



TRAFFICKING & MODERN SLAVERY ROUND TABLE

Thursday 13th July 2017 Caritas, Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP.

Present

Mick Duthie	Deputy Director Santa Marta Group, Catholic Bishops' Conference
Rev. Peter Hopkinson	Episcopal Vicar for Dialogue, Diocesan Ecumenical Officer
Denise Pye	Greater Manchester Police Modern <i>Slavery</i> Co-ordination Unit
Hannah Flint	Modern Slavery Coordination Unit, Greater Manchester Police
Mike Emberson	CEO Medaille Trust
Mark Wiggin	CEO Caritas Diocese of Salford
Anthony Brown	Volunteer Coordinator Caritas Human Trafficking network/Medaille Trust
Sion Hall	Formerly Lancashire Police
Mark Vaughton	East Division Lancashire Constabulary
Sister Isabel Kelly	Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph's
Br James Catterson	Christian Brothers, St Sebastian's Presbytery, Salford
Anthony Turner	Foster Care Manager Caritas Diocese of Salford

Apologies

Rt. Rev. John Arnold	Bishop of Salford
Fr David Glover	Episcopal Vicar of Caritas
Mgr. John Corcoran	Our Lady of the Valley Parish, Clitheroe
Vinny de Curtis	East Division Lancashire Constabulary
Mary Brown	Volunteer, Caritas Human trafficking
Sir Peter Fahy	CEO Retrak
Sister Bridie Dowd	Daughters of Charity, St Vincent de Paul

Introduction

The meeting was between the Santa Marta Group and the Caritas/Medaille partnership, Police and religious from within the Diocese of Salford. Rev. Peter Hopkinson Episcopal Vicar for Dialogue and the Diocesan Ecumenical Officer opened the meeting with a prayer.

Mark Wiggin, CEO Caritas Diocese of Salford welcomed participants to the round table discussion. He emphasised that this was the first opportunity to bring together the anti-trafficking work of the Catholic Church with the two police forces encompassed by the Diocese of Salford - Greater Manchester Police and the Lancashire Constabulary. The

Catholic Church, through the Santa Marta Initiative, is a world leader in developing relationships with international police forces using its global network of dioceses throughout the world to raise awareness ~~of the trade~~.

The Caritas Anti-Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery Network is a good example of a grassroots response to raise awareness and take local action ~~against the trade~~. The purpose of the round table meeting was to:

1. Introduce the Santa Marta initiative and its relevance to other networks.
2. Build stronger networks in Lancashire and Greater Manchester
3. Develop a whole Diocese of Salford approach in parishes and schools
4. Explore resources for the work
5. Work together to develop victim support services

Santa Marta initiative (Mick Duthie)

The Santa Marta initiative has the mission to develop the Catholic Churches international response to human trafficking and modern day slavery through collaboration with police forces around the world. Here in England and Wales the work is coordinated by the Santa Marta Group and will focus on the following dioceses in England and Wales:

- Salford.
- Nottingham.
- Clifton.
- East Anglia.
- Westminster.
- Southwark.

The key to growing the initiative is awareness raising, engagement and support from the Catholic community working closely with other faith and secular organisations. Salford is regarded as one of the lead initiatives and the 'Salford Model' can be replicated and adapted to fit the different local context of each diocese.

"Anthony's model of what we have in Salford can be rolled out across the dioceses and indeed across the world"

A key performance indicator to measure the success of the initiative will be the number of dioceses that become involved and number of parishes that become active in this field.

Key strategic objectives include:

- a. Raising awareness about the nature and scale of modern slavery and human trafficking.
- b. Developing trusting relationships amongst law enforcement agencies, the Church and civil society across the world.
- c. Animating those relationships with a sense of urgency to improve collaboration, public policy, legislation, law enforcement and pastoral care for victims.
- d. Helping put the care of victims at the centre of law enforcement approaches to trafficking.

- e. Sharing research, experiences, best practice and skills amongst all SMG members to empower victim re-integration and the prosecution of offenders.

What can the Church offer?

- Ethnic chaplain's network and language skills.
- Pro bono professionals such as GPs and solicitors.
- Community intelligence and information.
- Religious orders support to staff victim support premises.
- Accommodation – church buildings that can be adapted for use
- Awareness raising.
- Pastoral care.

Greater Manchester Police network (Hannah Flint & Denise Pye)

The GMP network is a mature network with over 40 members that meet regularly to share good practice, update with police on intelligence data and strategically develop services that promote awareness and assist victim support. The 3 areas of development in the network are:

1. Information sharing – between NGO's and with GMP, use of forums including a multi-faith forum and other networks
2. Awareness raising – churches, ethnic pastors and ambassadors and addressing cultural issues raised for example in the African, homeless, street sex workers, CSE potential victims and Roma communities
3. Victim support – street workers, emergency accommodation, working with businesses such as the City Hearts/Co-op initiative which provides support through employment trials to employment and beyond.

The network has a great capacity to bring together organisations and develop a coherent strategy to support law enforcement and support victims of trafficking.

Lancashire Police network (Sion Hall and Mark Vaughton)

Lancashire Police have established an anti-trafficking team through Operation Proteus. They have had some high profile successes in tackling organised crime in East Lancashire. The approach has been three-fold:

1. In-house training within the force to raise awareness of the nature and extent of trafficking
2. The establishment of a victim support unit
3. Engagement with front line organisations such as the NHS, Caritas etc. to build support for the work

There is a concern that victims of trafficking do not stay long enough in the criminal justice system to help the police gain convictions against the traffickers.

“The sooner quality care is offered to victims the more chance of a conviction”

Lancashire works closely with Caritas and other organisations and is planning to develop the voluntary sector networks with statutory agencies along similar lines to GMP.

Caritas anti-trafficking network (Anthony Brown)

Anthony and Mary Brown started a parish initiative 3 years ago which, although still based on the parish of Our Lady of the Valley, is now branded the Caritas Anti-Trafficking Network. They gained experience and awareness initially via the Medaille Trust and East Lancashire Police and subsequently via their large network of individuals and organisations. They volunteer for the Medaille and Caritas and see the complimentary co-existence of the two charities as fundamental.

Anthony made the point that the large number of people communicated with directly and via publicity had highlighted the difficulty of engaging people on the issue and the huge amount of work that was needed to increase trafficking referrals from outside the Police. Through SMG there is the opportunity to engage the entire Catholic Church in spotting and reporting signs of human trafficking but it needs strong direction from the clergy.

The Medaille Trust have the direct experience and professional services for victims of trafficking with 2 safe houses in the North West and Caritas has access to a network of parishes and schools in the Diocese of Salford that extends from Greater Manchester up to East Lancashire.

The Caritas network has developed a plan that includes:

- Redesign and distribute prayer cards to all parishes in the Diocese. An estimated 30,000 cards will be required.
- Increase parish representatives wherever possible throughout the diocese.
- Brand materials with logos that include the Santa Marta logo following agreement.
- Include trafficking in more detail, and at earlier key stages, in the next re-write of the Caritas in Action Curriculum.
- Develop a strong link with Diocesan Safeguarding Officer
- Conduct a scoping study to explore the unmet needs of trafficked victims and preparation for employment
- Resource through Caritas - grants, appeals etc.

Further actions required

Effective mobilisation of the general public and services is still an aspiration.

- There is a need to raise awareness with the public and business about supply chains that exploit people.
- Service providers are still not aware for the ant-trafficking services available to them for information and help.

Closer working between the police, law and NGO's to develop and manage confidential data and the obligation to report is needed.

Further collaboration and joined up good practice can be improved between law enforcement agencies such as police and immigration officers.

Getting to and stopping the source of trafficking such as in Nigeria is the key to tackling the trade.

Further work to build an effective pastoral support to victims of trafficking is needed to assist victims to assist the police to obtain convictions.

Concluding comments and summaries

Lancashire Police plan to establish a network similar to the one in Greater Manchester and connect up to GMP network.

Caritas will support the Lancashire and Greater Manchester networks and work closely with the Medaille Trust who are already delivering effective services in the Diocese

The Santa Marta initiative will extend its support to Caritas and the Diocese of Salford and other Diocese that are developing awareness and collaborative working with law enforcement agencies.

Caritas Diocese of Salford will offer out its "Salford Model" to other Diocese through the Santa Marta initiative and use the Santa Marta logo to identify its work with the Catholic Church's Anti-trafficking work in England and Wales.