



## Contact details

**Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service**  
To contact the local prosecutor (Procurator Fiscal) or Victim Information and Advice (VIA) staff.

Telephone:  
0844 561 3000 (if phoning from a landline)  
01389 739557 (if phoning from a mobile)

### The TARA Project

The TARA project is a service that helps identify and support women who may have been trafficked for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.

Telephone: 0141 276 7729

### Victim Support Scotland (VSS)

VSS is a voluntary organisation that offers practical and emotional support to those affected by crime.

Telephone:  
0845 60 39 213 Monday – Friday 8am to 8pm  
0845 30 30 900 evenings and weekends

### Migrant Helpline

Migrant Helpline is a charity providing support and advice to migrants in distress.

Telephone: 0141 884 7900 or 07837 937737



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www.saferglasgow.com APS Group Scotland 12856 06/15

# information

For victims of human trafficking

Details of all Procurator Fiscal Offices are available on the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service website:

[www.copfs.gov.uk](http://www.copfs.gov.uk)

Please let us know if you would like this leaflet in another language, audio, large print, Braille or another format.

## Information For Victims Of Human Trafficking

**Don't accept the unacceptable – help us to help you and stop this crime, so that no one else suffers as you have.**

### What is human trafficking?

You are a victim of a crime if you have been brought to, moved from or moved within a country by people who have threatened, frightened, hurt, intimidated, forced or lied to you and made you become involved with activities such as:

- prostitution or other forms of sexual behaviour for money
- forced labour
- slavery or practices similar to slavery

### What is worrying you?

You may be worried about:-

- your safety
- dealing with unfamiliar procedures and language
- speaking about very personal or intimate issues
- speaking to the police or the prosecution

- how people will react to you and what has happened
- coping with the physical and emotional effects of the crime

The Police and the Prosecution Service will treat you sensitively. We will not judge you or make assumptions about you. We want to find out what happened to you and to support you. We will try to help you.

**If you have any concerns about your safety, let the police or our staff know.**

### What happens if I report a crime?

The police will investigate your complaints and allegations thoroughly and sensitively. Being involved in human trafficking is a serious crime in Scotland. If there is evidence to support your allegation, the police will send a report to the prosecutor. In Scotland, the prosecutor is called the Procurator Fiscal. There are specialist prosecutors who deal with crimes of human trafficking.

### Will there be a prosecution?

The prosecutor will consider all the evidence and if there is enough evidence in law, it is likely that any person accused of a human trafficking crime will be prosecuted.

### **How will I find out if there will be a prosecution?**

The prosecutor will let you know if there is to be a prosecution and the crimes for which the accused is to be prosecuted. If, for any reason, it is decided not to prosecute, the prosecutor will offer to meet you to explain the reasons for this.

### **What if you decide not to prosecute?**

You, as a victim of crime in Scotland, have the right to a review of a decision by us not to prosecute, made on or after 1 July 2015. You should if possible apply for a review within one month of the date you are informed of our decision not to prosecute. Generally you would be told of the review decision within 20 working days. More information on your right to review is published on our website: [www.copfs.gov.uk](http://www.copfs.gov.uk)

### **What information will I get?**

There are Victim Information and Advice (VIA) staff in the Prosecution Service who will be able to provide you with information about how the criminal justice system works and what to expect.

Where a decision is taken to prosecute, VIA staff will keep you updated on the progress of your case.

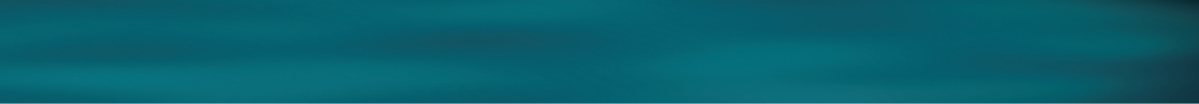
### **Can I get any other support?**

If your first or preferred language is not English, we can arrange for documents to be translated. We can also arrange for an interpreter to explain what is being said in court or to help you give evidence. This may be necessary even if you know enough English for everyday life.

VIA staff can also help you get in touch with organisations that can offer you practical and emotional support. Some of these organisations are listed at the end of this leaflet.

### **Will there be a trial?**

Where a decision has been made to prosecute and the accused pleads not guilty, a date will be set for a trial. If the accused pleads guilty there will not be a trial. VIA staff will explain to you how the court system works and will keep you informed of progress in the case.



### **Will the accused be kept in prison before the trial?**

The court decides what will happen to the accused before the trial. The court may order the accused to be kept in prison until the trial or it may allow the accused to remain in the community, if the accused accepts certain conditions known as bail conditions. The type of conditions that the court will require are that the accused is not allowed to intimidate or cause alarm or distress to you or any witnesses, or to come near you or where you live. If the accused breaks any of these conditions, you should contact the police immediately as the police can arrest the accused for a breach of any bail condition.

If the accused has been ordered not to approach or contact you, you must not approach or contact him or her.

### **I am worried about attending court**

VIA staff will explain the court process to you and will ask you if you would like to visit a court before the trial to get a better idea of what to expect.

We will also discuss with you any additional arrangements or support you might need, for example an interpreter when giving evidence or disabled access.

If you are worried about seeing the accused or their family or friends at court, we may be able to make arrangements to help with this.

### **I am worried about giving evidence**

You are entitled to special measures to help you give your evidence. These include:

- a screen in the courtroom. This means that you will not be able to see the accused person but you will still be able to see the judge, the prosecutor, lawyers and other court staff
- using a live television link. The link may be from another room in the court or from another building
- having a supporter in court with you. This means that you could have someone sitting with you, for example someone from a support organisation

The prosecutor or VIA staff will discuss the possibility of such measures if the case goes to trial.

