

Local Authorities Cityhearts UCLAN CPS DWP
 Red Cross Titan Caritas HMRC Prison Service
 Soroptimists LFRS Victim Services Police NNAS
 Clewer Initiative PCC Friendship Foundation NPS
 Medaille Trust NHS Immigration Service
 Hope for Justice Santa Marta Group Romanian
 Orthodox Church Foxton Centre



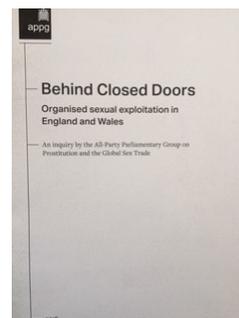
Freedom Bus in Preston

THE ROADSHOWS.

We visited Blackburn and Preston on our public awareness raising events. We had the Freedom Bus, The Journey to Freedom exhibition, numerous stalls, marches and a service at the Cathedral.

We have many more planned.....

The bus drives around the County regularly keep your eyes open for it.



As a result of some of the work we have been doing in Lancashire, we were invited to contribute towards an All-Party Parliamentary Group, helping to influence national thinking

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TOOLKIT



We created a Toolkit for front-line staff. It offers an explanation of what modern slavery/ human trafficking is, how to spot the signs and offers advice on what to do if you have any concerns. We have recently had a victim identified and supported after an NHS employee made use of this Toolkit after being presented with a patient that she wasn't happy about.



POLICE OPERATIONS

Whilst prosecution alone is not the answer to the issues of Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking, it does form an important part of the strategy for combatting these crimes. It offers justice for victims and acts as a deterrent to offenders. Lancashire continues to be at the forefront of innovation and good practice when it comes to investigations.

Op Renard was a complex investigation that spanned the North West involving a Vietnamese Organised Crime Gang. During the operation, the police seized cannabis to the value of over £800K and around £200K in cash (£75K had been thrown from a car on the motorway!!). Due to the quality of the investigation, 16 offenders pleaded guilty and received over 35 years in custody.

Op Ludlow was a countrywide case of sexual exploitation. The investigation was run by DS Stu Peall of Lancashire Police. After an exhaustive investigation, 9 Romanian offenders were convicted of Human Trafficking offences and sent to prison. The CPS prosecutor stated, 'These men exploited vulnerable victims for their own financial gain, controlling all aspects of their earnings and their lives'



Modern Slavery is very much a hidden crime and a key objective for the Partnership is to help identify and support victims of these horrendous crimes. There are more slaves in the world today than at the height of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and in the UK alone there are believed to be 'Tens of thousands' of victims.

As part of a wider strategy of raising awareness with staff and members of the public, we have seen a 57% increase in referrals to the NRM (Govt. support mechanism) in the year 2017-2018.

Whilst the reasons for the increase are complex, there is a tangible link between awareness raising and victim identification.