

Modern Slavery



Modern Slavery is the illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain. Victims are trapped in servitude, which they were deceived or coerced into, and cannot leave.

How does modern slavery happen?

Typically, a person coming from a situation of poverty and lack of opportunity gets an offer of an apparently good job in the UK. Often the victim has to take a loan from an agent to pay for the recruitment fees and for the journey.

When the person arrives in Britain, the job and the conditions they were promised are completely different. Their passport is taken away, and they're told they need to pay off the debt before they can leave. Violence or threats are common practice, both against the victim as well as their family back home.

Facts about slavery

- 40.3 million people are in modern slavery across the world
- 10 million children are in slavery across the world
- The UK Government estimates there are tens of thousands people in slavery in Britain today
- One in four victims of slavery in the UK is a child
- In 2017 police in Staffordshire rescued more than **50 victims** of modern day slavery
- Cases included individuals being exploited sexually, human trafficking and victims being used in cannabis factories.

Forms of Modern Slavery

- **Forced labour** - any work or services which people are forced to do against their will under the threat of some form punishment.
- **Debt bondage** - the world's most widespread form of slavery, when people borrow some money and are required to work to pay off the debt, then losing control over the conditions of both their employment and the debt.
- **Human trafficking** - involves people being transported into a situation of exploitation through the use of violence, deception or coercion. Purpose of exploitation can range from forced prostitution and forced labour to forced marriage and forced organ removal.
- **Descent-based slavery** – where people are born into slavery due to belonging to a 'slave class', caste or a group. A child of a mother in slavery is automatically enslaved too.
- **Child slavery** – defined as the delivery of a child by its parents or a guardian to someone else for the purpose of exploitation. Child slavery can include child trafficking, child soldiers, child marriage and child domestic slavery.
- **Forced marriage** – when someone is married against their will and cannot leave the marriage. Most child marriages can be considered slavery.
- **The exploitation of migrant workers** in conditions amounting to slavery

How to Spot a property where a victim of Modern Slavery may be held

Outside the property –

- Are there bars covering the windows of the property or are they permanently covered on the inside?
- Are the curtains always drawn?
- Do the windows have reflective film or coatings applied to them? – Does the entrance to the property have CCTV cameras installed? –
- Is the letterbox sealed to prevent use? –
- Is there any sign that electricity may have been tacked on from neighbouring properties or directly from power lines?

Inside the property –

- Is access to the back rooms of the property restricted or are doors locked?
- Is the property overcrowded and badly cared for?

Partners against modern slavery

Name of Organisation	Who they can help	Contact details
Modern Slavery Helpline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains Modern Slavery How to spot the signs Types of slavery How to report modern slavery How to get help Links to useful helplines	24 hour Helpline 08000 121 700 Online at www.modenslaveryhelpline.org
Anti-Slavery International	They work to end slavery around the world. Their website offers a range of support and information. Further details on the types of slavery are available here.	Tel: 020 7501 8920 Website: https://www.antislavery.org
West Midlands Anti Slavery Network	A network of agencies tackling modern slavery in the West Midlands and beyond.	Website: http://www.westmidlandsantislavery.org/contact/ Reporting form online
Human Trafficking Foundation	The organisation works with charities in the sector combatting human trafficking around the UK. They offer support and advise to victims	Tel: 020 3773 2040 Website: http://www.humantraffickingfoundation.org/
CrimeStoppers	Crimestoppers is encouraging those who may suspect that someone is being controlled and held against their will to speak out anonymously	Tel:0800 555 111 Website: https://crimestoppers-uk.org/in-your-area/west-midlands/staffordshire/tackling-modern-day-slavery-in-staffordshire/
Hope for Justice	Supporting victims of Modern Slavery and working to prevent exploitation	Tele: 0300 008 8000 Website: http://hopeforjustice.org/

How to report concerns:

To report suspicious behaviour you can call your local police on **101** or call **999** in an emergency. You can also make an anonymous call to Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**.

If you encounter a victim of slavery, you can refer them to the Salvation Army using their 24-hour helpline on **0300 3038151** or call the Modern Slavery Helpline **08000 121 700**.

If you are worried about a child, call the NSPCC helpline **0808 800 5000**.

What the law says:

In 2015, the Modern Slavery Act received royal assent in England and Wales. The legislation provides a framework to fight against both trafficking and modern slavery, bringing together new laws under one act for all types of exploitation.

From 1 November 2015, (updated 18th March 2016) specified public authorities have a duty to notify the Home Office of any individual encountered in England and Wales who they believe is a suspected victim of slavery or human trafficking. Tamworth Borough Council is compliant with section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and has a duty to notify the Secretary of State of suspected victims of slavery or human trafficking. A copy of the organisations 'Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement' can be found on our website.

Tamworth Borough Council

The Housing Solutions team are based at Tamworth Borough Council, they are available to give full advice on your housing needs and explain what options are available to you should you find yourself Homeless or threatened with homelessness.

Contact: Email: Housingsolutions@tamworth.gov.uk

Tel: 01827 709709.

If you are homeless and the council offices are closed, then you can contact the homelessness out of hours service on 01827 709709 and choose option 1. You should only use this service if you have nowhere to stay immediately.

Please visit our website for further information relating to safeguarding and Tamworth Borough Council's Modern Slavery Statement <https://www.tamworth.gov.uk/safeguarding>

Recognise it, Report it

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