

Marek Krolik

The main item on the agenda was the personal story of Marek Krolik, a Polish man who came to the UK to work in his uncle's scrapyards at the age of 15 and became a slave there until the Police, alerted by the local community, rescued him. Marek has cerebral ataxia which may have resulted from brain injury during his time at the scrapyards and speaks with difficulty. However he is keen to tell his story so that others are aware and try to prevent similar happening to other people. See his account to PLASP [here](#).

Homelessness

A subgroup has been formed to agree ways of tackling the issue of modern day slavery amongst homeless people. The aim is to do something after Christmas prior to next year's roadshows. Modern Day Slavery is an issue with homelessness in most places and likely to be so particularly in Blackpool with its transient population. Stop the Traffik have produced a report which can be accessed [here](#).

Some thoughts following the first meeting:

- Identify/audit homeless charities in Lancashire
- Work together with homeless charities developing and sharing resources
- Develop a pack for homeless charities, similar to the business pack
- Organise events in towns around Lancashire in the spirit of the roadshows
- Use the media to raise the issue repeatedly over time using the roadshows as the news event
- Blackburn with Darwen Safeguarding Unit have a list of groups for safeguarding purposes including homelessness. These groups could be invited to an event for questions and support.
- Safeguarding Adult Reviews cover vulnerable groups as well as individuals e.g. homeless people afraid to sleep at night so sleep during the day
- Involve the Chamber of Commerce after the General Election when Purdah no longer applies
- Importance of engagement with Community Safety Partnerships
- The Clewer Initiative has good [material on homelessness](#)

Business

- A Business Pack will give information and support on writing a Modern Day Slavery Statement
- Salads to Go and Florette are both part of Agrial's UK vegetable division and have worked together on a modern slavery statement.
- Human rights lawyers have taken the first steps in [a legal action against British American Tobacco](#) on behalf of almost 2,000 tobacco tenant farmers, including hundreds of children, from Malawi accusing the company of forced labour and child labour.
- Despite pledges chocolate companies are still using child labour.
- Lancashire has a Modern Slavery Business Pledge: *We as a business based in Lancashire pledge to work in partnership with our suppliers to ensure that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in the supply chain, encouraging our suppliers to achieve high ethical standards and practices including fair and right working conditions across the supply chain. We also note and agree with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Lancashire Constabulary's statement of intent on tackling modern slavery.* The pledge is on the [Police and Crime Commissioner's website](#)