookooing”	Criminal exploitation which occurs when drug dealers use physical and emotional threats to establish a base for selling drugs in someone's home. Often linked to 'county lines' networks.
“County Lines”	<p>Criminal exploitation which occurs when gangs and organised crime networks exploit children to sell drugs. Often these children are made to travel across counties, and they use dedicated mobile phone ‘lines’ to supply drugs</p> <p>As set out in the <u>Serious Violence Strategy</u>, published by the Home Office, a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of ‘deal line’. They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money, and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons.</p>
Debt (debt-bonded)	When owing something to another person, usually money, but which could be extracted as services

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)	Part of the Home Office which allows lawful access to criminal records and can bar individuals from regulated activity
Domestic abuse	Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional abuse. Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour. Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim. Family members are defined as mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister and grandparents, whether directly related, in-laws or step-family (Home Office 2012).
Duty to refer	The duty to refer an individual working in regulated activity to the DBS if they harm, or pose a threat of harm, to a person in their care. An appropriate referral will trigger the barring consideration process
Emotional (or psychological) abuse	Threats of harm or abandonment, coercive control, humiliation, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawal from services or supportive networks
Extremism	<p>Extremism goes beyond terrorism and includes people who target vulnerable people – including the young – by seeking to sow division between communities on the basis of race, faith or denomination; justify discrimination towards women and girls; persuade others that minorities are inferior; or argue against the primacy of democracy and the rule of law in our society.</p> <p>Extremism is defined in the Counter Extremism Strategy 2015 as the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. Calls for the death of members of our armed forces are also regarded as extremist.</p>

Exploitation	When one person is used by another in a way that brings benefit, usually money, to the other person
Female genital mutilation (“cutting”)	<p>The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) as:</p> <p><i>“...all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons”</i> WHO (2014).</p> <p>The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as amended) narrows the definition of FGM to not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a surgical operation on a girl that was necessary for her physical or mental health, or • a surgical operation on a girl who was in any stage of labour, or had just given birth, for purposes connected with the labour or birth
Financial abuse	Within a family or care/professional relationship, misuse of money, pressure about money, fraudulent dealings or theft
Forced (or compulsory) labour	All work or service that is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the person has not volunteered
Forced marriage	A marriage conducted without the valid consent of one or both parties and where duress is a factor
Gender-based violence	Domestic abuse and sexual violence where the victim is female
Grooming	When someone builds an emotional connection with a child to gain their trust for the purposes of abuse (NSPCC). The same also be applied to adults at risk, and is often extended to include family members and carers around the intended target
Harmful sexual behaviour	When children and young people (under 18) engage in sexual discussions or activities that are inappropriate for their age or stage of development, often with other individuals who they have power over by virtue of age, emotional maturity, gender, physical strength, or intellect and where the victim in this relationship has suffered a betrayal of trust. Activities can range from

	using sexually explicit words to full penetrative sex with other children or adults
Hate crime	Where abuse or neglect is motivated by someone's personal characteristic - disability, race and ethnicity, religion and belief, sexual orientation and transgender / gender identity
Historic abuse	Non-recent abuse; that which has happened in the past or earlier in a person's life
Honour based violence (HBV)	A crime or incident which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community
Human trafficking	Movement of a person from one place to another, within a country or across borders, with a view to exploiting them
Institutional abuse	Abuse which takes place within an institution or organisation and is largely due to a culture where the agency runs more for its own benefit than to benefit the clients
Investigation	Action of the police or social services to identify the facts
Justice	Many abusive activities are also crimes and perpetrators can be charged and taken to court
"Mate Crime"	A form of abuse that is particularly targeted at young people and adults with learning disabilities, but not solely. So-called "mate crime" is when someone who is perceived as vulnerable (or possibly simply lonely) is befriended by someone who uses the relationship to exploit or abuse them. This can be done through online means or in person and can lead to financial, physical and/or sexual abuse.
Mental Capacity	Mental capacity means being able to make your own decisions. Someone lacking capacity - because of an illness or disability, such as a mental health problem, dementia or a learning disability - cannot do one or more of the following four things: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand information given to them about a particular decision

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain that information long enough to be able to make the decision • Weigh up the information available to make the decision • Communicate their decision
Modern slavery	All forms of trafficking, exploitation, forced labour and debt-bond control.
National Referral Mechanism	<p>The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking or modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.</p> <p>The NRM is also the mechanism through which the UKHTC collect data about victims. This information contributes to building a clearer picture about the scope of human trafficking and modern slavery in the UK.</p> <p>The NRM was introduced in 2009 to meet the UK’s obligations under the Council of European Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. At the core of every country’s NRM is the process of locating and identifying “potential victims of trafficking”.</p> <p>From 31st July 2015 the NRM was extended to all victims of modern slavery in England and Wales following the implementation of the Modern Slavery Act 2015</p>
Neglect	Failure to meet a person’s basic physical, emotional, social or psychological needs, which is likely to result in an impairment of the person’s well-being; failure to provide appropriate care, to act or to protect
Organised abuse	Where a network of abusers work together to find, share and abuse their victims
Physical abuse	Abuse against the body of a person, e.g. by hitting, over or misuse of medication, acts of undue restraint
Position of trust	The relationship an adult may have with a child/young person due to their role e.g. teacher. It is a particular offence to betray the relationship of trust by

	overstepping the boundaries, by developing an intimate relationship
Private Fostering	An arrangement made directly by a parent for their child to be looked after for 28 days or more by an adult who does not have parental responsibility for the child and is not a close relative/step parent.
Protection	Formal action taken to minimise risk and prevent further harm, the Act requires a focus on the outcomes for the individual
“Reasonable cause to suspect”	<p>The Act references the Children Act 1989 Section 47 requiring that where a local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that a child “is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm” the local authority shall make or cause to be made such enquires as necessary to decide whether it should take action to safeguard or promote the child’s welfare.</p> <p>If there is reasonable cause to suspect that a person is an adult at risk, and appears to be in the local authority area, it must inform the local authority of that fact. In determining the meaning of reasonable cause, it is not necessary that a particular fact is established.</p> <p>Reasonable suspicion exists when there is information which would satisfy an objective observer that the particular circumstances exist</p>
Regulated activity	<p>Closest work that an individual can undertake with children or adults at risk e.g. healthcare, personal care (link)</p> <p>Requires an enhanced DBS check with barring list check by law</p>
Safeguarding	<p>Positive, proactive and preventative activity that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensures the provision of safe and effective care • protects from abuse, neglect and harm • optimises well-being, voice, choice and control • prevents impairment of health or development
Sexual abuse	<p>Child</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a child under the age of 13 years cannot consent to any sexual activity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sexual activity between an adult and a child being forced to watch or witness sexual activity <p>Adult</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rape and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not or could not consent and/or was pressured into consenting
Social Services and Well-Being Act (Wales) 2014	The Act provides the legal framework for improving the well-being of people who need care and support, and carers who need support, and for transforming social services in Wales. Part 7 safeguarding provides statutory guidance for safeguarding children and adults at risk https://socialcare.wales/hub/sswbact
Statutory agency	Local authority social services department or the police
Trafficking	The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.
Well-being duty	A person exercising functions under the Act must seek to promote the well-being of people who have needs for care and support, and carers who need support. Well-being includes protection from abuse and neglect
Witchcraft	The exercise or invocation of alleged supernatural powers to control people or events, typically involving sorcery or magic
Young people	A vague term usually applied to children between the ages of 13 and 18 years

References:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/grooming/>

<https://socialcare.wales/learning-and-development/safeguarding/>

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<https://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/180511adultsatriskaen.pdf>

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<https://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/180511childrenatriskcy.pdf>

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/now_i_know_it_was_wrong.pdf

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-barring-referrals-to-the-dbs>

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