

Briefing Note

Western Bay Regional Anti-Slavery/ Human Trafficking

What is Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking?

Anti-slavery / Human Trafficking can be defined as the movement of a person from one place to another (within a country or across borders) with deception or coercion, abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability into conditions of exploitation.

Exploitation types include:

- Sexual Exploitation
- Labour Exploitation
- Domestic Servitude / Slavery
- Less common but equally valid is Exploitation of Human Tissue (Organ Harvesting).

Slavery has been outlawed on both sides of the Atlantic since 1805 but unfortunately it is still happening and here in Wales. We now have the Modern Slavery Act 2015 to help us tackle this heinous crime.

Regional approach:

The Western Bay Anti-Slavery Forum (WBASF) formerly known as the WB Anti-Slavery/Human Trafficking Group was set up in autumn 2013, meeting quarterly, the key focus of the forum is to:

- promote Anti-Slavery awareness training across the Western Bay footprint
- consider the frequency and type of referrals under the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and receive updates on local Anti-Slavery MARAC
- facilitate an exchange of human trafficking information and intelligence gathering across the whole range of statutory services, and associated third party organisations.

What steps we have taken to increase local awareness:

The regional Community Cohesion programme have arranged for free train the trainer sessions including the delivery of **free** half day Anti-slavery/ human trafficking session as below:

Regional Anti-slavery/human trafficking awareness sessions:

- Since January 2015, we have delivered 52 anti-slavery/ human trafficking awareness sessions which are attended by 1014 participants across the Western Bay region. Amongst them was 767 staff in Swansea, 117 staff in Bridgend and 130 in Neath Port Talbot.

The training, which is being delivered to frontline professionals in Wales, is designed to help people spot the signs of Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking and:

- understand and define modern slavery/human trafficking
- discuss strategies to improve reporting of modern slavery/human trafficking
- be able to identify a victim of trafficking
- have knowledge about the National Referral Mechanism (NRM)
- know whom to contact for further advice

These training sessions will enable participants to gain better understanding of the various types of modern slavery/human trafficking and discuss strategies to raise awareness within the workplace or with the communities they work in. For 2016-17, the following sessions have now been agreed to be delivered in Swansea. NPT and Bridgend sessions will be finalised soon.

Date	Time	Course venue
21 st April	01.30pm – 05.00pm	Committee Room 1, Civic Centre, Swansea
18 th May	10.00am – 01.30pm	Committee Room 2, Civic Centre, Swansea
20 th June	09.30am – 01.00pm	Committee Room 1, Civic Centre, Swansea
21 st July	10.00am – 01.30pm	Committee Room 1, Civic Centre, Swansea
7 th September	12.30pm – 04.30pm	Committee Room 2, Civic Centre, Swansea
5 th October	10.00am – 01.30pm	Committee Room 1, Civic Centre, Swansea
3 rd November	01.00pm – 04.30pm	Committee Room 2, Civic Centre, Swansea
25 th January	10.00am – 01.30pm	Committee Room 1, Civic Centre, Swansea
28 th February	01.00pm – 04.30pm	Committee Room 2, Civic Centre, Swansea
16 th March	10.00am – 01.30pm	Committee Room 1, Civic Centre, Swansea

Since the introduction of the new anti-slavery law last year, prosecutions for human trafficking in England and Wales have increased. There has also been an increase in the trafficking of people for sham marriages.

The number of people trafficked as labourers or domestic workers now exceeded the number forced into sexual exploitation. There are an estimated 13,000 victims of forced labour, sexual exploitation and domestic servitude in Britain. Globally, forced labour generates an estimated \$150 billion in illegal profits every year, reported AFP.

We are at the same understanding stage of Human Trafficking as we were with domestic abuse a decade ago. There have been dramatic changes in the way domestic abuse is reported and handled. We can now learn from this field of work and fast-track people so they have a much greater understanding of the human trafficking and the extent of the issue in Western Bay.