

MODERN SLAVERY: Spot the Signs, Save Lives!

As someone on the frontline, you may come into contact with someone being exploited. Learn how to spot the signs and report concerns.

Spot the signs:

Modern Slavery is where someone's freedom is taken away in order to exploit or take advantage of them. Examples include: sexual exploitation, labour exploitation, domestic servitude and criminal exploitation.

INTIMIDATION AND COERCION

If a person:

- is always anxious or afraid
- is subjected to violence or threats
- has injuries that look untreated
- appears distrustful of the authorities
- is afraid of revealing their immigration status
- acts as if they were instructed by someone else

POOR WORKING AND LIVING CONDITIONS

If a person:

- lives and/or works in poor conditions
- is working against their will
- is paid little or nothing
- has no access to their earnings
- has no access to medical care

NO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

If a person:

- is unable to communicate freely
- allows others to speak for them when they're spoken to
- shows signs that their movements are being controlled
- is being forced to work to pay off a debt
- doesn't have their passport, travel documents or ID as someone is holding them

LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

If a person:

- doesn't have their ID or travel documents, or only has false versions
- can't speak the local language
- doesn't know their home or work addresses

***Please note that this is not an exhaustive list. If you see something you think isn't right, report it.**

DO:

Speak with your line manager

Take note of any identifying details (eg vehicle license plate, address).

Call the **modern slavery helpline** 08000 121 700 (National 24h Helpline)

If someone is in immediate danger, contact **999**

DO NOT:

Raise your concerns to the potential victim or to the potential exploiter.

What to do:

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Context:

- 10,627 potential victims of exploitation were referred to the government's support mechanism in 2019; the majority were **UK nationals**.
- For people living in exploitative conditions, they may be destitute, without documents, be **sleeping rough** or **living in squalor**.
- For someone in **domestic servitude**, they may be living with their exploiter while being abused and without adequate accommodation (eg sleeping on the floor).
- Exploiters are purposely targeting places **where vulnerable people tend to congregate** (eg homeless day centres). Have you noticed any vehicles observing the location you're working at or offering rides?
- **Exploiters use promises** of cash in hand work, alcohol, drugs, accommodation. They will find ways to ensure their victims don't escape, including using **fear of authorities** and insecure immigration status.
- Victims can be criminally exploited and be coerced into **gang activity** (eg drug running).
- Exploiters might speak the same language as victims and may be exploiting a group of victims, but are **reluctant to engage with staff and volunteers**.

[View a complete list of signs HERE](#)

Help us raise awareness and share this information where you volunteer!