Areas discussed and key points raised

1. Matters arising

JC confirmed that the Terms of Reference for the Forum have been finalised and are now posted on the Helpline website. The communications plan has also been finalised and circulated to forum members with the agenda for this meeting. The communications plan will be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains up to date.

2. Helpline Statistics

JC confirmed that the first edition of the quarterly stats for the Helpline are now almost finalised and ready for publication. The report relates to quarter 1 of 2017 (January 17 – March 17). Members were asked to comment on the draft provided. EA suggested including a summary page at the beginning of the report to highlight key points. AW and RF agreed this would be worthwhile, but from the next quarter, to highlight the similarities and differences between the stats for each quarter. EA suggested removing some of the detail as it would not be appropriate for a business audience. RF and JC explained that the audience for these statistics is much wider than business and a certain level of detail is expected.

JC also introduced the draft NHS ad-hoc report for comment. EA suggested that the report would benefit from a summary page for busy professionals who may only read an initial page. Forum members agreed that a summary page would be useful.
AP1  JC to include a summary page on the quarterly stats publication from quarter 2.  
AP2  JC to include a summary page on the NHS Ad-hoc report

3. Update from other agencies
RF updated the group on the intensification projects being run by the NCA to raise awareness of modern slavery and to identify potential victims. The NCA has recently focused on labour exploitation and will now turn its focus to sexual exploitation. The helpline is referenced in the NCA intensification project work as the single point of contact.

JB advised the group about the JSTAC initiative from the police designed to draw together information and intelligence from the police and others on modern slavery crime. JB suggested that it would be beneficial for the JSTAC lead to make contact with the Helpline and offered to provide the details of the relevant colleague.

PB gave a brief update on the work of the Met Police and agreed to issue the protocol for dealing with urgent calls to ensure that the Met police handle contacts from the helpline appropriately.

JN informed the group that the helpline number is being used as the primary point of contact for all statutory agencies and partners in Northern Ireland.

AP3  JB to provide contact details to JC for colleague in JSTAC.
AP4  PB to liaise with all Met Police SPOCs to ensure urgent calls are handled appropriately

4. Helpline vision document
JC provided the group with a high-level helpline vision document setting out how the helpline will change and evolve over time and how it intends to work with partners and stakeholders. EA asked how the helpline will work with business moving forward. AW said the helpline will work collaboratively with business wherever possible. The Helpline is already being financially supported by BT, Monsoon/Accessorize, and M&S, and receiving a huge amount of pro-bono support from Salesforce. The aim is to involve more businesses in developing a sustainable footing for the helpline by considering what services the helpline might be able to offer to business, in return for sponsorship or financial contributions.

5. Update from the NGO Advisory group meeting
JC gave a very brief update on the NGO Advisory Group meeting held on Monday 17 May 2017. The meeting focused on getting feedback from the members on what they would like included in regular statistical updates as well as input on the helpline’s protocols. In general, the group indicated that they wanted as much information as possible in relation to statistics. Expectations managed.

Date of next meeting(s): 12 September 2017, 24 January 2018