



## Modern Slavery Act fact sheet

- In the ten years since the passing of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, there has been a year-on-year increase in the number of people being exploited through human trafficking and modern slavery.<sup>i</sup>
- It's estimated that there are around 130,000 victims of trafficking in the UK.<sup>ii</sup>
- Over 19,000 potential victims of Modern Slavery were referred to the National Referral Mechanism last year alone.<sup>iii</sup>
- The Home Affairs Committee heard Evidence<sup>iv</sup> on the Tenth Anniversary of the Modern Slavery and the effectiveness – or ineffectiveness – of the implementation of the Act. There are examples of robust support and advocacy for victims across the country but the regional disparities and variation in funding means many are still being let down.
- The House of Lords Modern Slavery Act 2015 Committee said last year, “*There is substantial opportunity now for the new Government to take action and make the UK world-leading in the battle against modern slavery once again*”.<sup>v</sup>
- One route to reducing demand for trafficking for sexual exploitation would be to introduce the so-called Nordic Model to prosecute those purchasing sexual services. MPs have the opportunity to vote for the Nordic Model during the upcoming debates on the Crime and Policing Bill.

For more information, contact: [press@care.org.uk](mailto:press@care.org.uk) / 07384467819

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<sup>i</sup> Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner: [Strategic Plan 2024-2026](#) Presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 42 (10) (a) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, January 2025, pg.5

<sup>ii</sup> House of Lords Modern Slavery Act 2015 Committee, [The Modern Slavery Act 2015: becoming world-leading again](#), Oct 2024, p3

<sup>iii</sup> Modern Slavery: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify statistics UK, [end of year summary 2024](#), March 2025

<sup>iv</sup> <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/bfef7ee6-dbf7-4731-b579-d58816794792>

<sup>v</sup> House of Lords Modern Slavery Act 2015 Committee, Op. Cit., page 32