

CATHOLIC ANTI-SLAVERY FORUM DECLARATION:

We, Catholic organisations working to confront modern slavery and human trafficking in England and Wales,

Affirming:

1. That every human being has inherent and equal dignity;
2. That modern slavery and human trafficking in all its forms are assaults on human dignity;
3. That where human dignity is under attack, Christian solidarity demands that we defend it;

Acknowledging:

4. That no one organisation can defeat exploitation within the UK or beyond;
5. That in order to best serve those who have suffered exploitation or at-risk of exploitation, we must foster a culture of profound collaboration and trusting partnership;

Further acknowledging:

6. Our common commitment to the Four P paradigm, addressing modern slavery and human trafficking through prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership;
7. The organising principles of Catholic Social Teaching, from which we draw our desire to pursue a pastoral approach, rooted in prayer, seeking always to empower a local response wherever appropriate;

We commit to confronting these crimes together, by;

8. Exploring ways of collaborating, flowing from our shared vision, which may include, but are not limited to:
 - 8.1. Advocacy;

- 8.2. Awareness raising;
- 8.3. Efforts to encourage slavery-free supply and consumption;
- 8.4. The development of shared resources;
- 8.5. The pursuit of joint projects where possible and appropriate;
- 8.6. Consideration of how to improve the efficiency of our operations through collaboration;

We further commit:

- 9. To approach this partnership with generosity, trust and openness, especially in our communications with one another;
- 10. To overcome any spirit of competition;
- 11. To be mindful of the life-changing work already achieved, and of the need to build upon existing initiatives where they are already addressing our common vision, not to duplicate or re-create unnecessarily;
- 12. To share credit, not looking to elevate any single organisation or individual;
- 13. To be mindful of one another's complementarity and unique gifts.