



Home Office

Finding victims of modern slavery – what can you tell us?

This is the easy read version of Identification of Victims of Modern Slavery: Call for Evidence

July 2025



The words in **bold** in the text are explained here

Call for evidence Finding out what people think, their ideas and experiences.

Modern slavery When people are being forced to work or do things for no or little money, and against their choice.

It includes sexual **exploitation**, forced labour inside or outside a home, and making people do other things that are a crime, such as shoplifting.

The victims can be men, women and children. They could be British or foreign nationals.

Exploitation **Exploitation** is when a person is treated unfairly by someone who benefits from their work. It can involve being groomed, forced or coerced into doing something.

Frontline workers People who refer victims of **modern slavery** to the National Referral Mechanism. They might be charity workers, local authorities or police.

Multi-agencies When different agencies such as the police and social services work together on issues like modern slavery

Introduction



The Government is going to improve the way that victims of **modern slavery** are found. They will make these changes over the next 5 years.



Victims will be recognised more quickly so they can be protected from abuse and given the support they need.



The Government wants to hear your ideas how they can make this happen.

What changes they want to make



More focus on the victims, making sure they are treated with dignity and respect. Make sure services remember that victims may already have had traumatic experiences.



Frontline workers are better at identifying victims. They understand the different ways victims can be exploited.



Victims are recognised early. Then they are protected from more abuse and get the services and support they need to recover.

The way people are identified will be flexible for changes in the future. For example the changing ways people are exploited.

What the Government wants to find out from this survey



1. The best way to describe victims of **modern slavery**, and if the description in 2022 law is still OK.



2. The best way to identify victims, especially by **frontline workers**.



3. How victims are formally identified as a victim of **modern slavery**.

How to take part in this survey



You can complete this survey between Wednesday 16 July to Wednesday 8 October 2025.



After the survey, the Government will put a report of all the responses on the Gov.uk website.



To take part, please fill in this survey. Then save it, and send it back by attaching it to an email to modernslavery.cfe@homeoffice.gov.uk



Or you can print it, fill it in and post it to
Identification of Victims of Modern Slavery
Call for Evidence
Modern Slavery Unit
Home Office,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 4DF



You can use the email address or postal address for any questions about this survey.



The Government wants to hear from anyone and these groups;

- Victims, survivors and people with lived experience of **modern slavery**
- Researchers and staff at universities
- Law enforcement
- **Frontline workers** to the National Referral Mechanism
- Charities and voluntary groups
- Local Authorities (in England, Wales, Scotland) or health and social care trusts (in Northern Ireland)
- Lawyers
- International organisations



The Government want to hear about people's experiences and ideas about what needs to change and good ideas that work.



The Home Office will also be talking with groups of survivors, **frontline workers** and the police. These meetings will be online and face to face.

Keeping your information private



Your information will be kept safely. You do not need to give personal information to take part, like your name and address.



After this call for evidence, we will publish a report on the Government website. It will only include the names of groups who took part and not individual people.

Help and support



If you think you or someone you know is a victim of **modern slavery**, you can have help and support.



Call 999 in an emergency.
If it is not an emergency you can call your local police station on 101.
Or phone the UK **Modern Slavery & Exploitation** Helpline (run by the charity Unseen) on 0800 0121 700 or [report it online](#)



The Government want to hear from survivors and people with lived experience of modern slavery. You do not have to give any details.



You cannot use this survey to report criminal activities or concerns about safeguarding. Any reports made in this survey will not be actioned.



The survey is anonymous – this means no-one will know you have completed it.

Please do not include any information what will identify you or another person.

For example by naming organisations where people go to or work at.

The survey



You do not need to answer all of the questions. Please answer the questions that matter most to you.



Q.1 How are you responding to this survey?

As a victim or survivor of **modern slavery**

As an academic

As a legal practitioner

As a UK based NGO

As a representative of an international organisation

As a representative of a law enforcement organisation

As a representative of a local authority

As a Parliamentarian

As an individual

Other (please specify)



Q.2 What organisation do you work for?



Q.3 Had you already heard of the UK's National Referral Mechanism for victims of **modern slavery**?

Yes

Do not want to answer

No

Unsure



Q.4 Where do you live?

England

Northern Ireland

Scotland

Wales

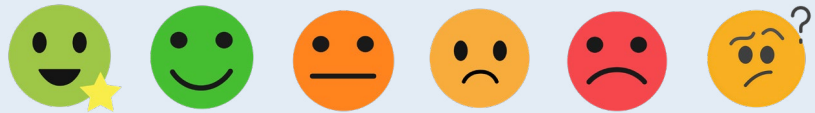
Overseas

If overseas, which country?



The term '**modern slavery**' is helpful for individuals and organisations, such as **first responders**, police and support providers, to understand who may be a victim.

Q.5a Do you agree with the statement above?



Q.5b Why have you chosen this answer?

Q.5c Are there other words you use to describe **modern slavery**? What are they and why do you use them?



There are signs that the police and others look for to decide if a person is a victim of **modern slavery**. These are some of them.

Victims may:

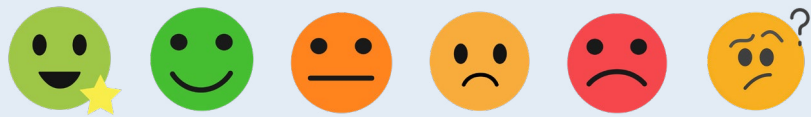
- Believe that they must work against their will
- Be unable to leave their work environment or home environment
- Feel that they cannot leave
- Show fear or anxiety
- Be found in a place likely to be used for exploiting people
- Not be in possession of their passports or other travel or identity documents, as they are held by someone else
- Receive little or no payment
- Work very long hours
- Not have any days off
- Live in poor housing
- Have no access to medical care



You can find more here in the **Modern Slavery** Statutory Guidance on the [Gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/modern-slavery-statutory-guidance).



Q.6a Do you think the full list of the signs in the **Modern Slavery** Statutory Guidance is helpful?



Q.6b Do you think there are any signs of **modern slavery** missing from the list?

Yes

No

Unsure

Do not want to answer



The Government want to know more about the types of **exploitation** that might affect children and adults.

Q.7 Can you tell us more about how frontline workers can understand more about:

Sexual **exploitation**

Criminal **exploitation**

Work **exploitation**

Other types, like organ trafficking or being a household servant

None



Q.8 Can you think of any other types of **exploitation** that are not listed above? What are they?



Q.9 Do you work for frontline services that can refer people into the NRM?

Yes

No



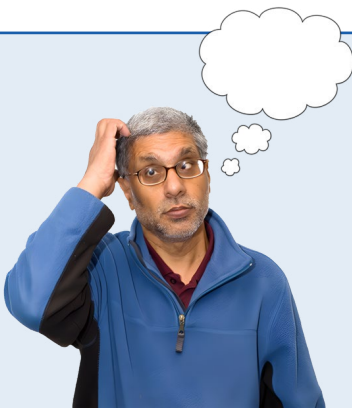
Q.10 Do you have any examples of good ways that organisations can recognise victims of **modern slavery** and help them to get help and support?



Q.11 Do you have any examples of good training to help workers recognise victims of **modern slavery** and help them to get help and support?



Q.12 What do you think can help victims and survivors of **modern slavery** feel safe and supported during the 1st meeting with professionals or services?

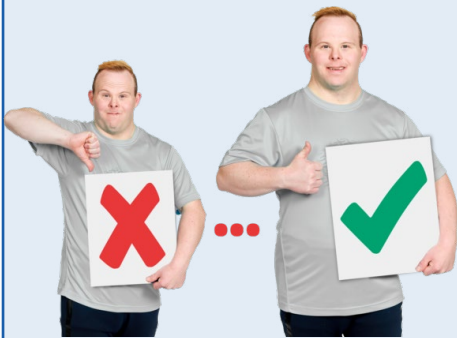


Decisions about who is a victim of **modern slavery** are made by organisations on behalf of the Government.

Q.13a What do you think can help victims and survivors of **modern slavery** feel safe and supported during the 1st meeting with professionals or services?

Please answer on the next page.

Q.13a



Q.13b What do you think are good and bad things about national organisations, such as government departments, making decisions about who are adult and child victims of **modern slavery**?

Q.13c What do you think are good and bad things about local organisations, such as councils, making decisions about who are adult and child victims of **modern slavery**?



Q.13d In **multi-agency** working, who do you think should be the top five organisations or professionals involved in making decisions about adult and child cases?

Please tick who should be involved.

Organisation/professional

Police/Law Enforcement

NHS/Healthcare Providers

Mental Health Services

Support Providers

Voluntary organisations and charities

Legal Aid Providers/Immigration Solicitors

Enforcement organisation

Home Office Representatives

Survivor or Lived Experience Representatives

As an individual

Other (please specify)



Q.13e Do you think that where people are exploited, for example overseas or in the UK, it makes a difference who can decide if they are victims of **modern slavery**?



Q.14a Have you been asked to provide information to help identify a victim of **modern slavery**?

Yes

No

Unsure

Do not want to answer

Q.14b If yes, did anything happen that made it easier for you to do this?

Q.14c If yes, did anything happen that made it harder for you to do this?



Q.15 At the moment, deciding who is a victim of **modern slavery** depends on two points:

- A Reasonable Grounds decision - this means the possible victim can be supported and protected while more information is found.
- A Conclusive Grounds decision - this legally decides that the person is a victim of **modern slavery** or human trafficking.

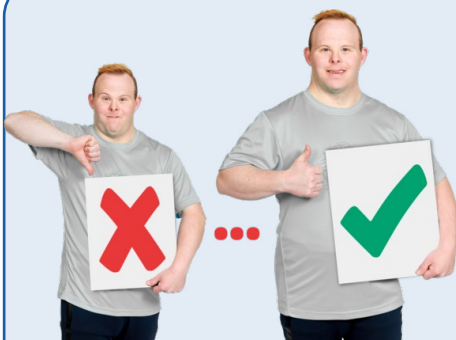
Do you think that having two decisions helps make sure that victims of **modern slavery** are correctly identified?

Yes

No

Unsure

Do not want to answer



Q.16 If you were a victim, how do you feel about the way you were identified?



Q.16 Do you or your organisation deliver support to people who might be a victim? If so what do you think about how the victims were identified?



Thank you for helping us by completing this survey. We are sorry but we cannot give you an individual reply.