

MODERN SLAVERY

CLOSER TO HOME THAN YOU THINK



**Newham's Strategy for a Coordinated Community
Response 2022-2026**

WE ARE NEWHAM.

WHAT IS MODERN SLAVERY?

You might think that slavery is a thing of the past. But right now, almost 50 million people are trapped in slavery worldwide.

Modern Slavery is the illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain. Victims are trapped in servitude, which they were deceived or coerced into, and cannot leave.

DID YOU KNOW?

People can become enslaved making our clothes, serving our food, picking our crops, working in factories, or working in houses as cooks, cleaners or nannies. Victims of modern slavery might face violence or threats, be forced into inescapable debt, or have their passport taken away and face being threatened with deportation.

Modern slavery is all around us, including here, in Newham, often hidden in plain sight.

COMMON AREAS OF LABOUR EXPLOITATION



Making our clothes



Serving our food



Picking our crops



Working in factories



House cleaners



House cooks

OUR COMMITMENTS

Newham council recognises it has a responsibility to take stringent steps to tackle and prevent slavery and human trafficking. The organisation is committed to preventing slavery and human trafficking within its activities and to ensure its supply chains are free from slavery and human trafficking.

Newham Council is committed to:

- Identifying, referring and supporting victims of modern slavery and human trafficking
- Understanding potential modern slavery risks relating to our services
- Ensuring these offences are not committed through the delivery of our services or as part of supply chains.



OUR PRIORITIES

- A public awareness campaign led by our Communications team to educate staff, partners, residents, and businesses on Modern Day Slavery signs
- A training session for all Newham Councillors
- Promote NRM routes within Council services and increase website accessibility

Modern slavery is all around us, including here, in **Newham**, often hidden in plain sight.



- Work with partners to embed our strategy and priorities in organisations
Improve data, collection and insight on Modern Slavery.
- Work with the Private Rented Housing team to identify Modern Day Slavery victims
- Consider the Crime and Antisocial Behaviour Scrutiny Commission's recommendations on the Council's approach to modern slavery and incorporate them where needed

SPOT THE SIGNS OF SLAVERY

You probably see people who are in slavery on a regular basis. They don't have shackles, they might appear ordinary, but look closer and you might spot more worrying traits. What are the signs of slavery? Here are few signs to look out for.

Someone in slavery might:

- appear to be under the control of someone else and reluctant to interact with others
- have few personal belongings, wear the same clothes every day or wear unsuitable clothes for work
- not have personal identification on them
- not be able to move around freely
- be reluctant to talk to strangers or the authorities
- appear frightened, withdrawn, or show signs of physical or psychological abuse

- dropped off and collected for work always in the same way, especially at unusual times, i.e. very early or late at night.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SPOT THE SIGNS?

If you suspect that someone is in slavery, **DO NOT** confront them or cause a scene as this will likely lead to increased harm for them. Instead, inform relevant authorities or organisations working in the field.

If you are in the UK and suspect someone might be in slavery, you have several options:

Call the **Modern Slavery Helpline** on **0800 121 700** or fill out an online form.

Contact the **Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority** to report concerns about the mistreatment of workers on **0800 432 0804**, or by email **intelligence@gla.gov.uk**

Contact **Crimestoppers** on **0800 555 111**

Contact the **Police** on **101**

Contact **Anti-Slavery International**
email: **supporter@antislavery.org** /tel: **020 7737 9434**

www.newham.gov.uk