

From: [The Clewer Initiative](#)
To: ctcinfohub@gmail.com
Subject: Stamping out county lines
Date: 03 April 2024 10:01:52

● THE CLEWER ● INITIATIVE

Mobilising the Church to help end modern slavery.

Stamping out county lines

Despite the uncertainty regarding our future, we continue to devote ourselves to fighting modern slavery in all its forms in the UK. In this month's newsletter we share stories of how we are equipping street pastors, teachers, statutory and youth workers to combat county lines.

Please forward this newsletter to your friends and colleagues and encourage them to sign up to receive it regularly.



The Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner

commends our work

Last month, Eleanor Lyons, the new Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, met representatives from The Clewer Initiative to find out more about our work and hopes for the future.

During the meeting, the team was able to discuss the vital importance of prevention and how The Clewer Initiative has a unique opportunity to work in this space.

Caroline Virgo, director of The Clewer Initiative, comments: “It was energising to meet Eleanor and learn that she shares our belief that preventative work is critical in the fight against modern slavery. It was sobering to discuss the way in which children and young people are getting drawn into slavery but it underlined, once again, the importance of our county lines training programme and awareness raising.”

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Equipping frontline workers at residential care setting in Cumbria

The Clewer Initiative recently delivered its County Lines Train the Trainer sessions to 25 team members of A Wilderness Way.

[A Wilderness Way](#) (AWW) is one of the country’s leading providers of residential care, health and education for children who have suffered trauma and exploitation. Its centres provide a warm, safe and therapeutic environment where children, who are vulnerable and in crisis, can grow and develop and re-frame their beliefs.

Sarah Glencross, the Learning and Development Coordinator at AWW, contacted The Clewer Initiative to see if it could provide county lines training for some of her colleagues.



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Supporting Preston's Street Pastors

[Preston & South Ribble Street Pastors](#) started their ministry in 2008. They patrol Preston City Centre every Saturday night and some Friday nights, ensuring the homeless are looked after and spending time with people who are leaving pubs and clubs. They aim to “care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets.”

Patrols are drawn from a 40 strong team which is coordinated by Paul Blackett. Paul was aware that the drug scene is always changing and felt that it was important to find current training for his team. He saw an advert for the [County Lines Train the Trainer](#) session in The Clewer Initiative’s monthly newsletter and thought it could be a perfect fit for the Street Pastors. He attended the training in February 2021 and has been benefitting from the knowledge ever since.





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Our county lines schools resource

The Clewer Initiative has produced lesson plans for schools and youth leaders to raise awareness of the nature of county lines. The sessions include information, activities and case studies that show the scale of this crime as well as the impact it has on children, families and communities.

The Clewer Initiative's Secondary School material consists of three, one hour sessions and includes everything a teacher will need. The lessons can be taught over three individual weeks or adapted for a particular context.

The material has been developed in collaboration with Cumbria Police and reviewed and approved by the Education Board in Cumbria. It was piloted across the county of Cumbria in various secondary schools and PRUs.

[DOWNLOAD LESSON PLANS](#)



New resource coming soon!

The Clewer Initiative and the Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime (MSOIC) have co-produced a new resource to help anyone involved with the care sector recognise and respond to modern slavery. It is vital that anyone who lives, works, visits or runs a care home, knows the potential signs of exploitation.

To find out more, please attend:

- 1) our online seminar introducing the resource - Fri 26th April, 12.30pm
- 2) one of our Train the Trainer seminars - Wed 8th May, 2-4pm or Mon 13th May, 7-9pm

[SIGN UP TODAY](#)



2024 & beyond

For the last seven years, the Community of St John Baptist (CSJB) or Clewer Sisters, an Anglican religious order of Augustinian nuns, have funded The Clewer Initiative. This financial support is coming to an end so we are seeking alternative sources of funding to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project.

We have created a short report, outlining our story so far and vision for the future. It contains case studies from Leeds, Blackburn, Carlisle, Canterbury, Worcester, Southwark and Cumbria as well as endorsements from key players in the sector and other testimonies. It also details some of the reasons why The Clewer Initiative is uniquely placed to lead the fight against modern slavery in the UK.

If you have any questions about supporting The Clewer Initiative financially, email caroline.virgo@churchofengland.org or Chris Elliott, volunteer head of fundraising for The Clewer Initiative rasocialjustice@gmail.com

DOWNLOAD TODAY

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION



Our story so far and vision for the future!



clewerinitiative@churchofengland.org
theclewerinitiative.org

Testimonies from churches and communities around the UK

SAVE THE DATE - TRAINING ON OUR NEW CARE SECTOR RESOURCE!

1) Tackling modern slavery in the care sector - an introduction to the resource
Fri 26th April, 12.30pm

2) Modern slavery in the care sector, Train the Trainers webinar
Wed 8th May, 2-4pm or Mon 13th May, 7-9pm

Find out more about our training offering, visit <https://theclewerinitiative.org/training-and-events>

Follow us on social for more news from The Clewer Initiative!



The Clewer Initiative enables Church of England dioceses and wider church networks to develop strategies for detecting modern slavery in their communities and help provide victim support and care. [Learn More](#)

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