Demolish Slavery in Construction

Most construction workers are employed legitimately. But in 2016, 71 potential victims of modern slavery were identified as coming from the construction industry in the UK, though the real number of victims is probably much higher.

Through threats, violence or coercion, victims of modern slavery are forced to work for little or no money, live in squalid accommodation and have their identity documents taken from them.

If you employ staff for the construction industry, ensure you are doing so responsibly:

- Check all workers have a written employment contract and that they have not had to pay any fees to obtain work.
- Make sure staff are legally able to work in the UK. Can the recruitment agency prove that appropriate checks have been made?
- Make sure your workers know their statutory rights, including sick pay and holiday pay.
- Check the addresses of those working for you. A number of people listing the same address may indicate high shared occupancy, often a factor for those being exploited.
- Assess quotations and fees from agencies charging suspiciously low rates against standard industry pricing.

To find out how to protect your workers visit gov.uk/homeoffice/modern-slavery-information

To report any suspicions of slavery visit modernslavery.co.uk or call 0800 0121 700