

Working Together to Tackle Modern Slavery

18 October is Anti-Slavery Day

The aim of Anti-Slavery Day is for people in the UK to acknowledge that, despite the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade more than 200 years ago, men, women and children continue to be victims of the modern slave trade. The day helps to raise awareness of the dangers of modern slavery, including human trafficking and exploitation, and encourages people to be proactive in the fight against it.

What is Modern Slavery?

Modern slavery is a complex crime that takes a number of different forms. It encompasses child trafficking both internationally and domestically, forced labour with debt bondage, forced labour, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation. Modern slavery crimes are being committed across the UK and there have been year on year increases in the number of victims of modern day slavery identified in this country. These crimes are taking place in factories, fields, brothels and even in homes up and down the country. There is no typical victim of slavery - victims can be men, women or children of all ages and nationalities.

There are a number of signs which may suggest that an individual is a victim of modern slavery. There is no typical victim and some victims may not recognise or understand that they have been exploited.

Spotting the Signs

Indicators of Modern Slavery / Trafficking include:-

- Signs of being controlled and dependent - for example, they may act as if they are instructed or coached by someone else and / or allow others to speak for them when spoken to directly
- Fearful of police / authorities
- Fearful of the trafficker and fearful for the lives of family members
- Signs of trauma including psychological and physical
- Fearful of telling others about their situation
- Limited social interaction or contact with people outside their immediate environment
- Living in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation and / or living and working at the same address
- Not paid, paid very little or someone else in control of their earnings
- Perception of being in debt to someone
- No passport or someone else holding their passport / ID documents
- Signs of being harmed or deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care or other life necessities
- Children - alone, not related to adult carer, inappropriate clothing/behaviour

Making a Referral

If you suspect that someone is a victim of modern slavery in Staffordshire, help is available.

Staffordshire Police: 101

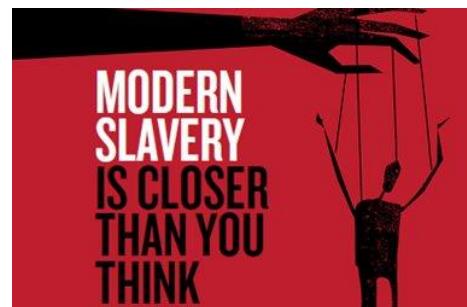
(In an emergency, dial 999)

First Response (Child Safeguarding):

0800 131 3126 (between 8am and 5.30pm and 4.30pm on a Friday)

0845 6042 886 (Outside of 8am and 5.30pm)

Modern Slavery Helpline: 0800 0121 700



N.B. Work is underway to develop a referral pathway for adults, which aligns with our existing adult safeguarding process. In the meantime, if you have concerns about an adult in relation to modern slavery, please telephone Staffordshire Police on **101**.