March 27, 2019: CLEWER AND CUMBRIA MEETING

Present:

Alastair Redfearn, Retired Bishop of Derby  
Caroline Virgo, Project Officer, the Clewer Initiative  
Caroline Barnard, Communications Officer, the Clewer Initiative  
Ed Saville, Together Lancashire  
Sheila Goldie, Churches Together (Cumbria)  
Sandra Radcliffe, Modern Slavery Coordinator, Safer Cumbria  
Sion Hall, PLASP  
Brian Gregory, Friendship Foundation  
Mary Walmsley, Friendship Foundation  
Anthony Brown, Caritas Anti-Trafficking

Some key points:

- Those present introduced themselves and expanded on their work
- A number of Lancashire Police vehicles will be liveried to promote anti-trafficking
- Portsmouth Diocese was an early adopter of Clewer Initiative products
- For the Freedom Day in Lancaster – to be arranged – it would be good to engage the Catholic Cathedral and we will explore this possibility with the Bishop of Lancaster
- There will be a clergy study day in Coventry on human trafficking
- The Friendship foundation which in the past has developed strong links with Romania is now more focused on awareness raising in Lancashire via its links with third parties, particularly the City Hearts Integration Support Programme (ISP)
- Data from the Clewer Car Wash App indicates concerns in 40% of those monitored on the system with rather more cases noted of workers not wearing protective clothing.
- Spikes in data from the Car Wash app link with publicity drives on human trafficking
- The BBC is seeking a victim who is prepared to speak and PLASP will help if it can though victims are vulnerable with the possible danger of re-traumatisation
- There is the possibility of a National kite-marking system for car washes which would help users to identify respectable car washes in an unlicensed area of business which is known to take advantage of vulnerable people
- Canterbury Diocese is looking to contextualise existing material on spotting signs to make it more specific to rural communities. People in rural areas tend to be alert to things that are happening in their community. The initiative is aimed at an Anglican audience.
- Just Enough have produced educational resources for all primary and secondary school key stages which are available via the Clewer Initiative. They mainly focus on Modern Day Slavery with only a small amount specifically on County Lines and CSE. Diocesan Directors of Education and Bishops are encouraged to promote the materials.
- Hidden Voices, created for The Clewer Initiative, is designed to help churches and communities respond to modern slavery. It has been used mainly in Bristol and Derby. It aims to awaken in churches a passion for responding to the needs of the vulnerable. Hidden Voices is written in four modules: Understanding modern slavery, Prevention, Detection and Restoring dignity. The modules include Biblical reflections and practical tools to help churches work alongside their community.
- Third Party Reporting is an idea used previously to tackle hate crime by providing people with an opportunity to report concerns to a third party rather than directly to the Police. Lancashire Police and Caritas Anti-Trafficking will explore possible pilots in East Lancashire using Special Points of Contact (SPOCs) in Catholic churches to tackle modern day slavery.
- The Clewer initiative will be holding its next Annual Gathering on 15th May 2019 at Lambeth Palace.