



**Slavery can happen anywhere.**

**Could you spot the signs?**



Controlled by someone?

Bruised, scared or anxious?

Fare paid on their behalf?

**...signs that someone travelling  
in your taxi could be a victim of  
slavery or exploitation.**

Call the Modern Slavery Helpline  
on **08000 121 700** if you have  
concerns about someone.



**HERTFORDSHIRE**  
Modern Slavery Partnership

**Modern Slavery** is where someone's freedom is taken away in order to exploit or take advantage of them. Examples include:

- **Sexual exploitation**, such as being forced to have sex with people, maybe in return for gifts or money.
- **Forced labour**, where someone is made to work, often for little or no pay. Jobs or places of work can include fast food shops or car washes – but not only these.

**Modern slavery affects men, women, girls and boys of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities.** Criminals can use threats, violence or deception to trap victims into slavery. Even if someone is being paid, it can still be exploitation.

**Criminals can use taxis to move exploited people from location to location.** Please consider these questions:

- Do clients appear to be controlled by a minder? Is someone speaking or paying on their behalf?
- Are you concerned about children or young people being moved from location to location?
- Do passengers seem inadequately dressed, fearful, or have bruises?

**Other general signs of exploitation to consider:**

- **Physical or psychological abuse**, including neglect or lack of food. Appearing anxious, withdrawn, submissive or avoiding eye contact.
- **Living and working in poor conditions**, such as dirty, unsafe or overcrowded locations. Maybe they are paid little or nothing or work too many hours.
- **They appear isolated or controlled by others.** Their movement or activities are restricted by someone; maybe their passport or other documents are missing or controlled by their 'employer'.
- **Reluctance to seek help**, fear of authorities or deportation, in debt to someone, or lacking in knowledge about their whereabouts.

**What you should do:**

- If you believe someone is being exploited or the victim of criminal activity, you can report your suspicions to police by calling **101** or via the website **[www.herts.police.uk](http://www.herts.police.uk)**.
- Or if you prefer, you can report your concerns to the independent, charity-run **Modern Slavery Helpline on 08000 121 700**. Victims can also call this number for help.
- Always call 999 if someone is in immediate danger.

**By reporting your concerns, you will be enabling police to investigate and potentially free someone from exploitation and abuse.**



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