

NSW Anti-slavery Forum Lived Experience Participant Information

March 2024

About the Forum

The NSW Anti-slavery Forum, held twice a year, is an event that will be hosted by the NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner to build an anti-slavery community of purpose. This two-day Forum encourages learning and connection with others committed to addressing modern slavery in our state.

The first NSW Anti-slavery Forum will be held in Sydney on 21 and 22 May 2024.

The first Anti-Slavery Forum will be limited to 120 tickets each day, available by application. Please register your interest to attend through the dedicated [Lived Experience application process](#).

The Forum aims to bring together government, business, academia, civil society, and people with lived experience to collaborate in combating modern slavery risks and harms.

Identifying as a Person with Lived experience

We understand that people may relate differently to the terms used to describe modern slavery. We use the following as a guide:

Modern slavery is an experience in which someone is exploited by the use of force, fraud, or coercion, for personal or commercial gain. It centres around loss of agency and is a situation in which someone acts as though they own another person.

People experience modern slavery in many different forms, contexts, and industries. As it captures such a broad range of situations, we commit to respect the diversity in lived experience and the way that people choose to express it. Some may identify with the term survivor, victim-survivor, peer, or person with lived experience. We acknowledge that each person's choice in identifying within the definition of modern slavery is valid. We ask that people show consideration in the way that lived experience is discussed or shared, and that people hold space for each other with empathy.

Disclosing Lived Experience

Disclosing that you identify as a person with lived experience is entirely your choice. We aim to organise the Forum in a way that makes it safe for you to disclose if it is meaningful to you but does not require this at any time. All disclosure of lived experience is yours to share as you see fit. You can raise concerns with the organisers at any time.

Creating a safe space

It is very important for us to centre trauma informed approaches at this event, so that people with lived experience can step into a space that is as safe as possible. Sharing the space in a respectful, inclusive and dignity affirming way is a part of this.

Everyone attending the event will be required to review and acknowledge the following guide to create an empathetic and empowering space. See the [Brave Space Guidelines](#).

Venue and Transport

The NSW Anti-Slavery Forum 2024 is being held at the **Norton Rose Fulbright offices, 60 Martin Place, Sydney**. It is a secure building and access to the event will be managed carefully by the staff. The main events for the Forum will be held on Level 4, which has a terrace area outside if you need some fresh air in a lovely sitting area. Level 5 provides access to quieter sitting areas around the reception desk. There will also be a dedicated Wellbeing Room for people with lived experience, which you can access throughout the day. This will serve as a place to retreat to, with snacks and drinks if you need a break from the hustle and bustle of the event.

The venue is easily accessible via public transport. The closest train station is Martin Place Station, which is approx. 2 min walk to the venue. Parking is available (at your own cost) at the Wilson's carpark on Macquarie St. We recognise that coming to a new venue, can be challenging. If accessing public transport or travel costs are a concern, please contact Kerry or Sarah via the contact listed below, to discuss options for travel support.

Content

The first day of the two-day event will focus on issues such as lived experience engagement, housing, health, and temporary migrant work. The second day will focus on responsible commercial practice, including the new modern slavery due diligence arrangements in NSW, renewable energy, sustainable finance, cleaning, and information and communication technology.

Please see the program for information about the content for each of the sessions. You are welcome to step out or skip any session that might be sensitive for you. Although discussions may include people sharing research, aspects of lived experience and recovery from situations of modern slavery, it will not dwell on details of trauma. Content information in the program and announcement reminders throughout the day will highlight any sessions that are particularly sensitive.

Support

The lived experience contacts for the event will be Emily, Kerry and Sarah. They will be at the entrance of the building between 8:30-9:00 am each day for an informal orientation and support with registration. If you have any concerns, and are unable to locate the Lived experience contacts, any of the Forum hosts will be able to assist you to find them.

If you would like to talk to someone about anything that is challenging throughout the day, please ask Kerry, Emily or Sarah for access to counselling or peer support. There will be a free counselling service from Converge available on request. The counsellor can provide one on one support, and will also be a part of the optional group debrief at end of both days. You will find the information about the debrief session in the Wellbeing Room and at the registration desk.

Remuneration

Some people will be attending the Forum in a work (paid) capacity, but this may not be the case for all people with lived experience. If your application to attend is successful, and you are taking unpaid leave, missing out on work, or are not being paid for contributions to the Forum, you are eligible for sponsored attendance. Please select that you would like to apply for sponsored attendance when you register your interest to attend. We also encourage you to let us know if there is any other support that could make the event more accessible. We value your participation and insights immensely, as we believe that people with lived experience hold the key to unlocking meaningful change in our collective fight against modern slavery.

Contacts

For further information or support please contact:

Kerry Cabrera Kerry.Cabrera@dcj.nsw.gov.au or Sarah Schricker Sarah.schricker@dcj.nsw.gov.au