

West Midlands Anti Slavery Network

A network of agencies tackling modern slavery in the West Midlands and beyond



August 2018

West Midlands Anti Slavery Network

West Midlands Anti-Slavery Network Structural Change

Until now there have been several separate meetings for MSHT in the West Midlands including the WMASN meeting, WMP Ops Group and the Strategic Board meeting. All have been on different days and often people attending Ops and Strategic Meetings miss out on the presentations, updates, knowledge sharing and networking that takes place at the WMASN meetings. After consultation with WMP we are now going to start holding meetings on the same day and include attendees from the other meetings. Our next meeting on the 13th Sept will include Ops Group members and starting in 2019 the strategic board will meet on the same day and location. We hope there will be many benefits to this but feedback is always welcome.

WMASN Homelessness and Modern Slavery Task Group

As you will know at the end of 2018 we asked if there would be interest from members in setting up a task group to look at MSHT linked with Homelessness. We had huge interest not just regionally but nationally too – including the National PCCs MSHT Network, Home Office MS Unit, Salvation Army, BCWA, Adavu, WMP, NCA, LAs and the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government. We joined up with Jean Templeton, CEO of St Basils, and had an initial meeting where we discussed homeless and rough sleepers being vulnerable to exploitation, homeless during and post NRM. Terms of Reference were agreed by the group and we have started to address the aims and objectives. Understanding the nature and scale is vital, but there is no data available so we have asked that all First Responders in the West Midlands record on the NRM if a PVoT is either homeless or rough sleeping – we can then capture that valuable information. A local charity stated last year they identified 67 PVoT who were homeless so the numbers are considerable.

We are extremely pleased with one outcome already and that is that our work has played a significant role in the Ministry including MSHT in the Rough Sleepers Strategy launched this week at The Passage in London.

**WMASN Homelessness and Modern Slavery Conference – Monday
15th October 2018, TALLY HO CONFERENCE SUITE – book
through Eventbrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/anti-slavery-day-conference-2018-tickets-48795315101>

Leading on from our work with homelessness and modern slavery it seemed natural that this year's conference for Anti-Slavery Day will be on homelessness and modern slavery. The aim is to bring together the two worlds and to start to address the issues outlined in the Terms of Reference and to look at how we all can start to implement the various strategies and legislation around both issues. We will also be looking at how industry can play a part in this agenda and their responsibility to employees.

So, the conference is aimed at the Statutory, Private and Third sector alike to look at how we all as a partnership in the West Midlands and beyond can start to address these issues.

On the same day, West Yorkshire will be holding their own conference on the same issues and there's a plan to link both conferences to gain maximum potential from the learning.

We have had to make a charge of £30pp to cover all costs including hall and equipment hire, tea/coffee and lunch. Any profits will be going to local charities dealing with MSHT and homelessness.

Robin Brierley, Chair, West Midlands Anti Slavery Network

Thank you from Barnardo's PPTC – as a result of proceeds from our conference last year, WMASN was able to donate to 4 different organisations working with trafficking survivors around the West Midlands. Barnardo's PPTC was one of these agencies and Rachel Hopper, Team Manager, at the Panel for the Protection of Trafficked Children (West Midlands) said:

“A big THANK YOU for the donation WMASN made to PPTC.

The money was used for a groupwork bowling and food trip, which was enjoyed by all young people who attended. It enabled them to engage with other young people and to have childhood experiences that have previously been denied to them.

Your generosity was hugely appreciated by our team and the young people.”

Birmingham City Council Modern Slavery Pilot Programme

Birmingham City Council, along with 5 other Local Authorities (Croydon, Derby, Leeds, Nottingham and Redbridge) has been awarded funding under the Home Office and MHCLG Modern Slavery Victim Support Pathways Programme. Birmingham's Pilot will run for 1 year (July 2018 – June 2019), and will provide support for victims with a positive conclusive grounds decision exiting NRM support and wishing to settle in Birmingham.

The Programme will create a one-stop provision catering to the needs of victims, and will be managed through the commissioning of bespoke provision based on individual needs. The aim is to work with partners, both internal and external to the City Council, to provide a series of wrap-a-round services to victims to include:

- Housing
- Mental Health Support/Counselling
- Medical Support
- Training and Employment
- Advocacy

A number of deliverables have been identified for the Programme, most notably the following:

- Development of a Birmingham City Council Modern Slavery Strategic Plan
- Development and roll-out of a Birmingham City Council Modern Slavery Learning Offer for Members and Officers
- Development and roll-out of a Birmingham City Council Modern Slavery Victim Pathway

The Modern Slavery Pilot Programme regularly reports to the Home Office on progress, with a final report on outcomes due in June 2019.

For further information on Birmingham City Council's Modern Slavery Pilot Programme, please contact Maxine Tomlinson, Modern Slavery Co-ordinator, Birmingham City Council: maxine.tomlinson@birmingham.gov.uk



Free Confidence Building and Employability Programme for Female Survivors of Trafficking

The Sophie Hayes Foundation is delighted to announce it will shortly be taking referrals for its 8-week confidence building and employability workshops (2 hours/week), which has now reached over 120 female survivors of trafficking since 2016 in London.

The Sophie Hayes West Midlands centre will open from mid-September, with their first Day 46 Programmes launching in late October 2018.

More about the Day 46 Programme

The Day 46 programme is delivered in a very community-orientated and fun way, with the purpose of helping participants build independent futures free of exploitation through exploring topics such as strengths, beauty & purpose and then more practical subjects such as finding jobs, CV's and interviews. Those who are ready then progress to 1:1 coaching and / or a suitable volunteering placement where feasible alongside the chance to be part of an alumni community. Watch our video [here](#) to find out more.

Programmes take place either directly in safehouses or are held at independent locations in Birmingham city centre. This free programme is for female survivors of human trafficking or Modern Day Slavery. There is no requirement for survivors to be engaged in the NRM process, nor to have received a Conclusive Grounds decision or have the right to work. Travel costs of up to £8 per session are provided.

Partnerships across other NGO's

Sophie Hayes is committed to working collaboratively with referral partners alongside other NGO's offering employability support for survivors of trafficking, in service of achieving the most cohesive outcome for the participants and in recognition of different stages of readiness for employment. This includes providing a complementary service with employment programmes such as those provided by Jericho Foundation and COOP's Bright Futures Scheme as well as Business in the Community's employability initiatives that will be accessible to survivors later this year. Our experience is that the Day 46 Programme acts as a useful first stage to build confidence and readiness ahead of more formal employment placements and training that may require right to work.

Find out more!

Please email info@sophiehayesfoundation.org to explore partnering with us and to be on the mailing list for referrals to our upcoming programmes.



Barnardos_NCTS

Since the last WMASN newsletter, Barnardo's Panel for the Protection of Trafficked Children (PPTC) has been successful in gaining further funding from West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner to continue and develop our work for another year. We are busy continuing with our existing work, and coordinating new workstreams to improve identification and responses to child trafficking across West Midlands.

We have joined forces with National Crime Agency and National Police Modern Slavery Transformation Unit to develop awareness-raising resources based on the voices and experiences of children we work with here in West Midlands. These resources will be photo-based and include words from trafficked children about their journeys, as well as advice they would give to professionals about responding to trafficked children and advice to other children who may be in exploitative situations themselves. We'll let you know when these resources are ready and available for use.

PPTC are working on a number of workstreams currently, including one focussing on our concerns about pregnant Roma girls being trafficked and exploited for benefit fraud, and other forms of exploitation. We are working closely with Jason Grove (Modern Slavery Co-Ordinator, National Police Transformation Unit within West Mids ROCU), Public Health West Midlands, Dept for Work & Pensions, West Midlands Police, Local Authorities, maternity services and other partners on this workstream. It was identified through PPTC Panel as a trend which was emerging in terms of our collective awareness. If you feel that you have information to share in relation to this workstream, please contact Rachel Hopper on the email address below below.

We continue to provide direct one-to-one sessions and groupwork activities to children who have been trafficked from abroad, and we have some exciting activities planned for the summer period.

Our 24hour support line is available for any professional in the West Midlands who would like advice or support on responding to, or working with, a child suspected to have been trafficked. Our project workers can even support you with completing the NRM and devising safety plans. Our direct work is also accessed via this support line.

24/7 Support Line - 0800 043 4303.

If you would like to find out more about the work of PPTC, please contact Rachel Hopper: rachel.hopper@barnardos.org.uk



Salvation Army Adult Victim of Modern Slavery Care and Coordination Services

General Enquiries:

0300 303 0547 / 0548

Mon to Fri - 09:00 to 17:00

24 hour referral and out of hours line:

0300 303 8151

West Midlands Anti Slavery Network Meeting Dates 2018/19

WMASN meeting dates for 2018, for further information including venue contact donna.pryor@westmidlandsantislavery.org

13th September 2018

15th November 2018

17th January 2019

14th March 2019

16th May 2019

18th July 2019

USEFUL LINKS:

Modern Slavery Helpline – 08000 121 700

NRM <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms>

Force Intelligence Bureau (FIB) fib@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

Modern Slavery Act Duty to Notify <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/duty-to-notify-the-home-office-of-potential-victims-of-modern-slavery>

Human Trafficking Foundation Trafficking Survivor Care Standards

<http://www.humantraffickingfoundation.org/sites/default/files/Trafficking%20Survivor%20Care%20Standards%202015.pdf>

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