

## **Fact Sheet - Modern Slavery**

### What is modern slavery?

The following definitions are encompassed with the term “modern slavery” for the purposes of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

These are:

**“Slavery”** is where ownership is exercised over a person.

**“Servitude”** involves the obligation to provide services extracted from any person under the menace of a penalty and for which the person has not offered himself voluntarily.

**“Forced or compulsory labour”** involves work or service extracted from any person under the menace of a penalty and for which the person has not offered himself voluntarily.

**“Human Trafficking”** concerns arranging or facilitation the travel of another with a view to exploiting them.

People experiencing modern slavery can be of any age, gender, nationality and ethnicity.

The signs of modern slavery are not always obvious, but Staffordshire Police have highlighted the following points that may be observed:

- The person is scared and withdrawn
- They have unexplained injuries
- No access to passport or other documents
- Limited contact with family or the outside world
- The person does not know their home or work address
- The person is distrustful of authorities
- The person may appear unkempt or have poor hygiene.
- There are signs that the person’s movements are being controlled
- The person allows others to speak for them even when addressed directly.

For more information, refer to the guidance on the Unseen website:

<https://www.unseenuk.org/about-modern-slavery/spot-the-signs/>

Anyone who is worried that someone may be the victim of modern slavery can call the Police on 101 or through the Live Chat system on the Staffordshire Police website. In an emergency, always call 999.

Modern Slavery & Exploitation helpline – Tel: 0800 0121 700

Any concerns of modern slavery for adults with care and support needs should also be raised with the Local Authority.

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive appropriate support.

Please refer to the National Referral Mechanism guidance for more information: [Click here](#)

Other organisations that can support:

**Hope for Justice** – <https://hopeforjustice.org/what-we-do/>

**The Medaille Trust** – a UK based charity that aims to provide refuge and freedom to victims of modern slavery.

Tel: 0800 06 999 16 (available 9am – 5pm Monday – Friday)

<https://www.medaille-trust.org.uk/>

**The Salvation Army** - The Salvation Army can provide a wide range of support for victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. This support ranges from counselling, medical treatment, translation and interpretation services.

Salvation Army Helpline (Adults 18+): Tel: 0300 303 8151

**Unseen** – A UK based charity that provides safehouses and support in the community for survivors of trafficking and modern slavery. Unseen also run the UK Modern Slavery and Exploitation helpline.

General enquiries – Tel: 0303 040 2888

Modern Slavery and Exploitation Helpline: tel: 08000 121 700 (available 24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year)

<https://www.unseenuk.org/>

**Voice of Hope** – a charity based in Staffordshire that raises awareness of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

Voice of Hope can offer free training packages on modern slavery to a range of services. See website for details [Voice of Hope | Putting an end to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking](#)

Tel: 07971 873595

E-mail: [enquiries@voiceofhope.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@voiceofhope.org.uk)

## **Criminal Exploitation**

Stop the Traffik defines criminal exploitation as a form of modern slavery that sees victims being forced to work under the control of highly organised criminals in activities such as forced begging, shop-lifting and pickpocketing, cannabis cultivation, drug dealing and financial exploitation.

Forced Criminality Flyer available from <https://stopthetraffik.org/criminal-exploitation/>