

## WHAT IS MODERN SLAVERY & HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

**Modern slavery** is an umbrella term for activities involved when one person obtains or holds another person in: compelled service. 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 his/her freedom

**Human trafficking** is the movement of people by means such as force, fraud, coercion or deception, with the aim of exploiting them. It is modern slavery.

These three elements all form part of trafficking:

- The act: recruiting, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons
- The means: force, fraud, coercion, deception
- The purpose: exploitation

Human trafficking is a crime. It does not always involve international transportation. Victims include those transported around the UK into exploitative situations, those born into servitude, or those who escape a trafficker before being exploited.

## INTRODUCTION TO UNSEEN

Unseen was established in 2008 in response to the realisation of how wide spread the problem of trafficking was in the UK and worldwide.

Unseen's purpose is to work towards a world without slavery. We combine a micro and macro approach so that we both support exploited people and tackle the systemic issues of slavery. The expertise and insight gained through this approach help us perform effectively across all of our work. We focus on three main areas as we work towards a world without slavery:

**Supporting survivors and potential victims of slavery;** by providing access to a range of specialist services, enabling them to safely recover and develop resilient, independent lives

**Equipping frontline professionals;** by providing training, advice and resources to facilitate the identification and support of potential victims of slavery

**Influencing systemic changes;** by using our experience and research to impact and inspire transformation across legislation, policy and society

## RESETTLEMENT, INTEGRATION & OUTREACH SERVICE (RIO)

RIO offers a range of services for survivors, whether they are transitioning from our 24-hour safe accommodation and need support to resettle and integrate into local communities, or whether they need outreach support rather than emergency accommodation whilst awaiting their conclusive grounds decision. The service offers on-going support, practical and emotional assistance to victims of slavery and trafficking.

We work alongside survivors to identify their needs and assist them to access:

- Immigration and asylum assistance
- Legal assistance
- Emotional and mental health services
- Physical health services
- Understanding benefits
- Housing and practical support
- Building safe relationships
- Budgeting and money management
- Education services – learning English
- Training and volunteering services
- Building community
- Faith and spirituality
- Leisure activities and hobbies

**10,000-13,000**  
ESTIMATED TO BE IN SLAVERY IN THE UK



## POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FUNDING

Unseen have been awarded funding by the Police Commissioner to run a pilot across the Avon and Somerset Police Force area.

This funding allows RIO to expand the services we offer to frontline staff and agencies and the support we can offer potential victims.

As part of the pilot we are providing the following services:

- Provision of training to frontline agencies across Avon and Somerset
- Accompanying law enforcement visits across the region to engage with potential victims
- Provision of on-going information and advice to frontline staff and agencies on trafficking as they encounter potential victims
- Monitoring the number of victims of trafficking found across the region as a result of the pilot and the outcomes for them
- Expansion of the provision of outreach/resettlement services to victims across the Avon and Somerset Force area



If you believe someone is in imminent danger please call the Police (999).

If someone is a victim of trafficking and requires immediate support please call The Salvation Army on 0300 303 8151

## WHAT CAN RIO OFFER FRONTLINE STAFF?

If you think you may be working with a potential victim of slavery or trafficking you are able to contact the RIO Team for assistance, via email or phone. They will be able to offer advice and assist you with information about:

- Trafficking and slavery generally
- Indicators to be looking for
- The government's National Referral Mechanism (NRM)
- Services and support your client can access and may be entitled to
- The process of entering the NRM and support it affords people
- Accessing language specific resources
- Best practice when engaging with a potential victim

Staff may also be able to offer face-to-face support to you and your client if appropriate.

When you make an enquiry, a member of our Team will follow this up within 72 hours to take further information from you and to discuss how we can help.

The Team will then follow up with you 4 weeks post your initial enquiry to be able to monitor and record outcomes, this will be done via phone and take no more than 15 minutes.

## CONTACT THE RIO TEAM

✉ [rio@unseenuk.org](mailto:rio@unseenuk.org)

☎ 0300 0200 290

🌐 [www.unseenuk.org](http://www.unseenuk.org)



**RIO SERVICE**  
**WORKING TO FIND**  
**SOLUTIONS FOR**  
**VICTIMS OF**  
**TRAFFICKING**