

**Exhibit 5999/1B**

**Child and Adult at Risk Protection Policy (Official Guidance)**

**Policy Aim**

This guidance sets out the Service's obligations where it obtains information that a child or adult at risk, is or may be the subject of physical or sexual abuse or other mistreatment.

For this purpose a "child" is a person under the age of 18. An "adult at risk" is a person aged 18 or over who has needs for care and support, is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect, and is unable to protect himself or herself against it. However, this guidance should be applied in all cases where information about abuse or mistreatment is received, not least because it may not be easy in any particular case to determine whether the victim is indeed a child or adult at risk.

The following guidance may also be relevant:

Any case in which there is a serious risk that a person detained overseas has been or will be subject to mistreatment by a liaison service should be dealt with under the LOSIA policy.

For general guidance on what to do if you receive information about criminal activity, see. (Note: that guidance applies where information indicates that a person has in the past committed physical or sexual abuse but there no longer appears to be a risk of them committing such abuse, e.g. because they are dead.)

**Audience**

The guidance is intended for all members of the Service.

**Issue**

During the course of your work you may receive information indicating that an individual is or may be the subject of **physical or sexual abuse** or other **mistreatment** (including slavery or human trafficking). The Service is committed to ensuring that information of this sort is dealt with properly. It is particularly important that action is taken where the information relates to a person who may not be in a position to take action themselves, such as a child or adult at risk. In more serious cases, we will be under a legal duty to inform the appropriate authorities. This guidance explains how cases of this sort should be handled. There are parallels with Intelligence about Threats to Life - The Service's Legal Obligations (Official Guidance).

**Table of Contents**

- The Criminal law
- Article 3 ECHR: "inhuman or degrading treatment"
- What does this mean in practice?
- What steps should we take in these cases?