

MAKE IT  
SLAVERY FREE



THE CLEWER  
INITIATIVE

[www.theclewerinitiative.org/  
slavery-free](http://www.theclewerinitiative.org/slavery-free)





## SLAVERY FREE CHURCHES

Our Anti-Slavery Day campaign 2022 is called Make it Slavery-Free. It is a call for all of us to make our homes, churches, businesses and communities slavery-free.

So what will it mean for a church to become slavery-free?

There are many different elements to consider. Here are some initial ideas:

- 1 Enrol key individuals on safeguarding training:** churches need to be able to identify signs of exploitation and modern slavery in their midst and know the right steps to take to safeguard and protect an individual if they have concerns. Without this foundational knowledge, you won't be able to care appropriately for the vulnerable people you come across or safeguard your social action projects and volunteers from unscrupulous criminal gangs.
- 2 Slavery-proof existing projects:** Use the knowledge gained from safeguarding training to make sure you have processes in place to safeguard vulnerable people in your social action projects. Do your volunteers know what to do if they have concerns? Is there a clear plan in place? Could you put on some bespoke training? Are there people in your midst who you think are particularly susceptible to being targeted?
- 3 Signposting:** Do you have posters in key places signposting potential victims to available support? Is the Modern Slavery Helpline number clearly visible around your church? Is the Safe Car Wash app known about in your congregation? Download [posters from The Clewer Initiative](#) to raise awareness and ensure the signs of modern slavery are front of mind
- 4 Purchasing decisions:** Are there Fairtrade alternatives to the products you currently buy? Search for suppliers who can guarantee that slavery is not present in the supply chain.



- 5 **Contractors:** If your church is looking to do some building work or get a tradesperson in, remember to consider the welfare of workers. Choosing the cheapest quote is not always the wisest idea. Cheap might mean workers are being exploited. If your church employs a cleaning company, take time to talk to the cleaners and hear their stories. If you have suspicions that they are not working freely or being paid or treated properly, report them to the [GLAA](#).
- 6 **Run a film night to raise awareness:** We have a range of videos about different aspects of modern slavery available on our [YouTube](#) channel. Why not run a [Women in the Shadows](#) film night to raise awareness of how modern slavery affects women and girls?
- 7 **Map your community:** Who is at particular risk of modern slavery? What threats are on your doorstep? Is there a local hand car wash? Are there lots of farms, construction sites, factories, nail bars or a thriving night-time economy nearby? Where do young people hang out? What do you know about county lines in your area? What could you do as a church to meet some of the needs of your community? Our [Hidden Voices methodology](#) guides you through the process of mapping your community and gives you the framework required to run anti-slavery projects.
- 8 **Be a catalyst:** What modern slavery charities exist locally? What is already established in your community that your church could support / get behind? Could you gather the Police, schools, churches and other community organisations to discuss Make it Slavery Free? The church is present in all communities, think about how you can connect with key local stakeholders. [Find out what is already happening in your diocese](#).

We're here to support you. Visit our website for [resources](#) or get in touch with us at [clewerinitiative@churchofengland.org](mailto:clewerinitiative@churchofengland.org).