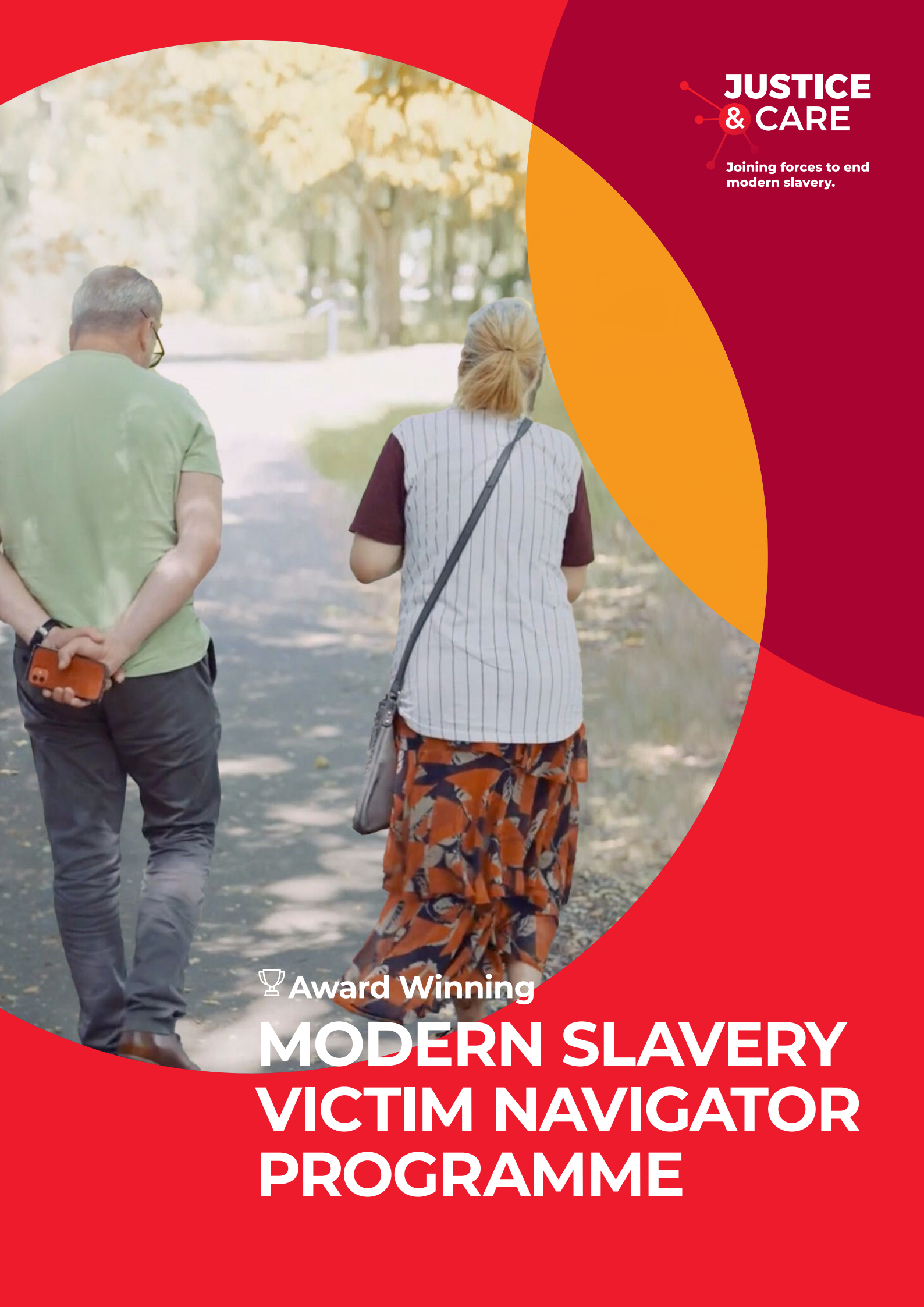




**JUSTICE
& CARE**

Joining forces to end
modern slavery.

 Award Winning

MODERN SLAVERY VICTIM NAVIGATOR PROGRAMME

Summary

Justice and Care is an international NGO committed to **joining forces to end modern slavery. We work to free men, women and children who have been trafficked and brutally exploited in slavery and empower them to rebuild their lives.**

We work alongside police and border force teams to dismantle the criminal networks responsible and support communities at risk. Everything we do is about collaboration. We translate our frontline experience and expertise into large-scale, replicable change, partnering with governments and key stakeholders to change the policies and systems that allow slavery to thrive.

Modern slavery is flourishing in the UK and is prevalent in communities across the country. For example, consider the case of Susan, a British grandmother whose home was taken over by a drug gang that physically abused her and forced her into criminality. Stories like Susan's are happening on an epic scale. Globally, 49.6 million people are exploited in modern slavery on any given day, including 122,000¹ individuals here in the UK. While anyone could become a victim, 2023 statistics revealed that British nationals have been the most impacted.² Many suffer severe trauma and physical injuries, while the criminals continue to act with impunity: in 2022 10,199 modern slavery and human trafficking offences were recorded, yet only 114 charges were made.³

The Justice and Care Solution

The Victim Navigator programme was created in response to shockingly low conviction rates and operates on one main principle: **to ensure traffickers are brought to justice, it is critical**

to prioritise survivor care. Survivor engagement with police is strongly and systematically correlated with improved investigative and criminal justice outcomes. Only **44%** of survivors without a Victim Navigator engage with the criminal justice process, compared to more than **93%** of survivors with a Navigator.⁴ Over the past five years, Navigators have supported over 600 survivors with highly complex needs and seen over 50 exploiters convicted, with many more in the pipeline.

Our programme has been independently evaluated, with the final report demonstrating that it is improving lives and directly improving criminal justice outcomes. The Home Affairs Select Committee has also endorsed the programme, recommending its expansion and use in all modern slavery cases.⁵

What is the current picture in London?

Of the survivors we have worked with in the last year:

- **72%** have been exploited in sex work
- **19%** in forced labour
- **6%** in forced criminality and
- **4%** in domestic servitude.



Award Winning Thomson Reuters Stop Slavery Awards

2020 For our Bangladesh work
2022 For our UK Navigator Programme

Third Sector Awards

2020 Winner, Breakthrough of the Year Award
2023 Finalist, Charity of the Year and Charity Film Award

US State Department

2022 Global Hero In The Fight Against Human Trafficking Award, for Tariqul Islam, Justice and Care's Bangladesh Country Director

Smiley Charity Film Awards

2023 Highly Commended Charity Film

Police Scotland Tayside

2023 Partner of the Year Award

The Charity Awards

2024 Highly Commended, Social Care, Advice and Support category

¹ Unseen, 2024

² National Referral Mechanism, 2023, 25% increase over the last four years

³ UK Home Office, 2023

⁴ Across all time figures

⁵ February, 2024

Key Features of the Navigator Programme

- Specialist care and comprehensive support for victims including: shelter, food, compensation, providing access to counselling, legal advice, medical treatment, coordinating international repatriations and supporting the police with rescues
- Tactical advice: including shaping investigations, reopening field cases by connecting new evidence, advising on strategy and joining the dots across forces
- Advocacy: acting as a trusted bridge between victims and police, putting traffickers behind bars and helping survivors create a bright future for themselves
- Systemic Change: including training for key policing leaders and agencies, lesson shaping to shape national strategy with partners such as the Home Office

Key Outcomes of the Navigator Programme

- 93% of survivors supported engaged with police investigations
- 82% of survivors supported demonstrated progress in their recovery and rehabilitation
- More than 90% of frontline stakeholders trained (e.g. police officers and border guards) have reported improved knowledge when handling cases and supporting victims
- National training programme to reach 10,000 members of UK Border Force developed
- Victim cards across UK points of entry produced and distributed
- Guidance leaflets for international workers in the care sector widely distributed



“

The Victim Navigators' work has been nothing short of exceptional, and I put the fact that complainants have been able to give evidence as solely down to support offered by [the Victim Navigators].

Detective Sergeant Stuart Jack,
Met Police Modern Slavery and
Child Exploitation Unit

2023: UK Key Statistics⁶

- **262** survivors supported
- **2,363** frontline professionals trained
- **9** exploiters convicted, with combined jail sentences of 126 years
- **28** victims removed from exploitation
- **£59,000** compensation awarded to survivors

⁶ Statistics from the 2022-23 year.



Operation *Ballet*

This is an exploitation case with the Metropolitan Police Force in Enfield that Justice and Care's Victim Navigator has been supporting since January 2020. The case saw traffickers target vulnerable homeless men and women from the Czech Republic, enticing them to the UK with the promise of work, pay and a better way of life. However, upon arrival the reality was very different. The victims were not paid for the long hours they were forced to work, and lived in squalor. For at least one victim, exploitation came in multiple forms, from domestic servitude to forced prostitution.

Our Victim Navigator provided essential wraparound support and care, and her support has been essential in keeping the survivors engaged after the trial was delayed multiple times. As one of the survivors said: "You are my angel, always helping me. When I have a problem, I know to call you."

In May 2024, thanks to the work of Justice and Care and the Metropolitan Police, the four defendants were found guilty on all charges. While they await sentencing, we are celebrating positive developments, including a group of survivors meeting up for the first time and one celebrating their graduation.

"You are my angel, always helping me. When I have a problem, I know to call you."

Why your support has never been more needed:

Modern slavery continues to be the fastest growing crime in the world, a hidden presence in London and impacting some of the most vulnerable people in our communities. We know that the only way to end it is by working together.

We have proven that the Victim Navigator model works and currently have 12 specialist Navigators deployed across the UK. On average, one Victim Navigator costs us £80,000 per year.⁷ We are seeking partners to help cover these costs and support survivors in your local area.

Let's Join Forces Today.

For more information, please contact Meghan at:
meghan.wimlett@justiceandcare.org

   @justiceandcare

⁷ Total cost.