Background and rationale

This study explored UK-based non-policy interventions intended to prevent sexual or labour exploitation among adults in the UK. Although the broad remit of the study was the prevention of modern slavery, these parameters were refined to make the study fit within a defined time frame. This need was driven by a policy 'window of opportunity' to inform prevention strategy in the UK. The Home Office's Modern Slavery Strategy was being re-shaped at the time of the study and there was heightened demand to understand 'what worked'. It was also recognised that the evidence base on the impact of prevention initiatives was limited both in terms of its quantity and quality in the UK. As such, the project was designed to draw together insight on 'what looked promising' in this field.

Summary of methods

We used Rapid Evidence Assessment methods for the research comprising three main components: 1) A systematic review of the literature, including evaluations not published in peer-reviewed journals (the ‘grey’ literature), 2) A survey of prevention interventions across the UK, and 3) A series of Consultation Panel (CP) discussions with survivors and organisations working in counter-slavery.

The study was approved by ScHARR Research Ethics Committee (reference 043361).

Systematic literature review

A prospective protocol for the systematic review was published on PROSPERO (reference CRD42021281966).

Results

The main body of the results is reported in the report Prevention of adult sexual and labour exploitation in the UK: What does or could work? We included 33 empirical evaluative papers in the review (see Figure 1 for the PRISMA diagram). Included evaluative studies are identified in Table 1.

Please contact the authors for further detail about the methods employed in the study.
Figure 1 PRISMA 2020 flow diagram

Identification of studies via databases

Records identified from all databases:
- ASSIA (n = 1410)
- HMIC (n = 51)
- IBSS (n = 999)
- MEDLINE (n = 230)
- Scopus (n = 840)

Records removed before screening:
- Duplicate records removed (n = 555)

Records screened (n = 2775)

Reports excluded (n = 2694)

Reports sought for retrieval (n = 94)

Reports not retrieved (n = 16)

Reports assessed for eligibility (n = 78)

Reports excluded:
- Population (n = 7)
- Country (n = 2)
- Intervention (n = 15)
- Evidence (n = 34)
- Clinical intervention (n = 2)

Included studies:
- Studies included in review (interventions) (n = 33)
- Studies included for theory (n = 19)

Identification of studies via other methods

Records identified from:
- Open Grey (n = 47)
- Internet trawl (n = 37)
- Relevant journal hand searching (n = 18)
- Personal recommendation (n = 4)

Reports sought for retrieval:
- Open Grey (n = 47)
- Internet trawl (n = 37)
- Relevant journal hand searching (n = 18)
- Personal recommendation (n = 4)

Reports not retrieved (n = 0)

Reports excluded:
- Relevance (n = 52)
- Population (n = 1)
- Country (n = 2)
- Intervention (n = 8)
- Evidence (n = 8)
- Date (n = 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Journal/Grey Thesis</th>
<th>Type of exploitation</th>
<th>Intervention type</th>
<th>Study type</th>
<th>Methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ahn et al.</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Human Trafficking: Review of Educational Resources for Health Professionals</td>
<td>American Journal of Preventive Medicine</td>
<td>Modern slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Education and training (e.g. professionals)</td>
<td>Systematic review</td>
<td>Systematic review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balch</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Fresh start. Integrating survivors of modern slavery</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Modern slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Wider determinants intervention (e.g. housing, employment) One-to-one victim support e.g. counselling</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Process Evaluation Qualitative methods Document analysis (weekly client review data)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balch et al.</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>The Co-op’s Bright Future programme: An independent Interim Review</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Sexual exploitation Labour exploitation</td>
<td>Wider determinants intervention (e.g. housing, employment)</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Qualitative methods Process evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balch et al.</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Bright Future. An independent Review</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Sexual exploitation Labour exploitation</td>
<td>Wider determinants intervention (e.g. housing, employment)</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Before &amp; after (no comparison) Qualitative methods Documentary analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birks and Ridley</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Evaluating student knowledge about sexual exploitation using an interprofessional approach to teaching and learning</td>
<td>British Journal of Nursing</td>
<td>Sexual exploitation</td>
<td>Education and training (e.g. professionals)</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Before &amp; after (no comparison) Qualitative methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Braham</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Being a ‘professional friend’: an exploration of the functioning and impacts of health navigation to improve access to healthcare for migrant women</td>
<td>Doctoral thesis</td>
<td>Modern slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Befriending, navigator interventions</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Case study evaluation Qualitative methods Documentary analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brewster</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Collaborating to Identify, Recover and Support Victims of Modern Slavery</td>
<td>Journal of Modern Slavery</td>
<td>Sexual exploitation Labour exploitation</td>
<td>Partnership intervention</td>
<td>Empirical descriptive</td>
<td>Qualitative methods</td>
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<td>British Red Cross</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Hope for the future. Support for survivors of trafficking after the National Referral Mechanism</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Sexual exploitation Labour exploitation</td>
<td>Casework intervention</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Before &amp; after (no comparison) Case study evaluation Qualitative methods</td>
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<td>Cagney et al.</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Pre-NRM Accommodation Experiences of Survivors of Modern Slavery</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Modern slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Safe place intervention (e.g. safehouses)</td>
<td>Empirical descriptive</td>
<td>Qualitative methods Intervention development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarke</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Police officers’ understanding of human trafficking in Kent: investigation, training and knowledge</td>
<td>Master’s thesis</td>
<td>Modern slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Education and training (e.g. professionals)</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Before &amp; after (no comparison)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cordis Bright</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Effectiveness of anti-slavery training and survivor care pathway: Final evaluation report</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Modern slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Education and training (e.g. professionals) Partnership intervention</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Analysis of secondary data Cross sectional survey Case study evaluation Qualitative methods Process evaluation Literature review Documentary analysis Intervention development</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Study on Prevention Initiatives on Trafficking in Human Beings</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Modern slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Education and training (e.g. professionals) Awareness campaign One-to-one victim support e.g. counselling</td>
<td>Systematic review of literature</td>
<td>Qualitative methods Systematic review Documentary analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fraley et al. 2020 Systematic Review of Human Trafficking Educational Interventions for Health Care Providers Western Journal of Nursing Research Modern slavery/human trafficking Education and training (e.g. professionals) Systematic review of literature Systematic review

Garbers et al. 2021 Impact of mobile technology for survivors of modern slavery and human trafficking: A mixed method study Grey Modern slavery/human trafficking Technology-enabled intervention (e.g. Apps) Empirical Before & after (no comparison) Qualitative methods

Stop the Traffik/Human-kind 2019 Harnessing the power of social media: Digital disruption of human trafficking in Lithuanian communities Grey Labour exploitation Technology-enabled intervention (e.g. Apps) Empirical Before & after (no comparison) Qualitative methods

Idris 2017 Interventions to combat modern slavery Grey Modern slavery/human trafficking Education and training (e.g. professionals) Non-systematic review of literature Literature review

Long et al. 2020 Evaluation of the modern slavery Local Authority Pathway pilots. Research report 119 Grey Modern slavery/human trafficking Safe place intervention (e.g. safehouses) Wider determinants intervention (e.g. housing, employment) One-to-one victim support e.g. counselling Access to services intervention Advocacy intervention Empirical qualitative methods

Malfait & Scott-Flynn 2020 Evaluation of the Working English North project Grey Labour exploitation Education and training (e.g. professionals) Practical support interventions (e.g. ESOL) Empirical qualitative methods Process evaluation

Metcalfe & Selous 2020 Modern slavery response and recognition training The Clinical Teacher Modern slavery/human trafficking Education and training (e.g. professionals) Empirical Before & after (no comparison)

Murphy et al. 2018 Independent Review of Caritas Bakhita House Grey Sexual exploitation of women Safe place intervention (e.g. safehouses) One-to-one victim support e.g. counselling Empirical qualitative methods

Rights Lab/iASC 2017 Collaborating for freedom: anti-slavery partnerships in the UK Grey Modern slavery/human trafficking Partnership intervention Empirical Cross sectional survey Qualitative methods

Sachrajda 2008 POPPY Project Outreach Service. A review of work to date: January–September 2007 Grey Sexual exploitation of women Safe place intervention (e.g. safehouses) Peer-based intervention Advocacy intervention Outreach Empirical qualitative methods


Stop the Traffik 2018 Fenland campaign evaluation Grey Labour exploitation Awareness campaign Empirical qualitative methods

Stop the Traffik 2019 Lithuanian communities campaign 2019. Full evaluation report Grey Labour exploitation Education and training (e.g. professionals) Awareness campaign Empirical qualitative methods

Stop the Traffik 2020 Impact Report January 2019 - August 2020 Grey Modern slavery/human trafficking Education and training (e.g. professionals) Supply chain intervention Partnership intervention Empirical qualitative methods Cross sectional survey Intervention development
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authors and Year</th>
<th>Project/Study Title</th>
<th>Focus Area</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Study Design</th>
<th>Methodology</th>
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<td>Tomás 2020</td>
<td>The Passage anti-slavery project 2018/20</td>
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<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Process evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trautrim et al.  2021</td>
<td>The UK construction and facilities management sector's response to the Modern Slavery Act: An intra-industry initiative against modern slavery</td>
<td>Business Strategy and Development</td>
<td>Supply chain intervention &quot;intra-industry alliance&quot;</td>
<td>Empirical descriptive</td>
<td>Participatory “Action research” Intervention development</td>
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<tr>
<td>van Dyke with Brachou 2021</td>
<td>What Looks Promising for Tackling Modern Slavery: A review of practice-based research</td>
<td>Grey slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Education and training (e.g. professionals) Supply chain intervention Safe place intervention (e.g. safehouses) Awareness campaign Advocacy intervention Casework intervention</td>
<td>Non-systematic review of literature</td>
<td>Literature review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walby et al. 2016</td>
<td>Study on comprehensive policy review of anti-trafficking projects funded by the European Commission: Final Report</td>
<td>Grey slavery/human trafficking</td>
<td>Perpetrator intervention Supply chain intervention Awareness campaign Technology-enabled intervention (e.g. Apps) Partnership intervention</td>
<td>Empirical evaluative</td>
<td>Analysis of secondary data Documentary analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walby et al. 2016</td>
<td>Study on the gender dimension of trafficking in human beings</td>
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<td>Safe place intervention (e.g. safehouses) Wider determinants intervention (e.g. housing, employment) One-to-one victim support e.g. counselling Peer-based intervention Access to services intervention Advocacy intervention Befriending, navigator interventions Partnership intervention Casework intervention Outreach</td>
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References