

# MODERN SLAVERY

## What is modern slavery?

Modern slavery is a serious crime. It can affect people of all ages, genders, ethnicities, and nationalities including British citizens. It is often hidden, meaning that it can happen without anyone seeing it. It is where one person controls another for profit by taking advantage of them and keeps all or most of the money.

Some examples of crimes and unfair treatment that come under modern slavery:



- forced work.
- sexual exploitation (rape, assault, abuse, prostitution etc).
- slavery in the home.
- forcing people to commit crimes - begging, theft, shoplifting, cannabis farming etc.
- movement and storage of drugs, weapons, and money (County Lines).
- removal of human organs.

- ✓ **You** may have been persuaded to do something against your will, either by force or threats with little respect for your human rights.
- ✓ **You** may not realise you have been a victim; you may have been tricked or threatened and may have felt unable to leave or report the crime through fear or intimidation.
- ✓ **You** may believe that people who have controlled you are your friends.
- ✓ **You** may feel ashamed of how you have been treated or think it is your fault.
- ✓ **You** may think that you are too involved in order to step away from the people who took advantage of you in the first place.



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## Signs you may have been unfairly or ill-treated (exploited)



Working long hours.



Passport held by someone else.



Money withheld.



No keys/does not know address.



Forced drug/alcohol use.



Hungry/not enough food.



Mental trauma.



Money deducted from wage/pay for food.



Lack of possessions.



Pregnancy as a result of slavery/abuse.



Little or no safety equipment.



Difficulty communicating/understanding.



Isolation and observation.



Supervised/accompanied.



Limited access to medical care/strange injuries.

**Do you recognise any of these signs of modern slavery?**

## Support that can be offered to potential or confirmed victims of modern slavery



Legal aid for victims and access to Legal advice.



Medical care and counselling.



Help with food, clothing, and housing.



Translation/interpretation services.



Help to return to your home country if not a UK national.



Information and advice.



Access to the Modern Slavery Victim Care Contract (MSVCC) upon release from prison.

**During your time in prison, the existing services will provide you with access to support as you need it.**



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## Have you been a victim of modern slavery?



Speak to staff - this could be your Keyworker, wing officer, Offender Manager, chaplaincy, or anyone you feel comfortable talking to. You can do this in a private and safe space.



Staff will report this information to a First Responder Organisation who will conduct a private interview with you. This is to find out as much information as possible. If you agree, a referral will be made to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM).



The Healthcare team will talk to you to see if you need any extra support and help.



After around 5-7 days from being referred into the NRM, you should receive a decision. If you receive a positive 'Reasonable Grounds' decision, you will be a 'potential victim'. A member of staff will complete a 'Prisoner Needs Assessment' with you. This will help staff to identify any ongoing needs from modern slavery, including access to legal advice.



If it is found that you might be a victim, a caseworker will gather more information to make a second decision. They will look if there is enough evidence to confirm that you are a victim. This is called a 'Conclusive Grounds' decision.

