

ADVICE FOR ANYONE SUPPORTING UKRAINIAN REFUGEES: LIFE IN THE UK AND MODERN SLAVERY

Be vigilant! If you are working or volunteering to support Ukrainian refugees, ensure that you:

- Get educated about the risks around human trafficking. Refugees are particularly vulnerable and could be targeted by traffickers.
- Get educated about potential employment scams.
- Understand that those seeking refuge may be approached by others wishing to exploit them, via false promises of transport, shelter, support, employment, etc.
- Know that traffickers may target areas where refugees may transit through (for example, train stations, airports and bus stations) or where they are seeking assistance (for example, community centres or drop-in services)
- Know that traffickers may also pose as a legitimate organisation offering assistance.
- Know that if you see or know of a child who is alone or with a stranger, you must report it to the police and local authority.

Important actions to take:

- Register with a legitimate organisation.
- Have all the necessary registration to support Ukrainian refugees.
- Always display appropriate ID, including the name of the organisation that you are volunteering or working for.
- Support those you are working with to check that recruitment opportunities are legitimate.
- Raise concerns to the individual and the organisation if a person is offered a job but the terms and conditions seem vague or unclear.
- Report any concerns if you see suspicious activities, including people trying to recruit refugees for work at locations where support is being offered but they do not appear to be from recognised organisations or businesses.
- Ensure that you make those you are working with aware of the risks of all forms of trafficking, employment scams and any rights as a worker.

General indicators that a person may be being subject to trafficking and/or exploitation:

- Restriction of movement or access to services.
- Absence of personal identification documents, such as passport.
- Information and documents controlled by another person.
- Limited or no control of personal finances (for example, if the person does not appear to be receiving welfare benefits or wages).
- Presents as anxious or afraid.
- Poor physical or mental health.
- Person has been threatened or assaulted.
- Not allowed to speak for themselves or voice their own opinion.
- Fearful of authorities. False information about immigration status may be used as a form of control.
- Excessive debt, for example if a person is in debt bondage, where services or labour are used to pay off a debt to a trafficker such as for travel, which will often be impossible to actually repay.

Useful links:

- For more detailed indicators of specific types of exploitation, visit: www.hopeforjustice.org/spot-the-signs/
- Our colleagues at British Red Cross have produced a useful volunteer guide to anti-trafficking: www.hopeforjustice.org/brc-guide

Useful contacts:

- **If someone is in a dangerous situation, call 999**
- If you have any suspicions or concerns about human trafficking and exploitation that are not an emergency, call **101** or the Modern Slavery Helpline on **08000 121 700**
- For help from Hope for Justice, email help@hopeforjustice.org or call **0300 008 8000**