



Home Office

Crime Reduction & Community Safety Group

Tilley Awards 2008 Application form

Please ensure that you have read the guidance before completing this form. **By making an application to the awards, entrants are agreeing to abide by the conditions laid out in the guidance.** Please complete the following form in full, within the stated word limit and ensuring the file size is no more than 1MB. Failure to do so will result in your entry being rejected from the competition.

Completed application forms should be e-mailed to tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

All entries must be received by noon on **Friday 25th April 2008**. No entries will be accepted after this time/date. Any queries on the application process should be directed to Alex Blackwell on 0207 035 4811.

Section A: Application basics

1. Title of the project: **"THE LONELY WORLD OF TODAY'S SLAVERY CONCERNING VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION"**



<http://elleeseymour.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/01/image41.png>



2. Key issue that the project is addressing : **HUMAN TRAFFICKING- Sexual Exploitation**

Author contact details

3. Name of application author: D.I. Tony Brown / D.S Gail Cope

4. Organisation submitting the application: South Wales Police

5. Full postal address: : Serious & Organised Crime / Public Protection Police Headquarters, Cowbridge Road, Bridgend, CF31 3SU.

6. Email address: Tony.Brown@south-wales.pnn.police.uk / Gail.Cope@south-wales.pnn.police.uk

7. Telephone number: 01656 869519 / 01656 869420

Secondary project contact details

8. Name of secondary contact involved in the project: : Libby Jones New Pathways Director, Willow House, 11, Church Street, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 OBS

9. Secondary contact email address: enquiries@newpathways.co.uk

10. Secondary contact telephone number: 01685 379310

Endorsing representative contact details

11. Name of endorsing senior representative from lead organisation: Detective Chief Superintendent Ken Issac

12. Endorsing representative's email address: Ken.Issac@south-wales.pnn.police.uk

13. For all entries from England & Wales please state which Government Office or Welsh Assembly Government your organisation is covered by. Welsh Assembly Government

14. Please mark this box with an X to indicate that all organisations involved in the project have been notified of this entry (this is to prevent duplicate entries of the same project):

Section B: Summary of application - *In no more than 400 words use this space to provide a summary of your project under the stated headings (see guidance for more information).*

Scanning:

Trafficking in Human Beings has become a major problem in Europe. Each year, an increasing number of people, the majority of them women and children, fall victim to trafficking for the purposes of sexual or other exploitation. This trend has hit unprecedented levels, to the extent that it can be considered as a new form of slavery, a 'modern-day' slavery. Amnesty International in 2007 estimated that 4,000 victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation are in the UK at any one time.

In 2006 the team dealt with HT, which resulted in the convictions of two Albanians. SWP worked with partners in obtaining these successful prosecutions including, Interpol, Lithuanian Social Services, LEA's, The Poppy project, Gemini Project, SOCA, BIA, New Pathways, BAWSO, MEWN, Women's Safety Unit, WAG, Councils, CPS, NHS.

Analysis:

The Team identified the need to have more robust processes in place for victim care .This was **ground breaking** work as there was **NO BEST PRACTICE** elsewhere in the country.

Response:

Working with Mrs Libby Jones, the founder of New Pathways the first Welsh SARC, the team worked together to assist the victims so now within 1 hour they are offered facilities, knowledge, expertise, emergency accommodation through partners including local authorities, refuges. New Pathways can also provide signposting services and direct referral routes into local and national services.

On 17:12:07, a report was received that a Bulgarian female had been trafficked to Swansea. Many issues arose **BUT** because of the lessons learned and good partnership working within 54 hours after departing, New Pathways received a telephone call saying she'd arrived safely in Bulgaria and thanked the team for all the support and arranging the transport.

Assessment:

SWP & New Pathways are seen as '**Pathfinders**' and continue to forge strong partnerships working with IAG's and NGO's including NSPCC National Child Trafficking Advice and Information Line and CHASTE.

Training is given to SIO's, CID and SOLO officers.

A website on FIS is being constructed for best practice with links to the POPS database.

The team have worked closely with BBC, HTV, Media Wales. Our work has been **Nationally recognised and our partnership working has been commented as being 'one of the best'**. As a result SWP were recommended by the Poppy Project to October Films who are making a documentary series for Channel 4.

DI Brown is the Chair of the operations working group. DS Cope is a member of the victim care working group UKHTC.

State number of words: 400

Section C: Description of project - Describe the project in no more than 4,000 words. Please refer to the full guidance for more information on what the description should cover, in particular section 12.

Introduction

Trafficking in Human Beings has become a major problem in Europe. Each year, an increasing number of people, the majority of them women and children, fall victim to trafficking for the purposes of sexual or other exploitation, both within and over borders. This trend has hit unprecedented levels, to the extent that it can be considered as a new form of slavery, a ‘modern-day’ slavery.

The UK is the main destination for human trafficking victims, where essentially women and young girls are forced to work as prostitutes. Many of these victims are from Eastern European countries including Lithuania, Russia, Albania and Ukraine. Others are from Asia (predominately China and Thailand), Africa and South America. Some people are brought straight into the UK, while others are exploited in other countries before ultimately arriving here. Victims are mainly from the 18-25 age group.

Traffickers prey on the vulnerable and normally dupe victims with promises of work or for a better life. It is not until the person arrives in the UK that the reality hits home and they find themselves being exploited and abused by the traffickers. They use coercion, deception or the threat or use of violence. They control people through keeping their passports, demanding their labour in return for a debt or through the use of intimidation and threat.

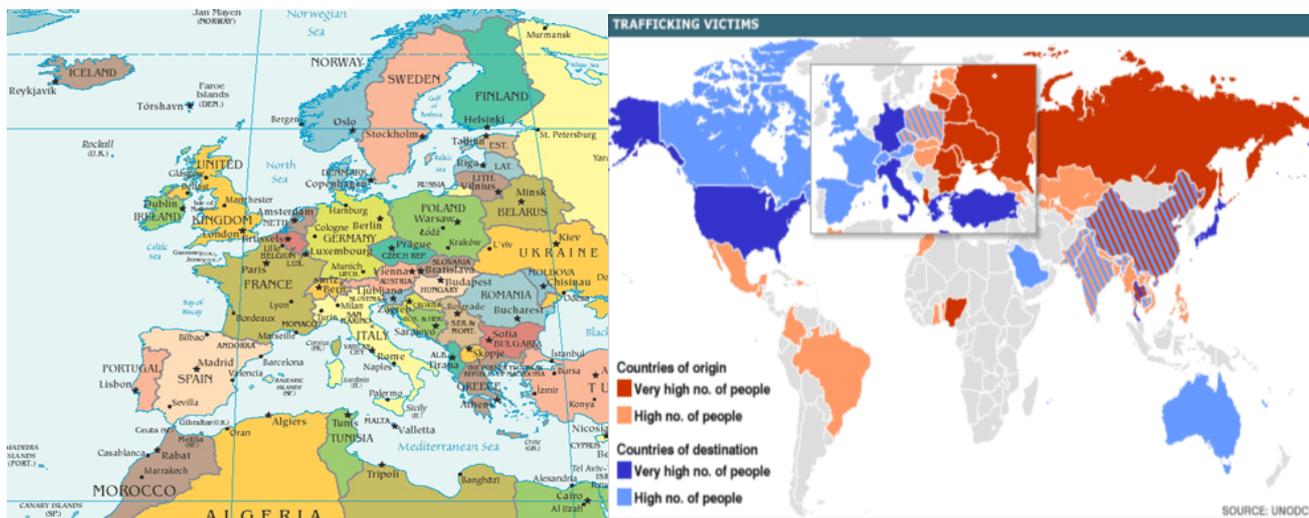
The Definition of Human Trafficking

Trafficking in persons

"shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs"

Source: The Council of European Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (ECAT) 2005

Countries of Origin and Destination of Trafficking Victims



“THE LONELY WORLD OF TODAY’S SLAVERY CONCERNING VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION”

The Journey of the Partnership Working

Libby Jones was a Volunteer for a women's telephone helpline based in Merthyr Tydfil in 1993 that ran two evenings a week for two hours at a time. There were a handful of Volunteers dedicated to giving support to women who had been victims of rape or sexual abuse. During this time, it became quite apparent that there was a greater need for the service than they were able to provide, not only to women but also to men, children and young people.

The second part of Libby's journey then started when Libby became the founder of New Pathways. The need for face to face counselling was identified and little did Libby know where she and New Pathways would be 15 years later.

Her passion and drive was to keep fighting for such a needed service which probably came from her own childhood difficulties. She had first hand experience of how trauma affects every part of your life, and others who know you. There is never only one victim to emerge from these brutal crimes of human trafficking including, rape and sexual abuse.

DS Cope and DI Brown have been police officers for a number of years. Having dealt with numerous criminal activities but the world of Human Trafficking was not an offence that appeared on their daily working sheet.

DS Cope recalls attending a workshop in Finland in 1999 on Human Trafficking. Little did she know the significance of how that workshop would open a door and have such an impact on her career and lead her in the years to come to assist in developing a witness care package, working with partnership organizations and writing strategies to combat this area of crime.

INITIAL SCANNING:

Over recent years more migrants have travelled to the UK for education and employment opportunities. Sadly, for some, their trip to the United Kingdom is not safe as many women are held here against their will, forced into providing cheap labour and even prostitution. The extent of the problem is such that it has spread from the larger cities of London and Birmingham, into Wales. This has created pockets or 'hotspots' where vulnerable women are forced against their will to work in brothels and massage parlours without any support or money of their own, or engagement with the wider community.

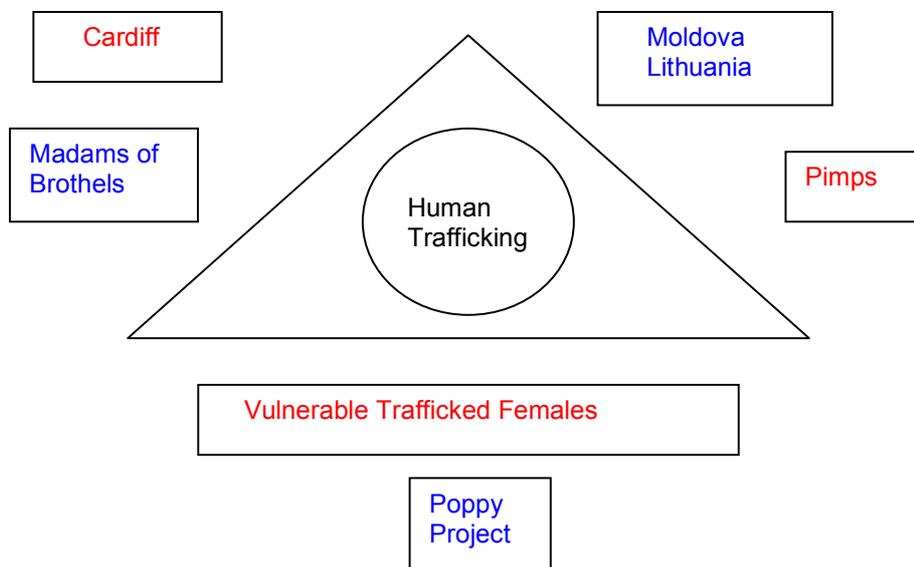


- The UN states that the UK is a major destination for human trafficking victims - mostly women forced to work as prostitutes.
- Many victims are from Eastern Europe. The UK is the main destination for Lithuanians. Others are from Asia, Africa and South America.
- Gangs from Albania, Lithuania and the Czech Republic are among those involved.

In March 2006 the community problem had not been fully identified. SWP were aware that a problem might exist but did not have an understanding of the true nature. The harm caused to SWP's previous victim (who was rescued in 2005) was not fully understood and it was evident that the public and police did not understand the problem therefore, there were no expectations. Up until January 2006 there was only one reported case of Human Trafficking therefore it was not necessarily seen as a problem. Then during events in January 2006 "Week In Week Out" exposed potentially 2 other victims. SWP did not know whether these problems would be re-occurring as there was no intelligence around this area of crime. Although the similarity for the victims in January 2006 was that they were taken from the same premises that the first victim was recovered from in 2005.

Also in 2006 DS Cope attended a seminar in London which was called Child Migration, Trafficking And Smuggling. The result was that it made her determined to identify what problems were in the SWP area and what could she do to assist victims caught up in this heinous crime. On her return she briefed her management team, put together a report of where she felt work needed to be addressed including how to tackle the issue of victim care.

INITAIL ANALYSIS



The analysis was broken down into three key area; Location, Victim, Offender.

- **Location**

The initial analysis showed the three alleged victims of trafficking were being forced to work in the Cardiff area. Cardiff is the capital and the largest City (320,000+ inhabitants) of Wales and is recognised as one of the fastest growing, vibrant and cosmopolitan cities in Europe. It is a busy commercial, maritime and university city and is host to many events at the Millennium Stadium which along with the rest of the area covered by SWP attracts more than four million tourists every year. South Wales is well-served by communications, the M4 which dissects the force west to east, the London to Swansea intercity train line travels the length of the force and Cardiff International Airport which is fast expanding its business and flies direct to over 50 destinations.

- **Victim**

The three alleged victims of Human Trafficking who had come to the attention of SWP at this time were from Lithuania and Moldova.

- **Offender**

The offenders in the completed case in 2005 were of Albanian origin and investigations were ongoing to determine the offenders in this latest case.

INITIAL RESPONSE

To meet the complex needs New Pathways first had to look for qualifications and competencies in staff and volunteers who could deliver the counselling and support that was needed. It was also extremely important that New Pathways secured strong foundations to build the service upon. A Management Committee and Trustees were appointed; these positions took into account a vast range of knowledge and expertise, from Social Workers to Teachers as well as representation from both the voluntary and statutory sectors.

The training of the counsellors became paramount; unfortunately there was very little provision of training around the issues of rape and sexual abuse so a training package was designed 'in house' and delivered to staff and volunteers by their own training officer.

INITIAL ASSESSMENT

SWP obtained convictions against the Albanian traffickers in 2005 and apart from the Poppy Project in London who looked after the victim, there was very little partnership working. There was no best practice guidance in place for future cases of human trafficking. DS Cope then decided that she would take on this responsibility for SWP. This commenced an uphill struggle to write **witness care packages, strategies** and liaising with her partners to see what assistance they could give. She also liaised with BAWSA, MEWN, the Welsh Womens' Safety Unit and Libby Jones at the SARC to get an understanding of what problems she could encounter and to find out more about possible victims' ethnicity, demeanor, diet and religion.

SECONDARY SCANNING

C - the community problem was identified Locally and Nationally . *Amnesty International, Under the Covers Report 2007 stated that:*

"200,000 people are illegally trafficked into the European Union each year, the vast majority for the sex trade.

- 4,000 victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation at any one time
- It is estimated that there are around 60 victims in Cardiff (S.W.P. area) at any one time"

H – the harm and trauma experienced by our victims remains with them for the rest of their lives as they are forced into this spiral from a very young age.

E – the expectation was approached in many ways especially looking at the Human Rights of our victims and members of the public, Article 2 (right to life), Article 4 (prohibition of slavery) Article 8 (right to private life).

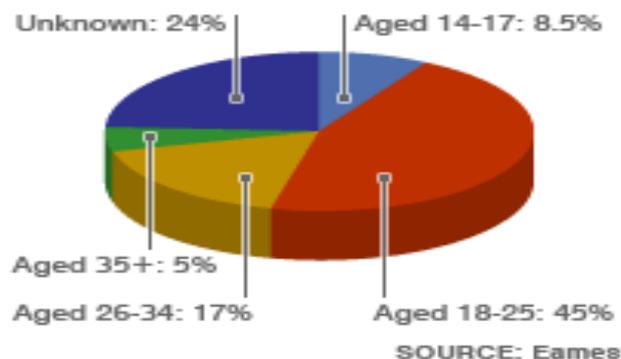
E - the events are an ongoing process for the victim whereby many of them are sold to different gangs and taken to countries where they are further sold after they have been deemed used goods, and are of no further use to that particular gang.

R - Re-occurring – The victim is a part of this re-occurring cycle if not rescued from these events, this is where SARC and Police partnership working was being bonded.

S - the similarity of this crime is Global and Local, the common feature is to feed the sex trade by any means. A number of women go through the same process in the same countries in the same location in the same premises

SECONDARY ANALYSIS

Age of Trafficking Victims referred to Poppy Project



Since the Poppy Project Launch in 2003, **581** victims have been referred to it.

Source: BBC News, Sex Slavery Widespread in England 19/03/2007.

DS Cope prepared a paper on what she believed would be the short / medium/ and long term issues when dealing with the victims as part of Pentameter 1. She managed to put in place for the operation :- Accommodation for the weekend in Gwent / Carmarthen police training premises; this allowed for police officers to stay, interview and have refreshments with the security of knowing that they all would be safe from the suspects, associates and the intrusion from the media. She briefed all the victim care staff including the interviewing SOLO's. She secured a budget and made arrangements with partners from Health so that they could receive medical assistance in relation to the possibility of being pregnant or contracting a sexual disease which they may not be aware of.

SECONDARY RESPONSE

Operation Manchester was initially a report of the kidnapping of a female Lithuanian National who had been forced to work as a prostitute within the UK. When this victim was found safe and well, the enquiry focussed on the witness care and human trafficking aspects.

The investigation team was led by DI Brown and in the early stages his team identified two other females whom they suspected of being victims of trafficking, along with the Lithuanian male who made the initial report and is the boyfriend of the first victim.

As the team were the only force in the country to be dealing with a **male victim** great care was taken in the accommodation of the victims and it was decided to keep all four together so that they could support each other. They were fully supported at all times and were placed in an area where they could feel safe.

The suspect in the initial report of kidnap was Arjan KANANI a person who claimed to be a Kosovan asylum seeker.

From enquiries it was established that KANANI along with another male called Erjon JAVORI were targets of the Serious and Organised Crime Agency, who were investigating an Organised Crime Group based in the Birmingham area in relation to the Trafficking of females for sexual exploitation. As a result a joint investigation commenced involving the Serious and Organised Crime Agency, South Wales Police and the Crown Prosecution Service.

As the enquiries progressed it became apparent that there were witnesses and victims living in Lithuania. To overcome these problems contact was made with KARITAS, (Social Services in Lithuania), to speak to identified victims, witnesses and reassure the families of these individuals who were being cared for in this country.

This agency was also used in the repatriation of a female witness who wished to return home. South Wales Police conveyed her to the airport, arranged her flight, and ensured she was met by KARITAS when she landed in Lithuania who conveyed her to her home address. KARITAS maintains contact with her to ensure her welfare **and have sent a letter applauding the team on how they have supported and cared for the victims.**

The enquiry involved liaising with a number of other Police Forces and outside agencies which included the Serious and Organised Crime Agency, Interpol, The Organised Crime and Corruption Investigation Division of the Lithuanian Police, KARITAS, West Midlands Police, Poppy Project, Gemini Project, and Crown Prosecution Service. Again, the **Lithuanian Police have sent a letter commending the team on their investigation and liaison which has enabled them to improve their working practices.**

A victim care strategy was put in place for the victims during the trial.

JAVORI and KANANI were convicted at Cardiff Crown Court and DI Brown gave a number of interviews to the local media, South Wales Police also supplied to the media in Albania the details of the convictions to ensure the correct message was conveyed to all persons.

This conviction was the first guilty plea for trafficking into the UK under the 2003 legislation and the second guilty plea for trafficking within the UK.

SECONDARY ASSESSMENT

South Wales Police is one of only a small number of forces within the UK that has included in the Force Control Strategy, Immigration Crime – Sexual Exploitation. This has meant increased resources and finances to further the intelligence gathering in line with the NIM, there is now a dedicated SPOC for Prevention, Intelligence and Enforcement.

The Current Stage of the Journey

In many areas, previous responses to trafficking fell solely on the shoulders of the Police. At Willow House in Merthyr Tydfil, they are now able to offer their facilities, knowledge and expertise when asked to respond to these matters by the Police and now work in full partnership to assist the victims. Willow House offer a safe venue whereby victims of this cruel and degrading crime can receive the support they rightly deserve. They can be fully operational with just one hour's notice and trained staff can be on call to attend with the Police to support these very frightened and vulnerable people. The provision of the SARC's ensure that New Pathways has the capacity to support victims of trafficking; providing a safe environment with examination and interview facilities, trained staff, shower facilities and refreshments. Personal packs (with additional items that can be provided to victims who may have few or no belongings), including clothing, towels, hygiene items and food.

New Pathways support staff can now also arrange emergency accommodation for victims of trafficking through good links with the local authorities, refuges and local guesthouses. The agency is also able to provide signposting services and direct referral routes into local and national services, including The Poppy Project in London.

Each venue is therapeutically enhanced and along with the skills of the staff within the agency, this helps to reduce trauma levels in victims and minimise the possibility of secondary trauma – often cited as one of the main causes for concern pre-SARC era. The women are appropriately treated as victims of crime, often lost in a confusing and upsetting world that is governed by dangerous and manipulating perpetrators, and not as criminals. Reducing anxiety levels help the Police to gather information for prosecutions and protect the victims, as well as lessen the possibilities of secondary mental health issues and the adoption of negative coping strategies.

Currently New Pathways employs: 10 full time staff, 22 part time staff and 25 Volunteer Counsellors.

They provide the victims with:-

- Face to face counselling for women, men, children and young people.
- Helping Hands Project provides face to face counselling for men, women and young people who are victims who are deaf, deafened and hard of hearing, using British Sign Language or lip-speaking to communicate. This promotes good practice and enables victims to have support and counselling in a safe and confidential environment.
- Hear to Listen Project which is a telephone counselling project. The service also enables people who are house bound or find it difficult to engage on a face to face basis to receive vital support.

On 17th December 2007, a report was received by South Wales Police that a female had been trafficked into Swansea where she was placed into a Massage Parlour for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Officers attended at this location and rescued this Bulgarian female along with arresting a number of males.

As a result of the partnership working DS Cope was able to implement the witness care strategy:-

DS Cope firstly contacted the BCU where the victim was being rescued from and identified two SOLO trained officers. She then met them face to face and explained the issues when dealing with such victims and the importance of their interaction, and how breaking down the **barriers of distrust** would take time but that **patience and empathy was very important**. She briefed them on the **Witness Care document** and sat with them whilst going through the document in detail making sure they understood their role making it clear that this initial meeting and interaction with the victim was one of the most important points of this victim rescue.

Arrangements were made for the victim to be lodged at a hotel with a uniformed officer. This officer was also briefed regarding the care issues and welfare and medical issues of the victim. The victim complained of being unwell and arrangements were made during the early hours of the morning for her to receive medical assistance.

DS Cope contacted Libby Jones and the victim was taken to Willow House by officers and interviewed. Many issues arose:

- An Interpreter was requested at 9am that day but was unable to attend due to prior commitments in Bristol.
- A Crisis Worker remained with the victim, providing support and ensuring that her immediate needs were met making her feel as comfortable as possible. She spent time with the woman explaining to her what was happening and trying to alleviate some of the fears and concerns that the victim had.
- During this time the SOLO officers were given the opportunity to communicate with senior officers, who in the meantime had arrested the perpetrators of the crime.
- New Pathways arranged emergency accommodation and provided the woman with a personal care pack, containing items which included, spare clothing, towels, dressing gown and toiletry items.
- After the interview with the officers, the woman was taken to the safe accommodation. She remained there until the following day when a New Pathways Independent Sexual Violence Adviser collected her and accompanied her to the local bus station, where she began her long journey, by bus and ferry, home. It was a week before Christmas and the woman was extremely anxious about being able to return home to be with her family for the festive season.
- The ISVA gave the woman a small hamper containing food, drinks, cigarettes and toiletries items for the journey home.
- 54 hours after leaving, New Pathways received a brief telephone call from the woman who had arrived safely in Bulgaria. She thanked us for all of the support that we had given her and special thanks were given for arranging the transport.

What the team has developed and learned from this partnership working

South Wales Police now conduct regular checks on Massage Parlours throughout the force area to try to identify other women who have been trafficked.

DS Cope is writing a lesson plan to be incorporated into the training of newly appointed SOLO's. This is also going to be incorporated across many training packages for all officers. Various members of New Pathways, DS Cope and DI Brown now speak on the S.I.O. and C.I.D courses.

DI Brown and DS Cope are in the process of creating a website for officers to access the necessary documents, contact telephone numbers and strategies when dealing with this area of criminality. Also to be placed on this website and within the operations control room, will be a download in any language for victims to listen to explaining what is going to happen to them now they have been rescued by the police.

One victim has agreed to be videoed so that her lifetime experience can be shared with everyone for better

understanding and that victims **TRUST** the team and do not **FEAR** them as they would in their own country. Another reason for her doing this is that she has said without the **HELP** and **SUPPORT of the team** she would have gone onto abort her little baby girl.

This is the **only case Nationally** with circumstances of a girlfriend / boyfriend relationship. They are now self sufficient and living a “normal life” as a family.

New Pathways has taken on the challenge of trying to meet the needs of survivors and offers counselling and support to many communities. They have set in place an effective and sustainable response that is tailored to address the consequences of the trauma that emanates from rape and sexual abuse. Although they have staff who can speak more than one language the use of interpreters can be a huge underlying expense.

Relentless partnership working has been the key motto for the team as they are dealing with real people with real issues in this real world. So if it is possible to get better when dealing with our victims then to be good is not good enough.

The Council of Europe Convention

The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings [CETS No.197] was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 3 May 2005 and opened for signature in Warsaw on 16 May 2005, on the occasion of the 3rd Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe member States.

To date, the Convention has been ratified by Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Georgia, Moldova, Romania, Slovakia and Bulgaria and has been signed by 25 other CoE member states: Andorra, Armenia, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

The Council of Europe Convention is a comprehensive treaty which aims to (3 Ps):

- Prevent trafficking
- Protect the Human Rights of victims of trafficking
- Prosecute the traffickers



The UK signed on the 23rd March 2007

State number of words used: 3,960

Section D: Endorsement by Senior Representative - *Please insert letter from endorsing representative, this will not count towards your word or 1MB size limit restrictions.*

Checklist for Applicants:

1. Have you read the process and application form guidance?
2. Have you completed all four sections of the application form in full including the endorsement from a senior representative?
3. Have you checked that your entry addresses all aspects of the judging criteria?
4. Have you advised all partner agencies that you are submitting an entry for your project?
5. Have you adhered to the formatting requirements within the guidance?
6. Have you checked whether there are any reasons why your project should **not** be publicised to other police forces, partner agencies and the general public e.g. civil or criminal proceedings pending in relation to your project?
7. Have you inserted your project name as a footer note on the application form? Go to View-Header and Footer to add it.
8. Have you saved you application form as a word document and entitled your message '**Tilley 08 entry (followed by project name in brackets)**' before emailing it?

Once you are satisfied that you have completed your application form in full please email it to Tilleyawards08@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk. One hard copy must also be posted to Alex Blackwell at Home Office, Effective Practice & Communication Team, 4th Floor, Fry Building (SE Quarter), 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF and be received by 25th April 2008.