

May 23, 2019: PLASP Meeting

Some key points:

- We are planning roadshows (Freedom Days) in Ormskirk (22 June), Blackpool (August), Lancaster (21 September), Burnley (October) – dates to be confirmed. We also have the Freedom Bus outside the Liverpool Slavery Museum on 13 July and possibly a stall at the Blackpool Pride Event on 8 June.
- So far in 2019 incidences of human trafficking have been highest in sexual exploitation followed by raising numbers in forced labour. NRM Referrals have been highest in cannabis farms and County Lines – 30 adults and 18 children. The highest number of referrals have been from the public.
- The PLASP Toolkit is being updated and will include information on interpreters. Also Hope for Justice who provide advocacy and victim services to survivors of modern slavery are taking referrals from other agencies and the Toolkit will include referral criteria.
- Originally a three year programme, the Clewer Initiative is now funded for a further 10 years emphasising the amount of work yet to be done on a problem that isn't going to go away soon.
- [The Independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act](#) has now been published in full. We have previously had two of the four sections: Independent Child Trafficking Advocates; and Legal Application of the Modern Slavery Act. Of particular interest for us in the full report now published is Volume II, *Transparency in supply chains*, which makes recommendations to tighten up practice and bring the Public Sector in line with the Private Sector. Linked with this is the [Sancroft-Tussell Report: Eliminating modern slavery in procurement \(second edition\)](#)
- The latest PLASP newsletter is now available.
- *Hidden* is a new novel about human trafficking by Roger Price who served for more than 30 years in the Lancashire Constabulary, retiring as a detective inspector in charge of a covert unit. He now writes full time and is developing a TV crime drama.
- Although there weren't many local people who responded to the recent Avenham Awareness event it must non-the-less be deemed a success. Part of the Community and Partnership Project with a focus on vulnerability and exploitation the Project links with modern day slavery. We learned that the Avenham event upset the local drug dealing fraternity. Word has gone out to residents and received well.