

What is Modern Slavery?

When an individual is exploited by others for personal or commercial gain. Whether tricked, coerced or forced, they lose their freedom. Modern slavery is an umbrella term that encompasses slavery, servitude, forced/compulsory labour and human trafficking.

It involves the exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain. Victims are often trapped in abusive situations, unable to leave due to threats, debt bondage, or psychological manipulation. 49.6 million people across the world live in modern slavery — in forced labour and forced marriage. Roughly a quarter of victims are children.

Types of Slavery

- **Human Trafficking:** The use of violence, threats or coercion to transport, recruit or harbour people in order to exploit them for purposes such as forced prostitution, labour, criminality, marriage or organ removal
- **Forced Labour:** Any work or services people are made to do against their own will, usually under threat of punishment
- **Debt Bondage/Bonded Labour:** The most widespread form of slavery involving those trapped in poverty forced to work to pay off their borrowed debts
- **Descent-Based Slavery:** People treated as property as their status has been passed down the maternal line
- **Child Slavery:** When a child is exploited for someone else's gain, including trafficking, child soldiers, child marriage and domestic slavery
- **Forced and Early Marriage:** When someone is married against their will and cannot leave
- **Domestic Servitude:** Though domestic work and servitude is not always illegal, people are vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and slavery when working within another person's home

National Referral Mechanism (NRM): The NRM is a framework for identifying and then referring potential victims. An adult must consent or a best interest decision made if lacking capacity. The Single Competent Authority will make a declaration on if they are a subject of modern slavery. All local authorities can make referrals as first responders.

Possible Signs of Modern Slavery:

- **Isolation** — Individuals are rarely allowed to travel alone, don't interact with others, seem unfamiliar to the area, have questionable relationships with others
- **Restricted Freedom of Movement** — Don't possess travel documents, few personal possessions, wear the same clothes every day
- **Reluctance to Seek Help** — Avoid eye contact, appear frightened and hesitant, fear law enforcement, unable to fully trust others
- **Physical Appearance** — Signs of psychological abuse such as untreated injuries and appearing withdrawn, appear malnourished or unkempt, wear unsuitable clothes for work
- **Poor Living Conditions** — Dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation, working and living at the same address
- **Unusual Travel Arrangements** — Always dropped off and collected from work, travel at unsociable hours, children travelling in private cars or taxis in unusual places at unusual times

The National Modern Slavery Strategy 4Ps to tackle trafficking from end to end:

1. **Pursue** — Prosecute and disrupt those responsible
2. **Prevent** — Prevent engagement
3. **Protect** — Strengthen safeguards by protecting vulnerable people
4. **Prepare** — Reduce harm through victim identification and enforcement support

If you suspect someone is a victim of modern slavery...

- Do not confront the potential victim as it could put them in danger of more harm
- Call the Modern Slavery Helpline on 08000 121 700
- Call the police 999 for emergencies 101 non emergency
- Contact the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority on 0800 432 0804 or intelligence@gla.gov.uk
- Contact the local authority

Report it here : [Modern Slavery | Hull](#) or using the national gov website: [GOV.UK](#)