



One Minute Guide to Modern Slavery

What is this Guide for?

This brief guide is intended to help anyone working or volunteering with children, young people and families in Redbridge understand more about Modern Slavery and know how to make a referral if they have concerns about an individual.

What is Modern Slavery?

Modern Slavery is the umbrella term used for activities that involve an individual being held and/or compelled to deliver a service. It is happening across the UK and is impacting the communities here in Redbridge, and our neighbouring boroughs. It is a mainly unseen crime, hiding in plain sight in take-aways, hotels, car washes, nail bars, factories, and private homes. The Home Office predicts that there may be as many as 13,000 victims in the UK alone. It is a crime under the [Modern Slavery Act 2015](#).



Who is at risk?

There is no typical victim of slavery. Those affected can be men, women and children of all ages and different ethnic backgrounds and communities. It is, however, more prevalent amongst the most vulnerable, minority or social excluded groups.

Someone is in slavery if they are:

- Forced to work through mental or physical threat
- Owned or controlled by an 'employer', usually through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse
- Dehumanised, treated as a commodity or bought and sold as 'property'
- Physically constrained or have restrictions placed on their liberty

What are the signs?

It is important that we know and can spot the signs of Modern Slavery and identify someone who is being exploited. Victims may:

- Appear malnourished or unkempt
- Appear scared, avoid eye contact and be untrusting of others
- Show signs of abuse and/or have untreated health issues
- Be withdrawn, anxious and unwilling to interact
- Be under the control and influence of others

- Live in cramped, dirty, overcrowded accommodation
- Have no access or control over their passport or other ID documents

Where might victims be working?

Typical kinds of employment that victims may be forced into include:

- Factories and farm work
- Restaurants, particularly fast-food outlets
- Domestic service and hospitality
- Hand car washes and nail bars
- Sex industry

What should I do if I think someone might be a victim of Modern Slavery?

If you have concerns, please contact the [Modern Slavery Helpline](https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/) on 08000 121 700.

For adults, also contact the Local Authority via Adults.Alert@redbridge.gov.uk or by calling 020 8708 7333 – choosing Option 2 (Monday – Friday, 09:00 – 17:00) or out of hours in an emergency 020 8553 5825 (evenings, weekends, and public holidays).

If it is a child that is at risk, contact the Redbridge MASH by calling 020 8708 3885 (Emergency Duty Team 020 8708 5897) or emailing CPAT.Referrals@redbridge.gov.uk.

If you feel someone is in immediate risk, call the Police on 999.

How can I find out more about Modern Slavery?

There is a dedicated page on the [Redbridge Safeguarding Adult Board website](https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridge-safeguarding-adult-board/) on Modern Slavery and a page on child trafficking and modern slavery on the [Redbridge Safeguarding Children Partnership website](https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridge-safeguarding-children-partnership/).

