# A review of what works in multi-agency decision making and the implications for child victims of trafficking

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# What did we do and why?

Increasing child referrals into the NRM – and associated concerns.

Calls for an alternative NRM decision making model for children.

Awareness of existing multi-agency decision making models.

**Scoping review** including a rapid call for evidence and desk based research to identify models, followed by a **rapid evidence assessment** of four models.

**The review explored 7 key themes:**

1. The function of the model
2. Membership
3. Incorporation of survivor voices and the voice of the child
4. Training
5. Funding and resourcing
6. Information sharing
7. Governance

# What function should multi-agency decision making models have?

- Safeguarding + decision making
- Frequency of meetings and follow-up review
- Information sharing between agencies

| Recommendations for local safeguarding partners: | Recommendations for UK government: |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Decisions are made to attain the best interests of the child.<br>2. Devolved NRM decision making is intrinsically linked to local safeguarding structures.<br>3. Suitable information sharing protocols are in place to share information and support the best interests of the child. | 1. Set out in policy or guidance how relevant government departments incorporate the best interests requirement. |

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# Who should be involved?

- Core members and flexibility
- The role of the panel chair
- Survivor voices and the voice of the child

| Recommendations for local safeguarding partners: | Recommendations for UK government: |
| --- | --- |
| 4. A core membership of local safeguarding partners with the ability to incorporate other agencies or departments.<br>5. Facilitate the voice of the child within decision making, preferably seeking the active participation of ICTGs | 2. Ensure there are key competencies in place for the role of panel chair with consideration to independent chairs. |

# What else is important?

- Training and awareness raising
- Governance
- Funding

| Recommendations for local safeguarding partners: | Recommendations for UK government: |
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| 6. Regular training on child trafficking is provided for all local safeguarding partners involved using a tiered structure.<br>7. Situate the model within the governance structure of the strategic local safeguarding partnership. | 3. Develop national resources for devolved NRM decision making for children.<br>4. Conduct a new burdens assessment to determine the extra resources needed for devolved decision making.<br>5. Sufficient funding for local safeguarding partnerships to meet the demands of contextual safeguarding. |

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# Learning about what works

- A need for an independent, published evaluation.
- Outcomes for children should be considered.

| Recommendations for local safeguarding partners: | Recommendations for UK government: |
| --- | --- |
| | 6. Commission an independent evaluation of the pilot to test approaches ensuring that this measures impact by on the long-term outcomes for children. |

# Thank you