



hope at
home



safe homes for survivors of slavery

STRATEGIC PLAN

2023 – 2026

Foreword

By Jared Hodgson, CEO



It's estimated that there are at least **100,000** people trapped in slavery in the UK at any one time. (*Justice and Care, "It Still Happens Here" report*).

In 2021, **12,727** people were identified by the UK government as being possible victims of human trafficking.

Many of these people are falling through the gaps in support systems and are left without a safe place to live. This leaves them highly vulnerable to further exploitation and we know that worldwide 35% of people are re-trafficked (*Global Slavery Index*).

At Hope at Home we provide safe homes for survivors so that with a roof over their heads and the right support in place, they have the chance to rebuild their lives.

We are looking forward to you joining us on this journey.

WHAT DO WE DO?

At Hope at Home, we believe that no survivor of slavery should ever have to sleep on the streets.

We offer innovative accommodation options in collaboration with other organisations, preventing homelessness and re-trafficking.

VISION

Safe homes for all survivors of Modern Slavery.

MISSION

Providing safe homes for survivors of modern slavery by offering a range of innovative accommodation options in collaboration with other organisations.

OUR VALUES

EXCELLENCE

1

We strive to be professional, honourable and full of integrity in our work.

PERSON-FOCUSED

2

People are important to us. We will always value the needs of individuals and care for them in a way that seeks to meet those needs.

HONOURING

3

We will always think the best of others and will be respectful in the way we treat and speak about them, understanding they are valued and bring a unique contribution.

COLLABORATIVE

4

We recognise the benefits of building partnerships with others in order to end human trafficking. Their expertise and input are important to us and we actively seek them out.

AMBITIOUS AND PIONEERING

5

We want to see all survivors of Human Trafficking in the UK offered a safe place to live. We are innovative and will create new solutions until we see our aim achieved.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY 'SAFE HOMES'?

The feeling of safety is subjective. However, after consulting with our guests they have described a safe home as having some or all of the following components:



"But I think the most important thing it's, it's very safe. So, when I go to bed I don't shake, I'm not scared to think of what's going to happen. Is it going to be noisy tonight or not? It's like a family...I just feel I am a member of their family because they care."

Guest comments

CURRENT UK ACCOMMODATION OVERVIEW FOR SURVIVORS

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is the UK government's framework for support and identification of potential victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

Adults identified as potential victims can, with their consent, be entered into the NRM and then will be entitled to access to a wide range of specialist services to meet their individual needs including safehouse accommodation. However, not all survivors will be allocated this and if they are eligible for other forms of housing these may be used (eg asylum support accommodation or Local Authority housing).

The number of safehouse accommodation spaces is not publicly available however, our data has shown that we are increasingly receiving referrals for people (61% of referrals between April and November 2022) who are still within the NRM and would potentially be eligible for safehouse accommodation.

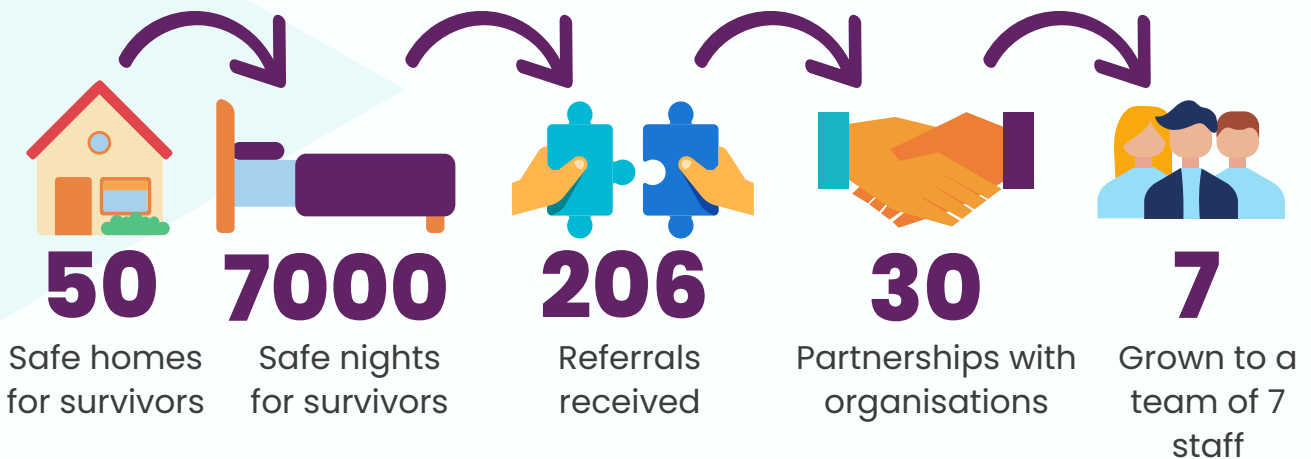
Accommodation options at the end of the NRM process are limited and depend on the immigration status of the survivor. Those without the right to remain in the UK are still unable to work or claim any benefits and face a cliff edge in terms of their accommodation and support.

WHAT OUR GUESTS SAY:

"You never feel safe [in Home Office Accommodation] and you haven't got any hope... people like me we cannot find a home in the safe house... [there are] Incidents in [shared] accommodation, anybody can come in... Too many people [in and out] at any time of the day and you cannot control them."

LOOKING BACK

Since we welcomed our first guest in June 2018 we have:



THE IMPACT OF A SAFE HOME

Chloe* was referred to Hope at Home as she wanted to move on from the safehouse and be in a location closer to her friends.

Her dream was to study Law at university. She moved in with hosts and quickly enrolled in the local college to study and apply for university. Whilst with her hosts, Chloe passed her GCSE's and was offered a place and a full scholarship to study Law & Criminology at a university close to her host's.

She moved into university accommodation and began the next step towards her dream in September 2022.



CHLOE* SAID:

"I really want to become a Barrister. I know this is hard to achieve but I've already overcome so many obstacles in my life so I know I can do this too."

LOOKING FORWARDS

Our Key Strategic Themes for 2023–2026 are:



1. SAFE HOMES

Why are safe homes needed?

1.1 To prevent re-trafficking: “Housing and homelessness are central to modern slavery: all people who are exploited are put at risk of homelessness and everyone who is homeless is at risk of exploitation.” Project Tili Report, Crisis, 2021

1.2 Because of the increase in number of survivors needing safe accommodation but housing provision not increasing in line with the demand.

1.3 Our “Where will I live? Report (Nottingham Rights Lab 2022) reported that choices in accommodation options increase feelings of safety and autonomy.

WHAT OUR REFERRERS SAY:

“How fantastic that your service exists. Reading the profile of (the hosts) made me feel instantly relieved the client would have somewhere understanding to receive her. The alternative was literally our office floor and there is not even heating in the office at the moment.”

“Housing is a human right, not a luxury.”

Sacha Deshmukh, Amnesty International UK’s Chief Executive

LOOKING FORWARDS



1. SAFE HOMES

How will we do this?

INVESTIGATE

Investigate other ways of offering safe homes.

INCREASE

Increase the number, diversity, hosting time and geographical coverage of hosts.

SUPPORT

Continue to train and support our hosts to provide excellent homes for survivors.

CONTINUE

Continue to provide a growing number of safe hosting placements for guests.

MOVE ON

Ensure guests are supported to move on positively and be able to keep a safe home.

DEVELOP

Develop and deliver guest support and wellbeing offering.



2. STRONGER VOICE

Why is a stronger voice needed?

As the only national hosting scheme specifically designed for survivors of modern slavery in the UK, we have unique data which can be used to influence wider systems such as the suitability of accommodation provision for survivors.

In our work and development we have valued the input of current and previous guests with work such as: staff recruitment, developing evaluation tools, developing our hosts training and input into this 3 year strategy. We believe that learning from survivors and being directed by them will add immense value and sustainability to our work. The letter overleaf from a survivor sums up our approach.

A LETTER TO THE SECTOR

From a Survivor who Felt Exhausted



Dear Sector,

Please can I gently remind you of the following;

Do not speak for survivors, speak to us & help amplify our voices.

Do not invite us to 'be involved' to showcase us, instead create a room where we can lead you.

Do not use your fancy labels to describe us, instead try and understand our language.

Do not place limitations on us, create opportunities for us to excel.

Do not glorify having survivors on board, if you will not navigate in our direction

Do not ask us to share our experiences if you are not willing to learn from them.

Do not play the saviour and rescue us, instead walk with us to find our journey of freedom.

Do not write our suggestions down to fill paper, instead implement them.

Can we now please try & work together to fight for change?

*Regards, Alicia**

HOW WILL WE DO THIS?

SURVIVOR VOICE

Ensuring survivors are heard by developing a survivor voice strategy for input into our work.

DEVELOP

Develop evidence-based strategy for influencing of wider systems.

*See the letter on the LEAP webpage here:

www.humantraffickingfoundation.org/leap

STRATEGY MAP

Foundations

Hope at Home's foundations and core values.

OUR VISION

Safe homes for all survivors of modern slavery.

OUR MISSION

Providing safe homes for survivors of modern slavery by offering a range of innovative accommodation options in collaboration with other organisations.

OUR CORE VALUES

Excellence
Person focussed
Honouring
Collaborative
Ambitious & pioneering

Key challenges

- Hostile environment – Acts / Bills / Practice.
- Economy post pandemic and Brexit.
- Modern Slavery Act review and NRM* implications / changes.
- Changes to client group within NRM*

Key themes

The key themes of Hope at Home's operations.

Safe homes



Stronger voice

Activities

Hope at Home's key activities.

Hosts

- 1 Increase the number of available hosts.
- 2 Continue to train and support our hosts to provide excellent homes for survivors.

Guests

- 3 Continue to provide a growing number of safe hosting placements for guests.
- 4 Ensure guests are supported to move on positively and be able to keep a safe home.
- 5 Develop and deliver guest support and wellbeing offering.

Development

- 6 Increase innovative accommodation options for Survivors.
- 7 Develop survivor voice strategy.
- 8 Develop evidence-based strategy for influencing of wider systems.

Strategic enablers

Supporting our strategy.



People

In order to ensure we have the skills and resource needed to achieve our strategic ambition we will continue to invest in the development of existing staff and recruit new skillsets into the organisation. Development of the Directors and Senior Leadership team (internal infrastructure) and the Board.



Partnership*

Working in partnership is essential if we are to achieve the step change required to ensure that no survivor is without a safe home. We will continue to strengthen relations with existing partners and forge links with those partners who will help achieve our strategic mission.



Funding

We will diversify voluntary and earned income streams and achieve sustainable sources of income that provide the financial confidence needed to achieve our goals.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

NRM: National Referral Mechanism – The UK's framework for identifying and supporting survivors of modern slavery. It is the mechanism for ensuring that consenting adult survivors receive the necessary support and assistance in the period immediately after their identification.

Partnership: Hope at Home would work in conjunction with another organisation in order to achieve an agreed aim.

JOIN US

We would like to see a society where survivors are not just free from exploitation but also free to make choices about where they will live and the next stages of their journey in life.

If you would like to be part of this journey with us and help provide safe homes for survivors of Modern Slavery please get in touch at jared@hopeathome.org.uk or on **07877 447 341**