

ANTI-SLAVERY PARTNERSHIP

REGIONAL NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2019

ANTI-SLAVERY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL EVENT

Anti-Slavery Partnership annual event - March 2020

Building on the success of the last year's event, in March the Anti-Slavery Partnership will be holding duplicate events for frontline staff in Exeter and Bristol. As before, these events will be free to attend.

Following consultation with partners, the day will focus on the increasing complexity of Modern Slavery cases encountered in the South West and aims to engage with frontline staff who are working daily with vulnerable people.

Key note speakers will explore how Modern Slavery is presenting in our local areas and attendees will consider together through workshops how to foster positive multi-agency responses to the challenges that they face in supporting victims of trafficking – both before NRM support and after it.

Please do consider who in your area would benefit from the above and share this save the date with them. We welcome frontline workers from policing, local authority, NHS but also community and grassroot organisations and NGO's working with vulnerable groups.

For further information please contact coordinator@aspartnership.org.uk.

DIGITALISATION OF NRM

Since 29th August 2019 the NRM and duty to notify (MS1) referral process for first responders has moved online.

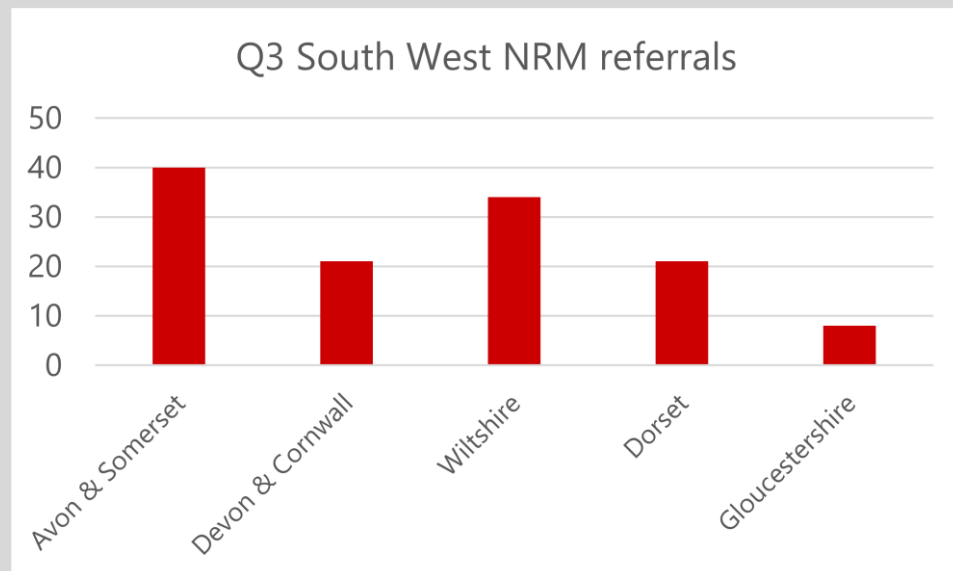
The new process will allow NRM referral and MS1 to be made using a single online form, whether for an adult or child victim.

The new form can be accessed [here](#). The form can also be filled in offline prior to submission online. This paper form with amendable fields can be accessed [here](#).

Please note that the online form may time out. It is advisable to take notes whilst completing an offline form with a PVoT and transfer to the online form.

Further information about the NRM referral process and the changes made can be found on the [ASP website](#).

Q3 NRM STATISTICS



NRM referrals in the South West are slightly down from Q2. Wiltshire referrals have more than doubled, and Dorset referrals have more than halved. Gloucestershire and Avon & Somerset figures have remained almost static.



Partners around the region marked Anti-Slavery day on 18th October with awareness raising events and communications campaigns.

In Gloucestershire GASP held a well-attended public event, with speakers from Unseen UK's outreach service, the Bishop of Tewkesbury and the Deputy PCC Chris Brierly (pictured above).

On 10th December the High Court found in favour of two victims of trafficking who challenged the Home Office's policy of refusing to grant leave to remain in the UK until their asylum cases are considered.

The Home Office will now have to change its policy, allowing victims to work and claim benefits whilst their asylum cases are reviewed. The judge ruled that the Home Office policy breached the victim's human rights, and was therefore unlawful.

AWARENESS RAISING



Modern Slavery Helpline number. Raising awareness of Modern Slavery remains a key aim of the Anti-Slavery Partnership.

Devon & Cornwall police have liveried a number of their force vehicles to raise awareness of Modern Slavery and promote the

PROCUREMENT

Partners of the ASP are increasingly looking to safeguard their organisation's supply chains against Modern Slavery. Several councils in the region are designing Modern Slavery statements and signing up to the [Cooperative Charter](#).

Central government has published [procurement guidance](#) and a [quick reference guide](#).

Several organisations offer support in the process including [TISC report](#) and Unseen UK*.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY PREVENTION PROGRAMME

The Children's Society programme works on preventing and lowering incidences of child sexual abuse and exploitation, child criminal exploitation, modern day slavery and human trafficking on a regional and national basis across England and Wales.

There are ten Prevention Officers across England and Wales providing exploitation support to professionals focusing on training, consultation and best practice guidance.

Further information available [here](#).

MODERN SLAVERY HELPLINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

In September Unseen UK launched an emergency appeal to save the [Modern Slavery Helpline](#).

The Helpline is the UK Modern Slavery hotline and is staffed by fully trained professionals fielding calls from frontline professionals, members of the public, and victims of trafficking seeking assistance. It costs around £500,000 per annum to run.

The Helpline is widely used by the ASP to direct practitioners and the public to seek help and advice.

As of December, the appeal has raised over £480,000 of the £800,000 target.

THANK YOU

In November we said thank you and goodbye to the chair of the Swindon & Wiltshire ASP, Supt Jem Carter, and wished him well in retirement.

A big thank you also to Supt Mark Edgington (Avon & Somerset Police) who has also stepped down as chair to ASASP. In December DSupt Ian Saunders has taken on this role.

SPOTLIGHT TRAINING FOR CHILDREN

Gloucestershire has arranged for Unseen's Spotlight training to be delivered in all state schools in the county. The training is designed to make young people resilient to exploitation and to spot the signs that their friends may be subject to it. For more information contact training@unseenuk.org.

For more information visit their [website](#).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regional ASP – 18th February – Portishead

Avon & Somerset ASP – 13th February – TBC

Gloucestershire ASP – 10th January - Gloucester

Dorset ASP – 14th January - Poole

Wiltshire ASP – 5th February - Devizes

For up to date news about the ASP you can follow us on Twitter @aspnership1

www.aspartnership.org.uk