**Modern Slavery Prevention Fund – Statement of Outcomes**

**Background**

The Home Office is seeking to award grant funding to support the delivery of the UK Government’s commitment to eradicate the scourge of modern slavery and human trafficking in the UK. One of the government's current objectives to address modern slavery is to prevent people from becoming victims and to reduce the harm caused by modern slavery through improved victim identification.

Modern slavery crime causes immense harm to both the individual and society. [Home Office research](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729836/economic-and-social-costs-of-modern-slavery-horr100.pdf) on the economic and social cost of modern slavery estimates the average unit cost of a modern slavery crime to be £328,720, with emotional harms to victims representing the largest component of this cost. Preventing modern slavery before it happens is one of the most effective ways to reduce the harm it causes to individuals and society, as well as reducing downstream costs.

Several of the government’s current modern slavery policies have a preventative effect e.g., measures which require business to address slavery in supply chains necessitate preventative action. In addition to these measures, the Government has supported bespoke prevention interventions such as modern slavery awareness raising campaigns in targeted populations, training interventions, and worked with industry bodies and businesses to help increase resilience against this crime and reduce public tolerance of exploitative behaviour. However, there remains an evidence gap on what prevention activity is most promising/effective.

**Purpose of the Funding**

This funding will seek to deliver up to seven targeted interventions focused on preventing modern slavery in the UK. The interventions will help build the evidence base for where we can make the greatest impact.

Potential prevention activities may cover, but are not limited to the following types of intervention:

* Awareness campaigns to help specific communities identify victims of modern slavery.
* Educational initiatives to train frontline workers / employers to spot the signs of modern slavery.
* Joint-working initiatives supporting multi-agency partnerships to prevent modern slavery.
* Collaborations with industry to tackle modern slavery.

**The Funding**

In total the fund makes £675,000 available to run targeted prevention interventions in the UK over a grant period of November 2021 to March 2022. Proposals must set out the total amount of funding sought, and the intervention activity must be completed by 31 March 2022.

The minimum amount to be granted to an organisation will be £75,000 and the maximum £150,000. We envisage funding up to a maximum of seven interventions. Organisations can make only one application each as the lead bidder but could participate in a second bid as a delivery partner. This means one organisation could be involved in up to two bids totalling up to £300k, but only as the lead bidder in one of the bids.

Bidders will need to take a [typology](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-typology-of-modern-slavery-offences-in-the-uk) informed approach and proposals must set out which type of modern slavery activity is targeted at preventing. The four types are modern slavery are: labour exploitation, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, or criminal exploitation, and constitute:

* Labour exploitation: usually involves unacceptably low pay, poor working conditions or excessive wage deductions, but is not solely about this. To constitute modern slavery, there will also be some form of coercion meaning that victims cannot freely leave for other employment or exercise choice over their own situation. Where the perpetrator is taking advantage of a child or vulnerable person, an offence can be committed without the element of coercion.
* Criminal exploitation: is the exploitation of a person to commit a crime for someone else’s gain. For example, victims could be coerced into shoplifting, pickpocketing, entering into a sham marriage, benefit fraud, begging or drug cultivation such as cannabis farming.
* Sexual exploitation victims are coerced into sex work or sexually abusive situations. This includes child sexual exploitation. Victims may be brought to the UK on the promise of legitimate employment or moved around the UK to be sexually exploited. In some cases, they may know they will be involved in sex work but are forced into a type or frequency they did not agree to.
* Domestic servitude typically involves victims working in a private family home where they are ill-treated, humiliated, subjected to unbearable conditions or working hours or made to work for little or no pay. The victim could be used in this way by their own family members or partner. It is very difficult for them to leave, for example because of threats, the perpetrator holding their passport, or using a position of power over the victim.

We recognise that preventing modern slavery in the UK may require action at both domestic level as well as working upstream in key source and transit countries to prevent some forms of modern slavery from occurring. We will, therefore, consider funding upstream interventions in non-ODA eligible countries by organisations based in the UK, which demonstrate how activity will impact on modern slavery in the UK.

There remains an evidence gap about what works to prevent modern slavery and we need to further improve our prevention understanding. The lack of evidence on what prevention interventions are effective are negatively impacting Home Office’s ability to conduct effective targeted prevention. A factor often raised for this evidence gap is the fact that interventions are often not routinely monitored or evaluated. The lack of an evaluation has made it difficult to assess what are effective interventions and best practice. The Home Office will appoint an evaluation research partner to evaluate the fund and the individual interventions funded. This will involve an independent committee being established to oversee the evaluation and ensure robust data is collected to determine whether the intervention is effective. As a condition of the grant, successful bidders will be required to engage with the Home Office and evaluation partner, which may involve:

* Conducting interviews with stakeholders involved in the interventions.
* Reviewing data provided by organisations.
* Other reasonable actions to support the evaluation as required.

**Planned payment dates**

The model of payment would be subject to final agreement with successful bidders. We anticipate that organisations would be paid in 2 monthly or 3 monthly intervals, with the final payment on completion of the project at the end of the financial year in March 2022.

**Key deliverables**

The primary impact of the fund will be to **improve and help build the evidence base of what activity is the most promising in preventing modern slavery.**

We anticipate that funded organisations will also **achieve one or more of the following secondary outcomes:**

* Increased awareness of modern slavery in targeted area/ community/sector.
* Reduced prevalence of modern slavery in targeted geographical area and sector.
* Reduced level of re-trafficking in targeted geographical area and/or sector.

Our pre-market engagement has helped us further refine the fund by increasing our understanding of the range of secondary outcomes we can expect to be delivered under the umbrella of prevention interventions. We now have a clear range of sectors which are likely to be targeted through funding awareness programmes and training. It has also given us a firmer standing on timescales and predicted costs for running such interventions.

Bids must include a draft theory of change which will outline what secondary outcomes will drive the work and how the planned activity will deliver both the primary and secondary outcomes. The HO will appoint a partnered evaluating organisation, who will help to set measurable KPIs. Bidders will be expected to provide a progress report to the Home Office at the halfway point of the grant to assess delivery against planned activity.

Bids will be expected to set out a risk assessment of how Covid-19 measures may affect their work and demonstrate what would be done differently through alternative deliverables or mitigation plans.

**Eligibility**

Bids can be either singular or in collaboration but must be put forward by a lead who can be the accountable body on the behalf of the partnership. A bidder can be the lead in only one bid but could participate in a second bid as a delivery partner.

We intend to assess bids against the following criteria:

* Description of the innovative and/or evidence-based prevention activity they will be piloting.
* Evidence of why prevention activity has been targeted towards a specific modern slavery typology in a geographic area/sector/other.
* Identified target audience with clear insight evidencing why the approach will be effective for this audience.
* Inclusion of a theory of change document to demonstrate how planned outcomes will be delivered.
* Clear timeframe for delivery.
* Clear plans for evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of the intervention.
* Description of how evaluation of the activity will be used to inform future activity, for example could the activity be scaled up and expanded.
* Demonstration of how value for money will be achieved.
* Outline of how General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) will be met.

[**Indicative Timetable**](https://ukhomeoffice.sharepoint.com/%3Ax%3A/s/PROC1219/EaIcnIFRhBNDlCpcizteWR4B0kISzyKaXM8dDNKxOBm9Yg?e=jysqMy)

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| **ACTION** | **Owner** | **DATES** | **Status** |
| **Commercial Grant Processes** |  |   |   |
| Early Market Engagement |  MSU | 15-Aug-21 - 31-Aug-21 | Complete |
| Statement of Outcomes |  MSU | 13-Sep-21 | Complete |
| Tiering Tool |  MSU | 13-Sep-21 | Complete |
| Business Case SRO Approval |  MSU | 14-Sep-21 | Complete |
| Business Case Approval | Grants Hub |  07-Oct-21 | Complete  |
| Legislative Authority (LA) Form (HMT) |   |   |   |
| LA Approval | Accounting Ops Unit |   |   |
| **Competition** |  |   |   |
| Advert placed on Contract Finder | Commercial | 08-Oct-21 |   |
| Open for Applications |   | 08-Oct-21 |   |
| Clarification period opens |   | 08-Oct-21 |   |
| Clarifications period closes |   | 25-Oct-21 |   |
| Final response to Clarifications issued |   | 27-Oct-21 |   |
| Deadline for receipt of completed applications |   | 4pm on 08 Nov 2021  |   |
| Evaluations & Recommendation |   | 15 Nov 2021 |   |
| For Information Note to Ministers on funding decisions |   | 17 Nov 2021 |   |
| Notification of decision |   | w/c 22 Nov 2021  |   |
| Finalised and signed LAA |   | w/c 22 Nov |   |
| Grant Agreement and Supporting Documents sent out to successful applicant(s) for signature |   | w/c 27 Nov 2021  |  |