A Parish Anti-Trafficking Model: the ingredients plus examples of how those ingredients operate in the Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

1. **Inspired by and part of a bigger organisation within the Catholic church**
   - We are inspired by the Santa Marta Group and hope to become established under their aegis
   - The Medaille Trust is the charity we support and we operate in close association with them. We are guided by them and work in harmony, representing them in talks and using their material
   - We are also part of Caritas Salford which links us with the Catholic Social Action Network (CSAN)

2. **Listed as a parish group but essentially a network or loose affiliation of people**
   - Starting from a Parish Forum agenda item we collected names and email addresses of people who were concerned and would support us to the extent of receiving regular information. There was no commitment beyond this or an expectation to attend meetings
   - In the Parish we have a formal membership of around ten within a total Parish anti-trafficking network of around thirty. Within and beyond the Parish the network numbers around 200. These include people within the local Christian communities, from other parishes within our Deanery, people who have attended our talks and people who have expressed interest.
   - Within the Parish we have:
     - A leader who is prepared to take action, coordinate and communicate
     - A parish priest who is also rural dean and has supported us both within the Parish and within the Deanery
     - The Caritas Salford, CEO who has made many helpful inputs and suggestions, oiled wheels, linked our parish activities with his charity and made many introductions and links
     - A Detective Chief Inspector (now retired) with a responsibility for a trafficking team of eight. We are in touch with the DCI who has taken over and are confident we will have a similar relationship with him and that he will keep us updated on trafficking instances in East Lancs.
     - A newspaper editor, now retired but still with influence and who still submits articles for us
     - A website specialist who trains and supports efforts in keeping our webpage up to date
     - A teacher who was able to get us into communication with the dioceses of Lancaster and Middlesbrough and was instrumental in her school delivering a full day trafficking worship
     - A health visitor who has worked with a victim of human trafficking
A designer and printer of signs who provided two very large durable posters to publicise for our Traffik Jam concert

Individuals who alert us to items of topical interest in the media and keep us in touch with Vatican announcements

Individuals who will hand out prayer cards and magazines to parishioners

A young persons’ representative who communicates with around 20 young people on trafficking information

- Within the network but beyond the parish we have:
  - A graphic designer who designed our posters, leaflets and prayer cards
  - A trainer/teacher/facilitator who has designed a mobile trafficking exhibition
  - A playwright who has written a play to highlight the issue of modern day slavery
  - A Face Book enthusiast who maintains our Face Book
  - Representatives from many of the organisations and groups mentioned below

3. Linked with other parishes, charities, organisations, groups

- Our most important link is East Lancashire Police who keep us in touch with the local situation. They funded our awareness raising poster and leaflet campaign with all the parishes, first in our own Deanery and then in the other East Lancashire deanery

- We have 12 parish Medaille representatives in 17 churches in St John Southworth Deanery

- In addition to the Medaille Trust and Caritas Salford we are linked with, or signpost, many other charities, church organisations, forums and groups

4. Prayer

- We have distributed nearly 10,000 prayer cards in two diocesan deaneries and nearly 1,000 in seven other local Christian churches. These prayer cards have some of the signs of human trafficking listed on the back. They carry the logos for Caritas Salford, Lancashire Constabulary, the Lancashire Constabulary Community Action Fund, and the Medaille Trust

- We have used trafficking bidding prayers at Mass when doing appeals in church for the Medaille Trust

- During Lent we distributed the booklet *Way of the Cross for Trafficked Victims* and used it for an evening Stations of the Cross at St Mary’s Sabden
5. Communication

- We have sent out around 150 emails to people in the network. These emails are updates on what we do or items of local and national topical interest. Particularly important are the East Lancashire Police updates on local trafficking incidents.
- We communicate via the Parish newsletter which has a circulation beyond the Parish. We have also featured in Good News for Sabden which is a monthly interdenominational newsletter for the town of Sabden.
- We have a webpage with subpages. The What We Do subpage copied and pasted into a Word document is around 100 pages and that doesn’t include the PDFs and links. Other subpages cover what is human trafficking, case histories, the local situation, charities involved in trafficking, the signs to look for, and what the Catholic Church is doing.
- We have a Facebook which mainly covers items of topical interest.

6. Publicity

- We have so far published five feature articles in six East Lancashire newspapers, most of which were also picked up by the Lancashire Evening Post.
- We had a major article in the Christian Science Monitor.
- We have had features in the Catholic press.
- We have had a number of smaller articles in the local press.
- We have had a half hour local radio slot.

7. Awareness raising and education with adults and in schools

- We have responded to invitations to speak for example from Rotary, Women’s Institute, Baptists, Soroptimists.
- We have spoken at diocesan meetings of secondary school RE Heads and primary school cluster leads.
- We have delivered talks and workshops in secondary schools, varying from 20 minutes to a full day.
- We have used the Medaille Education Pack as an example of introducing the subject of human trafficking into the existing curriculum in secondary schools – an idea taken up by one school with a full day of lessons.
- We have used Salvation Army primary school material to advise heads to introduce trafficking sensitively at an early age – and idea taken up by two schools.
- We have observed the Just Enough primary school workshop in one school with a view to exploring its wider use in diocesan schools.
8. Lobbying
   • We launched two petitions from one secondary school to our local MP seeking his support of a transparency in supply chains bill.

9. Victim Support
   • We fundraise via appeals in church for the Medaille Trust, raising awareness of the issue and what the Catholic charity is doing to support victims of human trafficking. We also fundraise via stalls at fairs.
   • We have raised funds for the Medaille Trust via a concert and via a sponsored skydive.
   • We have provided assistance to three trafficked victims, either by referring to agencies or directly by accompanying to their solicitor or tribunal. By being linked in with different agencies involved in cases we are well placed to refer and signpost between them.

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