

## Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board Manager's Blog

### January 2016 – Slavery in Norfolk?

Maybe, like me, when you think about the word 'slavery' you get an image of a 19th century slave ship from Africa, or the 1970s TV programme *Roots*. But two things have recently made me think about this issue in relation to Norfolk.

First I read in the Eastern Daily Press on Saturday 16 January (see ['Modern day slavery is in Norfolk' - workers were paid 8p a day - Crime - Eastern Daily Press](#)) about the conviction of two Lithuanian men who had exploited two brothers (also from Lithuania). The brothers were brought here on the promise of work but ended up working for 8p a day working in the food industry, receiving a total sum of £20 for all their work between July and October 2013. They lived in dreadful conditions, were given little food and three months later, still wore the same clothes they had arrived in. The article describes how the brothers were threatened they would be '*fed to the crabs*' if they complained or moved from the house in Great Yarmouth where they were living. The traffickers pleaded guilty to trafficking people into the UK for the purpose of labour exploitation and money laundering offences, and were given sentences of three-and-a-half years each. This story was also covered in The Guardian [Lithuanian gangmasters jailed in modern slavery and trafficking case | UK news | The Guardian](#)

Last week I attended our Northern Locality Safeguarding Adults Partnership and saw a very informative presentation by **Mark English** from Norfolk & Suffolk Police on trafficking and modern day slavery.

With modern slavery included as a category of abuse in the Care Act (2014) and the introduction of the Modern Day Slavery Act (see [Modern Slavery Act 2015 - GOV.UK](#) and [Transparency in supply chains: a practical guide - Publications - GOV.UK](#) for more information), we have new duties to act on. For example, the Modern Slavery Act lists agencies who are classified as *First Responders* – local authorities, health and social care trusts and the Police – to help potential victims and make referrals.

Mark covered a great deal of information in his presentation, including

- ❖ Outlining what trafficking and modern day slavery is
- ❖ Sectors in which victims will be working

- ❖ Signs that we need to look out for
- ❖ How to make a referral and to whom
- ❖ Useful resources

I haven't got the space here to go into all the details, but suggest you go to this key website for further information:

- ❖ [National Crime Agency - UK Human Trafficking Centre](#)

I would like to echo Det Sgt Mark Scott of Norfolk Police, who was quoted in the EDP article above:


*'Modern day slavery is in Norfolk and there will be other victims out there. We urge the public to report anything suspicious ...'*

I am strong believer in using new knowledge take action, so here is one for us:

- Get in touch with Mark and ask him to come and talk to your staff / team. This is an important topic we all need to know more about. Mark is funded until the end of March 2016, so get in touch quickly:

Mark English  
Human Trafficking / OCG Co-ordinator  
Tel: 01953 423 682  
Mob: 07831 124 987  
Email: [englishm@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:englishm@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)

Also here is where to go for help and support if think someone you know is at risk:

- call **999** if there is immediate danger
- contact the Modern Slavery helpline on **0800 0121 700**
- fill out the [Modern Slavery online form](#) 
- Contact Salvation Army referral helpline **0300 303 8151**
- Contact Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**

Thanks for reading.

Walter Lloyd-Smith  
Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board Manager  
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