

5 Key recommendations and indicators of progress



International Day For The Elimination of Racial Discrimination

21st March 2022

In commemoration of the UN International Day for the elimination of Racial Discriminations, the UK BME Anti-slavery network (BASNET) have put together 5 key recommendations and Indicators of progress focusing on 5 key areas of the modern slavery and human trafficking sector.

At BASNET, we believe there is still more work to be done to eradicate racial inequalities, and as a sector, we must continue to invest in the provision for equality and diversity across board. It is unacceptable that instances of harassment and discrimination continue with more prevalence for Black, Asian and minority ethnic victims and survivors of modern slavery and trafficking, especially those from foreign countries.

Through collective efforts, The UK Modern Slavery and human trafficking sector will benefit tremendously from racial inclusion and diversity especially in service design and delivery for victims and survivors from ethnic minority backgrounds. More must therefore be done to ensure representation from affected communities and survivors to enable them to contribute their lived experiences to research and policy development .

To mark the day, we are re-echoing some of the recommendations and indicators of progress shared in our Race Equality, Diversity and Inclusion action plan. We hope these will continue to ignite the political and moral will to ensure that the sector is more inclusive and that we are developing culturally appropriate services to support victims and survivors. We also hope that these will continue to generate the much needed conversation, with the needed pressure to lead to effective implementation.



About BASNET:

The UK BME Anti-Slavery Network (BASNET) is a project of AFRUCA and is the first network in the UK and in Europe dedicated to promoting equality, inclusion and diversity in the anti-trafficking and anti-slavery space.

Our Network members are registered charities or community interest companies working in diaspora communities affected by modern slavery.

For more information visit www.bmeantislavery.org

5 Key Recommendations

Promoting Race equality, diversity and inclusion within the UK modern slavery and human trafficking sector



As we mark International Day for the elimination of Racial Discriminations, the UK BME Anti-slavery network (BASNET) have put together 5 key recommendations focusing on key areas of the sector. These recommendations are drawn from the BASNET Race EDI Action Plan. We hope these will continue to generate a much needed conversation, political and moral will leading to effective implementation.

Identification and Service provision for Survivors



Mandatory for all anti-trafficking service providers to adopt the Survivor Care Standards. Inspection of safehouses should include external monitoring of compliance with Survivor Care Quality Assurance EDI component

Law Enforcement



Review of police policy/ approach to working with modern slavery victims so it is more humane and culturally appropriate.

Access to Care and Support from Local Authorities



The Modern Slavery Training Standard framework should include mandatory training for all local authority housing staff and decision makers on cultural intelligence, intersection of trafficking; race, religion; gender and sexuality; equality, diversity and inclusion.



Immigration and legal provision

The Judiciary should establish a robust system for handling survivor complaints about legal malpractices, especially in relation to racism and racist behaviour.

Engaging Affected communities



As part of central and regional governments' modern slavery strategies, equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) working groups should be established as platforms for dialogue and contribution to the policy making process.

Visit www.bmeantislavery.org to download the full action plan

5 Key Indicators of Progress

Promoting Race equality, diversity and inclusion within the UK modern slavery and human trafficking sector



To help the sector gauge the scope and magnitude of our collective efforts, the UK BME Anti-slavery network(BASNET) has also put together key indicators of progress focusing on key areas of the sector. These indicators are drawn from the BASNET Race EDI Action Plan. We hope these will continue to generate a much needed conversation, political and moral will leading to effective implementation.

Identification and Service provision for Survivors



The National Referral Contractor and sub-contractors should work towards the establishment of a Survivor Care Quality Assurance mechanism with EDI as a core component. This could be done in partnership with the Care Quality Commission.



Law Enforcement

Police constabularies and Police and Crime Commissioners should set up review panel of modern slavery survivors to share their experiences and provide insight into police approaches.



Access to Care and Support from Local Authorities

All local authority staff in contact with survivors of human trafficking and modern slavery should undertake yearly training on modern slavery, cultural intelligence, equality, diversity and inclusion.



Immigration and legal provision

Establish an Independent Ombudsman to address Survivors/Victims complaints of racism and other equality issues.



Engaging Affected communities

Mayors of major cities (London, Manchester, Birmingham) should establish EDI or BAME working groups as part of their anti- trafficking strategies

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