How can young people join the group?

Young people usually join the group after CTAC have worked on their case via a referral to our service for case work support. When the young person is safe and settled we may invite them to join the group, or you can contact us on behalf of a young person whose case we have not previously worked on.

We’ll then arrange to meet the young person with an existing group member. We’ll explain everything about the group and assess if it’s appropriate for them at that time. If the young person wants to join, and we think it will be beneficial to them, we’ll invite them to the next group meeting. We’ll ask them to come in a bit before the meeting so they can meet the rest of the team and have a look around the office. Someone is welcome to accompany the young person to the office but won’t be able to come into the meeting.

‘The group has enabled me to move on with my life’

Contact us

Telephone: 0808 800 5000
Email: help@nspcc.org.uk
Online: nspcc.org.uk/ctac
What is child trafficking?

Child trafficking is when children (under 18 years old) are moved for the purpose of exploitation. Children cannot consent to being exploited. Child trafficking is child abuse and requires a child protection response.

What is the NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice Centre (CTAC)?

The NSPCC CTAC is a multi-disciplinary team of social workers, an officer from the National Crime Agency and seconded officers from the Home Office. We work together to provide advice, guidance and training to professionals who are working with children where there are concerns for trafficking.

CTAC:
- Carries out a range of national and international work to try and prevent child trafficking from happening
- Works with other agencies to protect children
- Pursues adults who abuse children through trafficking

What is CTAC Young People’s Advisory Group?

The Young People’s Advisory Group is made up of young people from different countries around the world who have all been trafficked to the UK. Reasons group members were trafficked include sexual exploitation, domestic servitude and criminal exploitation.

We think it’s important for young people’s voices to be heard and for them to be involved in decision making, so that together we can raise awareness and help improve the situation for young people who have been trafficked.

Through sharing their experiences and advice, group members help professionals across the UK understand what to do to help children who have been trafficked.

How does the group work?

The group members meet every three months at the NSPCC office in central London to discuss the issue of child trafficking, give their views and opinions, and make recommendations.

Young people have the choice of being involved in other awareness raising activities, for example, they can provide information to inform research or media activities (this is anonymous); deliver training to professionals with the team and introduce new young people to the group.

Who can join?

There aren’t strict age limits for joining the group but members need to be living in a safe place and the age range is usually 16-24 years. There should not be any current concerns for trafficking or exploitation which could put the young person or other young people in the group at risk.

The group is not a support group; however, group members do receive informal support from each other and staff members. Former members of the group have said that the group helped them move away from feeling like a ‘victim’ to being an independent young person with a voice.