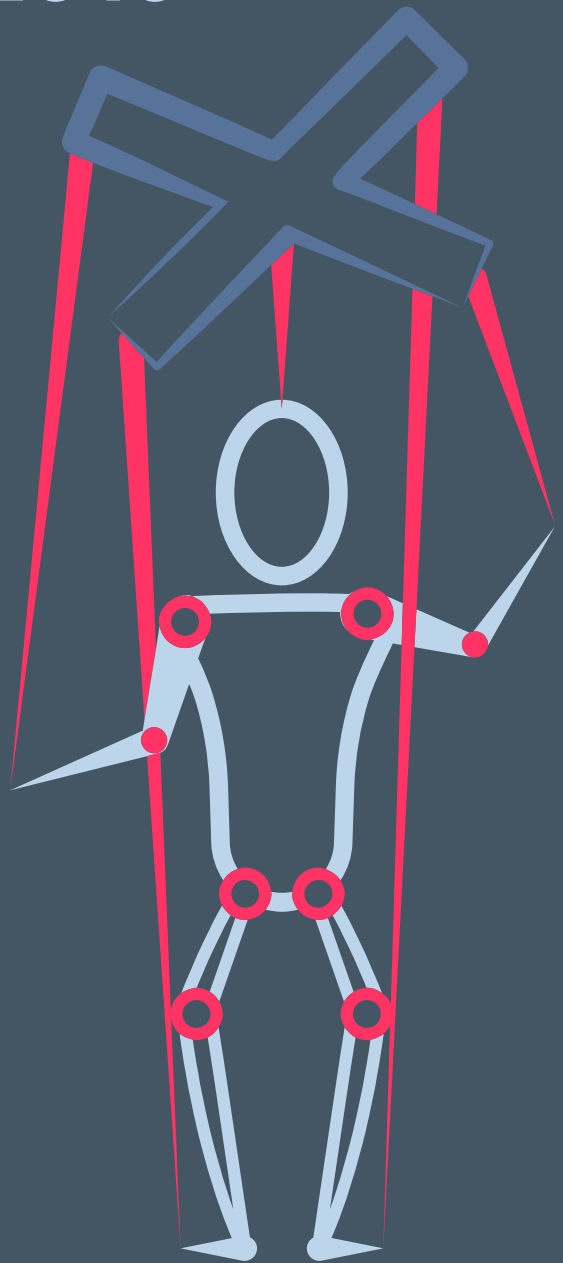


Gloucestershire Anti-Slavery Partnership Annual Review 2019



**ANTI-SLAVERY
PARTNERSHIP**



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

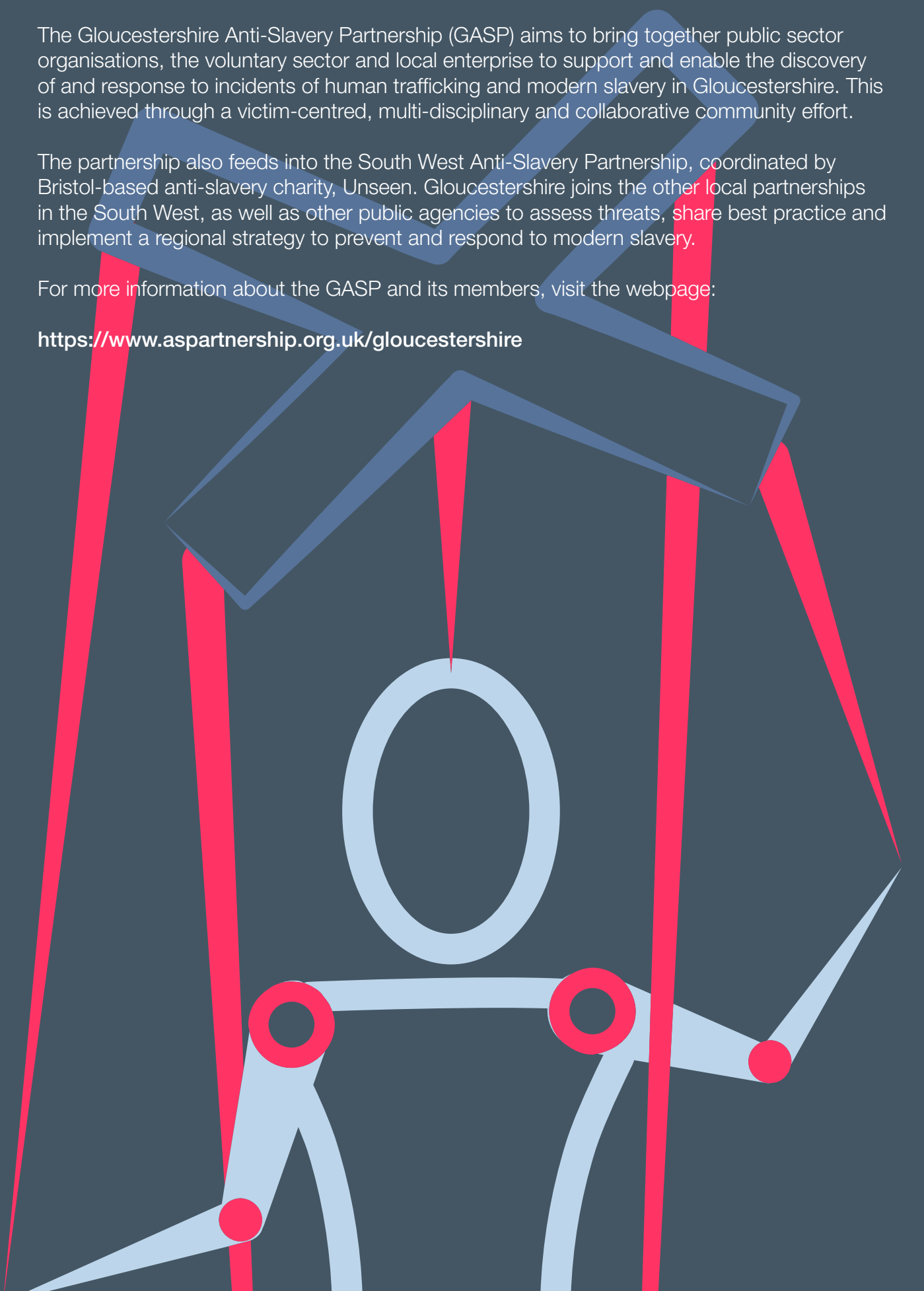
Introduction

The Gloucestershire Anti-Slavery Partnership (GASP) aims to bring together public sector organisations, the voluntary sector and local enterprise to support and enable the discovery of and response to incidents of human trafficking and modern slavery in Gloucestershire. This is achieved through a victim-centred, multi-disciplinary and collaborative community effort.

The partnership also feeds into the South West Anti-Slavery Partnership, coordinated by Bristol-based anti-slavery charity, Unseen. Gloucestershire joins the other local partnerships in the South West, as well as other public agencies to assess threats, share best practice and implement a regional strategy to prevent and respond to modern slavery.

For more information about the GASP and its members, visit the webpage:

<https://www.aspartnership.org.uk/gloucestershire>



Achievements in 2019

The Partnership and constituent partners have had several successes in 2019, some of which can be attributed to partnership working to raise awareness of modern slavery in Gloucestershire and to empower local people to tackle the issue. The GASP has also focused this year on reaching out to a wider range of faith groups and grassroots abolition groups to better connect its work with the local community in Gloucestershire.

Gloucestershire Infographic

We produced an infographic using data from the National Crime Agency on referrals of victims of modern slavery in Gloucestershire in 2018. This has been shared widely to raise awareness of the crime and what we know about cases taking place in the county. This was supported by postcards and posters which show the common signs to look out for to identify a potential victim. These have been displayed in offices, libraries, fire stations taxi waiting rooms, and town and parish councils, amongst other places.

Modern Slavery eLearning

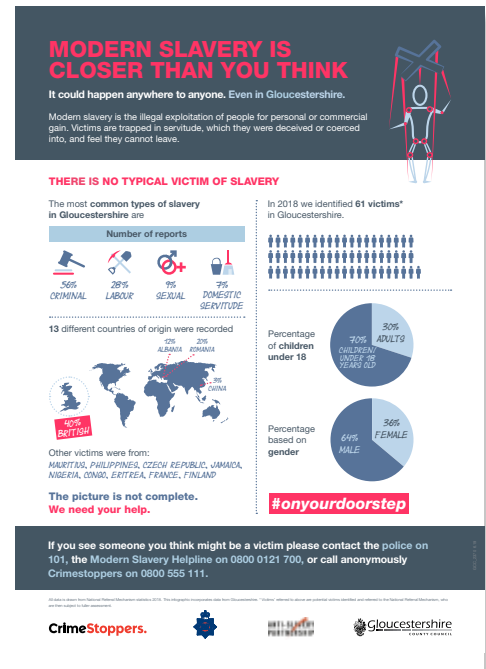
We launched eLearning modules on a county-wide platform for professionals and members of the public to find out more about modern slavery. This provides an introduction on the crime, the common indicators and explains what to do if you have any suspicions.

Find out how to register for a free LearnPro account to access the training here:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2092952/learnpro-user-guide-v5i.pdf>

Gloucestershire Anti-Slavery Day

We marked National Anti-Slavery Day on 18 October with our first public event. Representatives from the local community as well as partner agencies, faith groups, voluntary sector and others attended to find out more about the GASP and modern slavery in Gloucestershire. Speakers included Pete Bungard, Chair of the GASP, The Rt Revd Robert Springett, Bishop of Tewkesbury and Chris Brierley, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. Two frontline workers from Unseen spoke movingly of their experiences supporting victims and helping them to rebuild their lives.



Key Police Operations

Key operations have taken place this year including Operation Mamushi, which placed a particular focus on working with youth offending teams to prevent and intervene early in cases of young people being criminally exploited by gangs running county lines.

Training and Awareness Raising

In 2019, 5 half-day training sessions for 180 frontline public sector staff across the county, were conducted by anti-slavery charities, Unseen and Hope for Justice. Furthermore, representatives from the GASP have facilitated sessions for several agencies and local groups, including Councillors, a Cirencester-based women's rights group, safeguarding teams, and delivered an assembly to a Gloucester Islamic girls' school.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner successfully won another bid from the Modern Slavery Transformation Fund to commission the theatre group Alter Ego to put on an interactive performance on people's experiences of modern slavery in schools in Cheltenham and the Forest of Dean for 230 pupils in all.

Partner organisations on the GASP continue their efforts to train their staff members on their role in tackling modern slavery and human trafficking. Campaigns to increase awareness have taken place across partner agencies for both staff and service users e.g. information from the Clinical Commissioning group for GPs, Gloucester City Homes Tenant times newsletter article and page on modern slavery, district councils' training and Cotswolds District Council's engagement with parish councils etc. The County Council have appointed named modern slavery leads in adults' and children's safeguarding and a number of councils have signed the Co-operative Charter against Modern Slavery.

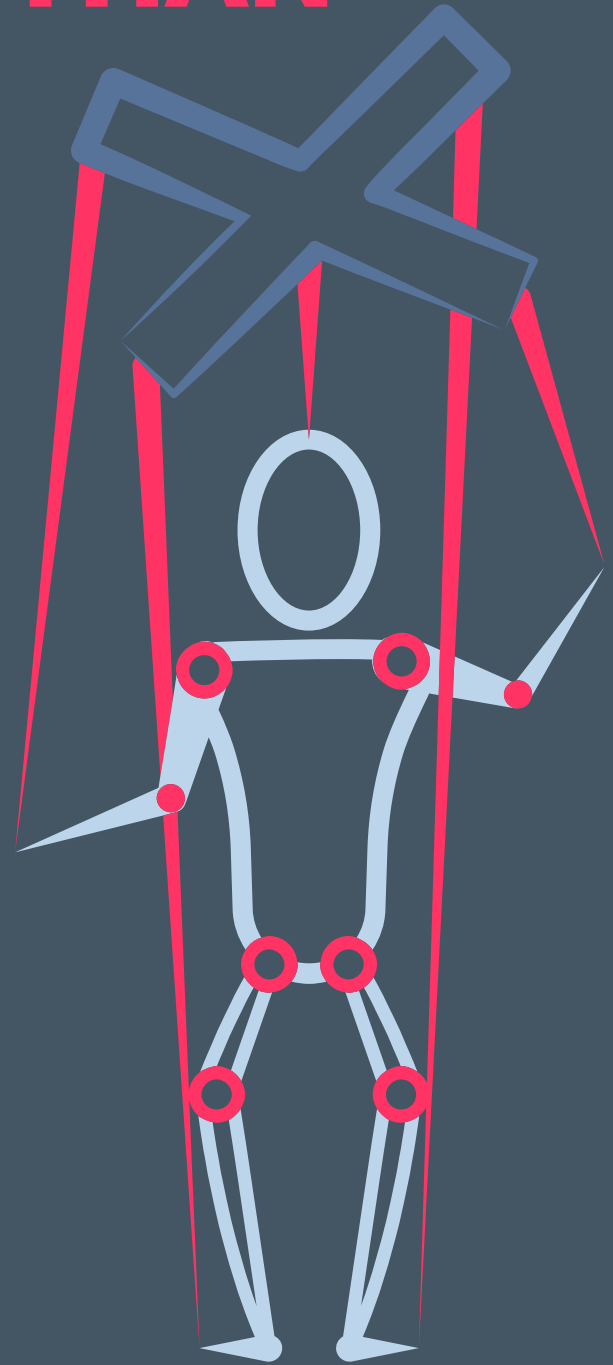
Ongoing Challenges

Modern slavery and human trafficking is often a hidden and multifaceted issue. The Partnership must face the challenges of tackling modern slavery whilst thinking creatively and collaboratively to affect positive change in this area. Some of the key challenges in Gloucestershire include:

- Modern slavery is one of competing priorities in a context of limited resources;
- Limited, but growing, public awareness of the issue;
- Lack of accurate understanding of the prevalence of modern slavery locally;
- Low, but increasing, rates of referrals and intelligence sharing;
- The complexity and wide variety of crimes which come under the umbrella of modern slavery and human trafficking, making cases hard to identify;
- Difficulties in finding and engaging with adult victims who are not otherwise known to public agencies;
- Challenges of raising awareness and identifying cases in a largely rural setting;
- Incorporating and amplifying the voices of survivors of modern slavery and human trafficking in our strategies and collective services.

MODERN SLAVERY IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

It could happen
anywhere to anyone.



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