

SAEB Modern Slavery Bulletin | June 2026

Practical guidance, tools and learning resources to help professionals recognise modern slavery, respond to concerns, and take appropriate safeguarding action.



Modern slavery can be hidden in plain sight. Professional curiosity and timely action can help protect adults at risk of exploitation.

In this bulletin: key signs and indicators, what practitioners should do, local and national referral routes, practical tools, quick briefings, and learning resources.

Quick response guide

Emergency: Call 999 if someone is in immediate danger.

Non-emergency: Call 101 to report concerns to the police.

Advice: Contact the Modern Slavery and Exploitation Helpline on **08000 121 700** for confidential advice from 8am to 9pm daily.

Safeguarding: Follow your local safeguarding procedures where there are care and support needs, immediate risks, or concerns about abuse or neglect.

Who this bulletin is for

Who this bulletin is for: This resource pack is for practitioners who may come into contact with adults at risk of exploitation, including staff in health, social care, housing, community safety, mental health, criminal justice, and voluntary sector services. It brings together practical information, quick-reference tools and learning resources in one place.

Find everything in one place: All SAEB modern slavery resources, including guidance, briefings, tools, webinars and the Modern Slavery Checklist, are available on the SAEB website [here](#)

What is modern slavery?

Modern slavery is a serious form of abuse and exploitation. It includes human trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. It happens when a person is controlled, coerced, deceived or forced into a situation for someone else's gain. It may be hidden in homes, communities, care settings or workplaces, and people experiencing exploitation may not always recognise themselves as victims.

Signs and indicators to look out for

Key signs and indicators: Possible indicators of modern slavery may include a person appearing fearful or under someone else's control, limited freedom of movement, poor living or working conditions, no access to identification documents, long hours with little or no pay, injuries or signs of neglect, reluctance to speak, or another person speaking for them. Indicators should be considered in context and alongside professional curiosity.

Modern slavery can take many forms, including:

- **Forced labour** – being made to work for little or no pay, often in poor or unsafe conditions
- **Sexual exploitation** – being coerced, deceived or forced into selling sex or engaging in sexual activity
- **Domestic servitude** – being forced to work in a home environment with little freedom and little or no pay
- **Criminal exploitation** – being forced to commit crimes such as begging, theft, drug supply or other illegal activity for someone else's benefit
- **Organ harvesting** – the removal of organs for financial gain or exploitation

What practitioners should do

What practitioners should do: If you think someone may be experiencing modern slavery, do not wait for certainty before taking action. Focus on immediate safety, listen carefully, avoid placing the person at further risk, and seek advice where needed. Record concerns factually, consider consent and information sharing, and follow local safeguarding procedures alongside police and National Referral Mechanism processes where appropriate.

Local information and referral pathways

[Modern Slavery – Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea](#)

Local information about modern slavery, community safety and where to go for advice and support in Kensington and Chelsea.

[Modern Day Slavery and Exploitation – Westminster City Council](#)

Information on modern slavery and exploitation in Westminster, including local guidance and reporting routes.

How to respond to concerns

If someone is in immediate danger, call 999. If the situation is not an emergency, call **101** to report your concerns to the police.

You can also contact the Modern Slavery and Exploitation Helpline on 08000 121 700 for confidential advice from 8am to 9pm daily. This can help you think through what you have seen, what to do next, and what support may be available.

NEW KEY RESOURCE FOR STAFF ACROSS THE PARTNERSHIP

SAEB Modern Slavery Checklist

Newly produced for staff use across the partnership, this practical checklist has been developed by the SAEB to support professionals to recognise possible signs of modern slavery, ask the right questions, consider immediate risks, and take appropriate action with confidence.

[Download the SAEB Modern Slavery Checklist](#)

This practical tool is intended to support staff across the partnership in frontline practice, supervision, safeguarding discussions and decision-making. It provides a clear, accessible quick-reference resource to help identify possible modern slavery, strengthen professional curiosity, and support timely action.

National guidance and referral tools

Duty to Notify: Some public authorities in England and Wales have a legal duty to notify the Home Office when they identify an adult who they suspect may be a victim of modern slavery. For adults, consent is required for a referral into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). If an adult does not consent to an NRM referral, a Duty to Notify referral may still be required. Children do not need to consent and must be referred through the NRM.

[Modern slavery – GOV.UK](#)

The main government collection page bringing together current guidance, referral information, Duty to Notify information and wider modern slavery resources.

[Modern Slavery Victims: Referral and Assessment Guidance](#)

Government guidance on identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and human trafficking through the National Referral Mechanism.

[Report modern slavery as a first responder](#)

The online reporting route for designated first responders to make National Referral Mechanism referrals and complete Duty to Notify submissions.

[Modern slavery is closer than you think](#)

Home Office campaign resources, including posters, wallet cards, a briefing document and awareness materials that can be used in local campaigns and training.

Practical tools for frontline work

[Modern Slavery Self-Identification Tool \(SIT\)](#)

Developed by the Human Trafficking Foundation, this resource helps people recognise signs of exploitation and can support sensitive conversations about possible experiences of modern slavery.

[Domestic Servitude in Health Settings](#)

A one-page leaflet for health professionals to help identify domestic servitude and respond to concerns in a health setting.

Quick learning: SAEB 7-minute briefings

[Domestic Servitude: 7-Minute Briefing](#)

A concise overview of domestic servitude, key indicators and practical points for professional response.

[Cuckooing and Modern Slavery](#)

A short briefing exploring how cuckooing can be linked to exploitation and modern slavery, with signs to look out for and safeguarding considerations.

[Modern Slavery Checklist](#)

A quick-reference checklist to support identification, professional curiosity and safe decision-making when modern slavery is suspected.

[Sexual Exploitation: 7-Minute Briefing](#)

A brief introduction to adult sexual exploitation, including common indicators, risks and suggested responses.



[Upcoming Multi-agency Modern Slavery Training](#)

Two new multi-agency Modern Slavery Training dates are available for professionals working in or with the Bi-borough who may encounter victims of modern slavery in their work.

[Book here for 6th August](#)

Time: 10.00 – 12.30

Platform: Microsoft Teams

[Book here for 10th September](#)

Time: 10.00 – 12.30

Platform: Microsoft Teams

SAEB Learning webinars

[SAEB | Lunch and Learn Session on Modern Slavery in the Care Sector](#)

A webinar exploring how modern slavery can present in care settings and what professionals need to know to identify and respond to concerns.

[SAEB Lunch and Learn - Understanding Exploitation of Adults in the Sex Industry](#)

This short, informative webinar was delivered in March 2026 by the Bi-borough Modern Slavery Coordinator and Tamar, a charity supporting people in the sex industry across Westminster. It is designed to build awareness and confidence in recognising and responding to exploitation affecting adults.

Webinar spotlight

This session offers timely and practice-informed insight into adult sexual exploitation within the local context. It explores the support Tamar provides, what constitutes sexual exploitation, what the local sex industry looks like, key indicators that someone may be experiencing exploitation, and anti-oppressive, trauma-informed approaches to support.

Importantly, the webinar includes perspectives informed by lived experience of exploitation within the local sex industry. It recognises that levels of agency and choice within the sex industry vary, focuses specifically on adults, and clearly distinguishes between consensual sex work, modern slavery and exploitation.

Using this bulletin in practice

Using this bulletin in practice: This pack can be used in team meetings, supervision, safeguarding discussions, training sessions and reflective practice. You may find it helpful to use the checklist alongside the 7-minute briefings and webinar resources to build confidence, support professional curiosity and encourage informed decision-making.

For further information and action

Emergency: Call 999

Non-emergency: Call 101

Advice: Modern Slavery and Exploitation Helpline – **08000 121 700**

Use the tool: Download the SAEB Modern Slavery Checklist and use it alongside the briefings and webinar resources to support practice, supervision and team learning.