

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & ADULTS

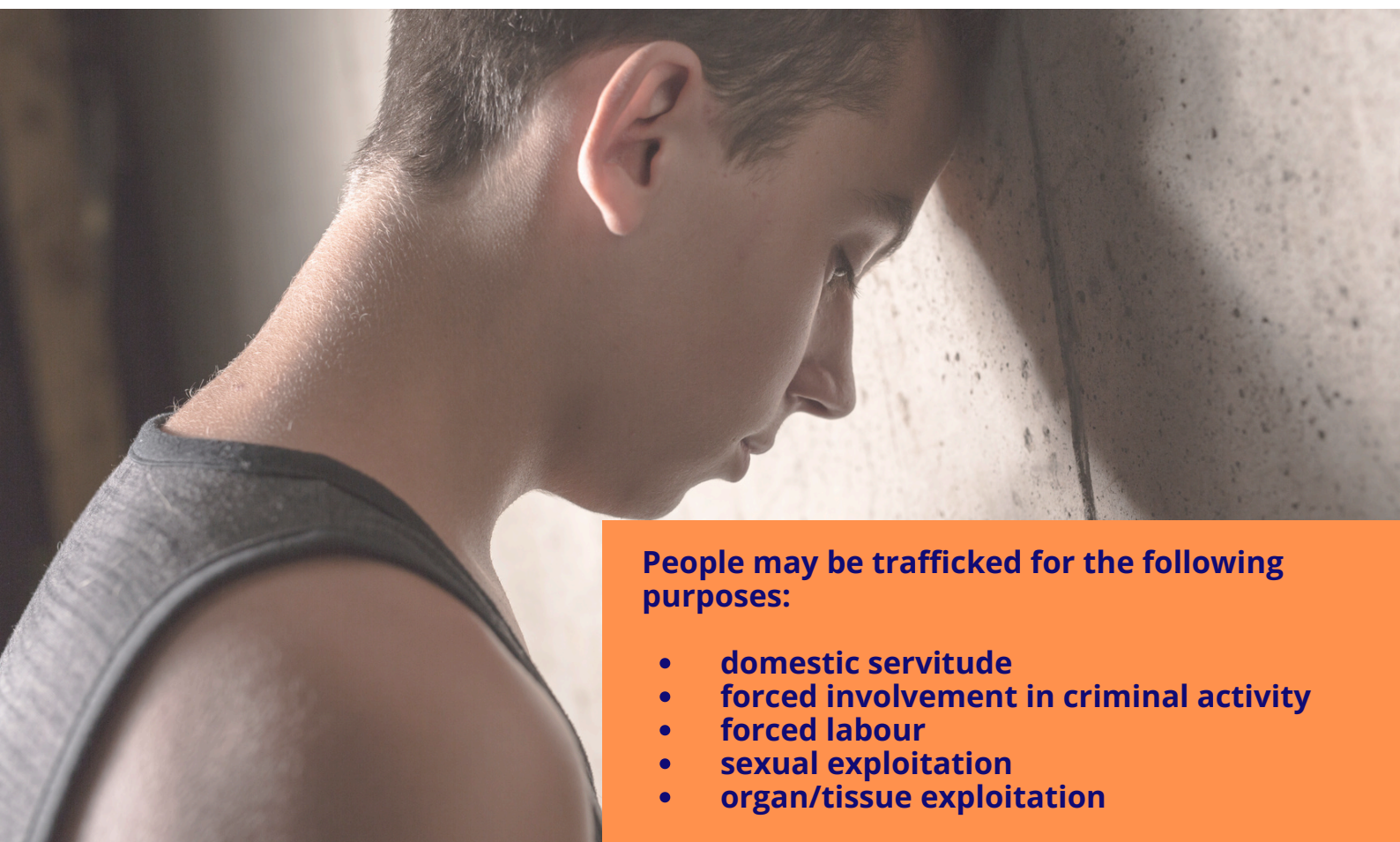


What is trafficking?

The United Nations defines human trafficking as the **recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons by improper means (such as force, abduction, fraud, or coercion) for an improper purpose including forced labour or sexual exploitation.**

Human trafficking is the movement of a person from one place to another into **conditions of exploitation, using deception, coercion, the abuse of power or the abuse of someone's vulnerability.**

- Adult victims are trafficked **all over the world** for little or no money – including to and within the UK.
- There is **no typical victim** and **some victims don't understand** they have been exploited and are entitled to help and support.
- Victims are often **trafficked to a foreign country where they cannot speak the language**, have their travel and identity documents removed, and are told that if they try to attempt an escape, they or their families will be harmed.



People may be trafficked for the following purposes:

- domestic servitude
- forced involvement in criminal activity
- forced labour
- sexual exploitation
- organ/tissue exploitation

What constitutes trafficking?

All of the three following elements below need to be present in order for trafficking to have occurred, unless the victim is under the age of 18, in which case only the ACT and the PURPOSE need to be present.

1. **The ACT** – recruitment, transportation, movement, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons.
2. **The MEANS** – control by threat, use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or the giving of payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim.
3. **The PURPOSE** – exploitation of a person, which includes prostitution and other sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices, and the removal of organs.

Any immediate risks to a vulnerable individual's wellbeing or safety through exploitation, are reported to the police. UK referrals for modern slavery and human trafficking increased 10.3% in 2022. Many victims work in the construction industry, in agriculture, in the sex industry, and in places like nail bars, car washes, and cannabis farms. Children are found working in all of these situations, as well as in sexual slavery. www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking

Issues raised include:

- the majority of the children arrived unaccompanied from Europe
- Albanian, Vietnamese and British were identified as the most common nationalities of children trafficked or at risk of being trafficked
- the rise in children being lured into work, sexual exploitation or criminal activities is likely to be an underestimate

This is an emerging aspect of abuse and as awareness grows we may find there are people in our church congregations who have been trafficked and who seek help from the church to escape their situation.

Your Parish Safeguarding Officer is:

