Modern Slavery: Protecting the Vulnerable

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What is Modern Slavery?

Modern Slavery is the illicit trade in human beings, turned into commodities to be bought, sold and exploited, with very little chance of prosecution for the perpetrators and horrendous human rights outcomes for the victims.

The Scale of Modern Slavery?

40-65 million people in modern slavery globally.

Estimated profits of $150 billion per year.

UK estimates between 10k and 136k people!

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Working towards a world without slavery

- **Supporting survivors and potential victims of slavery;** men, women and children
- **Informing stakeholders;** by providing training and awareness-raising, including with businesses and through secondary schools
- **Influencing systemic changes;** by working with the UK and international Governments

We also run the **UK-wide Modern Slavery Helpline**

UK-wide Modern Slavery Helpline

modern slavery helpline

08000 121 700

- UK-wide - we also take international calls
- **Confidential** and **independent**
- 24/7, 365 days a year
- Fully **trained specialist** staff
- Translation services
- Calls from potential victims, businesses, the public and statutory agencies, including the police for information, advice, and support
- Resource Centre – directory of services
- Referrals to the police, NGOs, and local authorities
- Central point of contact for all NCA campaigns and many police and other partner campaigns

In 2018…….

6,012 calls

1,323 online reports and **70** App reports

7,120 potential victims indicated from

99 different nationalities

Over 2,200 referrals to police and safeguarding (covering **all** police forces in the UK)

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What we see in the UK

Criminal exploitation for begging

Domestic servitude in private households

Forced labour in nail bars

Forced labour in restaurants/take-aways

Forced labour in car washes

Forced labour in fishing

Forced labour in manufacturing

Forced labour in construction

Sexual exploitation

Criminal exploitation for drugs

Forced Labour – Typical Sectors

Agriculture

Factories

Construction

Cleaning

Logistics

Hospitality

Care sector

Fishing and food processing

Vulnerability factors and Barriers

- Age
- Gender
- Economic status – poverty, homelessness
- Location - conflict, instability, social unrest
- Cultural norms and beliefs
- Limited opportunities-want of a better life
- Substance misuse
- Immigration status
- Afraid of authorities
- Unable to speak English
- No understanding of worker rights
- Voodoo/Juju
- Learning difficulties
- Debt

Signs of Modern Slavery

Five key signs of modern slavery

- Behaviour
- Appearance
- Movements/Restrictions
- Accommodation
- Treatment by others

There are many cogs……

Engaging with victims effectively

- Complex – look beyond the obvious
- Scared of authorities
- Won’t necessarily recognise themselves as victims
- People have different motivations
- Won’t necessarily divulge full story
- Inconsistent story
- Recognise potential trauma
- See if someone not in uniform can speak to the person
- Getting the full picture takes time
- Manage expectations (length of investigations/prosecution/process)

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First principles

- Collaboration is **key**
- NGOs are **not** and should not be quasi police
- **Multi** stakeholder partnerships are vital
- Don’t forget this is **all** about the money – it is an illicit commodity trade
- We **won’t** arrest or prosecute our way out of this
- Funding is scarce – so we need to **use** it wisely and strategically

“I freed a thousand slaves. I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves.”
– Harriet Tubman

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Thank you