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CP&H Royal College of **Paediatrics and Child Health**

Leading the way in Children's Health

The Rt Hon Frank Field MP House of Commons London SW1A OAA

Sent via email to: rebecca.buxton@parliament.uk

02 March 2018

Dear Mr Field,

RE: Inquiry into long-term support for victims of modern slavery.

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) are pleased to see the launch of this inquiry into support for victims of modern slavery.

In response to the specific request for case studies demonstrating a lack of support, we would like to draw your attention to the case of 'Stephen'. We co-signed a joint letter, coordinated by ECPAT UK, to the Home Secretary about this case in January to express our concerns and urge the government to consider reforming the system of support (the National Referral Mechanism, NRM) for children.

The full letter and case study can be viewed online as part of reporting in the Independent.

The RCPCH would like to express our concern about the lack of support available for victims when they escape from slavery, particularly instances where the right to remain is refused, such as that of 'Stephen'.

We would like to express our support for young people who escape or are rescued from slavery and for granting them leave to remain if they so wish. This is why we have joined ECPAT UK and others in calling for the NRM for children to be reformed to ensure that children who are identified as victims of trafficking are entitled to proper, specialist support, including a durable grant of leave to remain in the UK.

In submitting this short letter we hope to demonstrate our support for this inquiry and would welcome further conversation on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Geoff Debelle

RCPCH Officer for Child Protection

Medeler

For further information please contact:

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