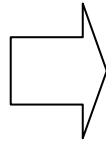


## PTC PROGRESS REPORT & UPDATE August 2018

Campaign to ban “sex for sale” adverts:

**TOTAL SIGNATURES TO DATE:**

**43,599**



**TARGET:**

**100,000 signatures**

Since our last Progress Report we have had signatures from clubs in Chester, Heswell, Stafford and from the Weymouth area via the Thomas Buxton Society - thank you all – we really can't do this without your help, which we value greatly. Check out the Bar Chart to see the amazing UK coverage so far, and please continue to collect signatures from the circles of influence you are in – apart from Soroptimist events, this may be a church, WI, Rotary, CWL, or other community group, schools or colleges; it may be at work, or social group who would be interested in learning more about trafficking and what encourages the demand – Sorops are very quick to spot an opportunity!



## ANTI-SLAVERY DAY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018

We hope clubs and organizations will once again make use of our **FREE SAMPLE RESOURCE PACK** to hold an awareness-raising event on this special day, or during the same week, as this is good PR for Soroptimists, brings in loads of new petition signatures, and is fun to do.

For some ideas for anti-slavery day actions and events, click [here](#)

If you would like a **FREE SAMPLE RESOURCE PACK**, email Pauline at [purple.teardrop@ntlworld.com](mailto:purple.teardrop@ntlworld.com) giving your name, club or organization name, full address and postcode, by 21st September at the latest – the quicker you let us have your details, the sooner we can organize our volunteers to send them out.

We hope you will join with us in raising awareness of this special day, and the reasons for it. If you need reminding, have a look at our [Rationale for Legislation](#), and use any of it to provide information to members of the public.

Have fun planning your Anti-Slavery Day event – we look forward to receiving your request for our free sample resource pack asap!

### Update on: [Lord McColl's Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#)

Lord McColl's Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill has gone through its first stages in the House of Lords and is now at the House of Commons. The 1<sup>st</sup> reading there (no debate) was on 17<sup>th</sup> May, and the next event is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> November, where it will be debated before it goes to the Committee stage.

It continues to be essential that as many people as possible continue to contact their MPs to ensure they know that their constituents are keen for the bill to go through, and to request that their MP attend the debate, even if you have sent an initial letter supporting the passage of the Bill.

As this reading is scheduled for a Friday, a time when most MPs go to their constituencies, it is important to put pressure on them to attend. A personal letter is better than an emailed one, and asking for a brief meeting is even better; it carries more weight, especially if the MP knows that local Soroptimists are behind the Bill.

A concerted effort by Soroptimists and others all over the country, would make the most impact. Why not encourage your local contacts to sign the petition and write to their MP, when they return to Parliament, and before 23<sup>rd</sup> November? This is an easy thing to do for Anti-Slavery Day! The “Free for Good” rationale and petition can be read [here](#)

If you want to know more about the progress of bills through Parliament you will find lots of details by clicking on <https://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaveryvictimsupport.html>

*Whatever you are planning for Anti-Slavery Day, whether it is raising awareness, raising funds to support victims of trafficking, or both, please give us a brief summary and a photo so we can share our good work with each other and with other people – it's great for Soroptimist recruitment too!*

*Send your event information to us at [Enquiries@purpleteardrop.org.uk](mailto:Enquiries@purpleteardrop.org.uk) and of course a **SIGBI** programme focus report under Violence and Conflict Resolution. For up to date instructions on submitting a form click [here](#)*



## Soroptimists working to end human trafficking

### Victim Support Programme.

This is what we (and by helping us), you, do with funds raised to transform the lives of trafficked women and girls

#### HOW DO WE HELP?

- 💧 We supplement the basic facilities at the safe houses we support
- 💧 We enable Outreach work to survivors now living in the community
- 💧 We Provide support for education and training to improve skills for work, through the safe houses we support

[www.purpleteardrop.org.uk](http://www.purpleteardrop.org.uk)




Over £23,000 Donated

To raise funds to support victims of trafficking through the Purple Teardrop Campaign Victim Support Programme, Soroptimists and others have: swum, run, danced, walked, marched, kept vigils, held coffee mornings, chained themselves up, had stands at fairs, church fetes, conferences, fashion shows and silent auctions, to name but a few wonderful events.



## Government working to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking

### 1. Home Affairs Select Committee: Modern Slavery Inquiry

The Home Affairs Select Committee has announced it will undertake an inquiry looking at what progress has been made in the three years since the Modern Slavery Act came into force and what more remains to be done.

The Committee invites written evidence on, but not limited to, the following issues:

- The current scale and nature of modern slavery
- The impact of the Modern Slavery Act 2015
- How to increase understanding and reporting of modern slavery offences
- The impact of 'county lines', and how this issue can be tackled
- What success in tackling modern slavery would look like, and what benchmarks should be used to measure progress
- Current levels of support for victims, and how it can be improved
- How the police and immigration system's response to modern slavery offences could be improved
- What the priorities for the new Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner should be

The deadline for submissions is Friday 7 September 2018. Read more [here](#)

### 2. Review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015

**The government has commissioned an independent review of the Modern Slavery Act, to be run by Maria Miller MP, Frank Field MP and Baroness Butler-Sloss.**

'The aim of the Review is to identify where the Act is working well, what can be improved in the implementation of the Act and whether specific areas of the legislation need to be strengthened. Full terms of reference for the Review are attached, and will include the definition of exploitation, transparency in supply chains for businesses, the statutory defence, Independent Child Trafficking Advocates and the role of the Independent Anti-Slavery commissioner. As the methods used by criminals to exploit vulnerable people evolve, this Review will allow us to future-proof our legislation to respond to the changing threat.'

As regards how this review will relate to the Home Affairs Select Committee Inquiry, the Government has indicated: 'The HASC inquiry will provide evidence on a range of non-legislative issues that this Review will not cover. It will complement the independent Review's deep dive into specific provisions of our modern slavery legislation.'

***"the measure of a woman is what she does with power on behalf of other women" - Kay Koplovitz***