

Breaking Rural Exploitation and Modern Slavery

A resource to help raise awareness and prevent modern slavery
from being present in our rural communities

Rural Issues of Modern Slavery and Exploitation

Rural crime is much harder to spot because there are fewer eyes and ears observing than in an urban area

Victims of modern slavery can be hidden away in isolated and remote parts of the countryside in shoddy and poor accommodation



Pop-up brothels are being set up in holiday accommodations

County lines is an increasing presence in rural areas with increased incidence of cuckooing of vulnerable individuals and families

There has been a growth in hate crimes towards refugees, asylum seekers, and migrant workers in some rural areas. This makes it difficult for victims of modern slavery to seek help



It can be challenging to coordinate rural partnerships to work together to deal with issues of modern slavery because of geographical distances

What to Look for in Rural Exploitation and Modern Slavery

Accommodation

Isolated

Abandoned farm buildings, woodland areas, end of tracks, abandoned lay-bys, little or no access to clean water and sanitation.



Shoddy

Abandoned sheds and barns, old caravans, poor quality tents.



Appearance



- Look **malnourished** or unkempt
- **Nervous** and unwilling to engage in conversation
- May not be able speak much **English**
- Wear **no safety equipment** even for dangerous work
- Seem under the **control or influence** of others
- **Rarely allowed to travel** on their own
- Have **no ID** or passport.

Types of Rural Exploitation and Modern Slavery



Farm workers in labour intense crops

- Cannabis farms
- Daffodils/seasonal flowers
- Vegetables
- Soft fruits

Labour for construction

- Tarmac drives/block paving
- Construction sites
- Hidden by gangs in rural camps



Food processing and warehouses

- Field to processing plants
- Storage facilities

Pop-up brothels

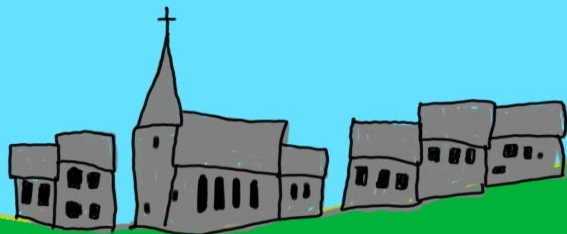
- Target holiday areas
- Block book weekends through legal websites
- Trafficked women supplied for the weekend from large urban areas



County lines

- Regular supply chain of drugs to rural area
- Regular network of distribution points via cuckooing

Who Can Look out for the Signs of Rural Exploitation and Modern Slavery



Hoteliers, self-catering owners, and cleaners need to be vigilant and report anything unusual to the police



The local population can play a key role in spotting things that don't look right



The local farming community and rural industries can play a key role, both in spotting things that seem unusual and checking the welfare and status of any contracted labourers



Raising awareness in our communities through posters, flyers, and social media...



SPOT THE SIGNS OF MODERN SLAVERY

APPEARANCE

- Show signs of abuse and untreated injuries.
- Appear malnourished, unkempt, withdrawn and/or neglected.
- Seem under the control or influence of others.
- Wear the same clothes every day.
- Wear no safety equipment even if their work requires it.

ACCOMMODATION

- Living in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation.
- Living and working at the same address.
- Appear unfamiliar with their neighbourhood or where they work.

TRAVEL

- Rarely allowed to travel on their own.
- Regularly collected and dropped off early in the morning or late at night.
- In a crowded minibus with other workers.
- Have no control of their identification documents such as their passport.

SEEKING HELP

- Reluctant to seek help and avoid eye contact.
- Appear frightened or hesitant to talk to strangers.
- Fear of the police, don't know who to trust or where to get help.
- Afraid of deportation, and of the risk of violence to themselves or their family.

Get help, report a concern or seek advice

If someone is in immediate danger call the police: **999**
Report **non-emergency** suspicious activity to your local police on: **101**
To report a crime anonymously call Crimestoppers on: **0800 555111**

ASK FOR ADVICE BY CALLING:

The Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline: **08000 121 700**
The Salvation Army: **0300 3038151**
NSPCC CTAC (in cases of children): **0808 800 5000**

This is a slavery
free



Community



• THE CLEWLEY
INITIATIVE

QR Link to Website

