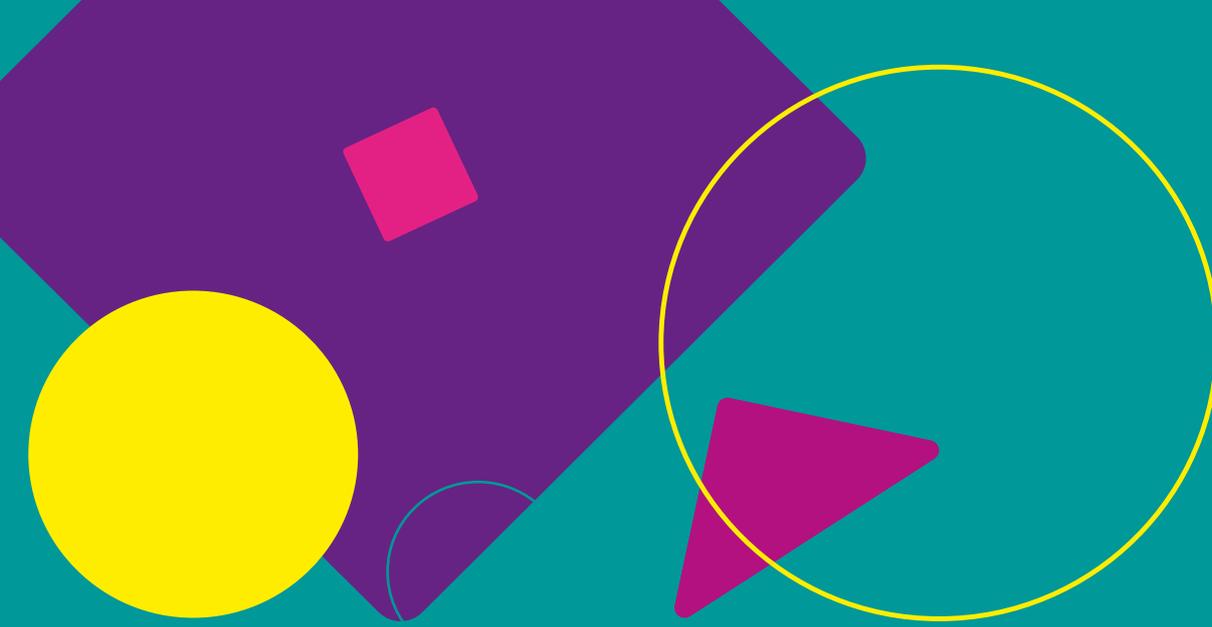


**Information
Against
Exploitation**



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Information Against Exploitation?

Information Against Exploitation is a social project funded by the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

Many people at risk of exploitation may not know if they are being exploited. Many do not know if they are supporting or combating exploitation and are unaware of their Legal Rights.

The purpose of this booklet is to work as a learning aid that can be used to support and empower individuals at risk or experiencing exploitation and better understand its various forms and their legal rights.

The information within has been coproduced with individuals with lived experience. We also draw upon the experience of working professionals and services they provide.

Exploitation

Exploitation is the action or fact of treating someone unfairly in order to benefit from their work or the action of making use of and benefiting from resources.

Thank you and Acknowledgments

Thank you to the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) Grant Fund which is supporting organisations and projects with work to prevent offending, protect communities and support victims of crime to cope, recover and move forward.

We are especially proud of MSHA residents who through their hard work and dedication were supported to coproduce the resource. Residents drew upon lived experience to create the booklet and online material providing authenticity for future participants.

We would also like to take the opportunity to thank our Staff, Working Professionals and Service Providers, as listed below, for the contribution to the project.

- Dave Collins Luton Youth Offending Service
- Andy Calvert and Nikki Bennett Tokko Youth Space
- Beth Coggan-Lennox Unseen
- Jayde Sarrington Aspire to Inspire
- Jermaine Hall Directional
- Jonathan Vale Veroniki Cherneva Bedfordshire police
- Sherean Seaton Luton Bough council

Useful Contacts

Police emergency	999
Police non-emergency	101
Signpost hub	0800 0282 887 info@signpostforbedfordshire.com
Safeguarding MASH team Luton	01582547653 mash@luton.gcsx.gov.uk
Safeguarding MASH team Bedford	01234 718700 multiagency@bedford.gov.uk
Safeguarding adult team Luton	01582 547730 or 01582 547563 adultsafeguarding@luton.gov.uk
Safeguarding adults team Bedford	01234 276222 adult.protection@bedford.gov.uk
Safeguarding adults Central Bedfordshire	03003008122 adult.protection@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Safeguarding children Central Bedfordshire	03003008585 cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Crimestoppers	0800555111 https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/pre-form
National crime agency	0800555111 communication@nca.gov.uk
Woman's aid	08002000247 helpline@womensaid.org.uk
Modern slavery helpline	0800121700 https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/report
NSPCC	08008005000 help@nspcc.org.uk
Child line	08001111 https://www.childline.org.uk/login/?returnPath=%2flocker%2fnew-email%2f
Children's society	03003037000
Run away help line	call 116000 text 116000 116000@runawayhelpline.org.uk
Multi-agency gang panel Luton Youth Offending Service	yos@luton.gcsx.gov.uk For a referral please click here

How to Guide

The Booklet and Online tool covers seven widely recognised forms of exploitation.

The Booklet is to be used by working professionals who are supporting individuals who may be at risk from one or more of the forms of exploitation.

1.

Open interactive Tool by visiting <http://maryseacoleha.com/what-we-do/support/projects-activities/>

And clicking on link Interactive Tool or open using QR code below

2.

Either work through each section or go straight to the specific form of exploitation. Read through case study

3.

Discuss the answers with the persons you are supporting and summarise their thoughts in the comment box provided

4.

Navigate the Interactive Tool accessing the relevant information on case study topics. Click on the next slide to access more information, legal rights, videos, advice and support contact details

5.

When you have finished discussing the information reflect and summarise what you have learnt, thinking about the case study

The Booklet should be used with the online interactive tool which can be accessed via the QR code below or by visiting: <http://maryseacoleha.com/home/projects/>

Choose the IAE project and click on link Interactive Tool

A downloadable PDF version of the booklet is also available from this site.

When using interactive tool please use the colour code below to access the different forms of exploitation.

-  Information
-  Sexual Exploitation
-  Forced Labour and Modern Slavery
-  Domestic Servitude
-  Enforced/Forced Criminality
-  Forced Marriages
-  Human Trafficking
-  Organ Harvesting



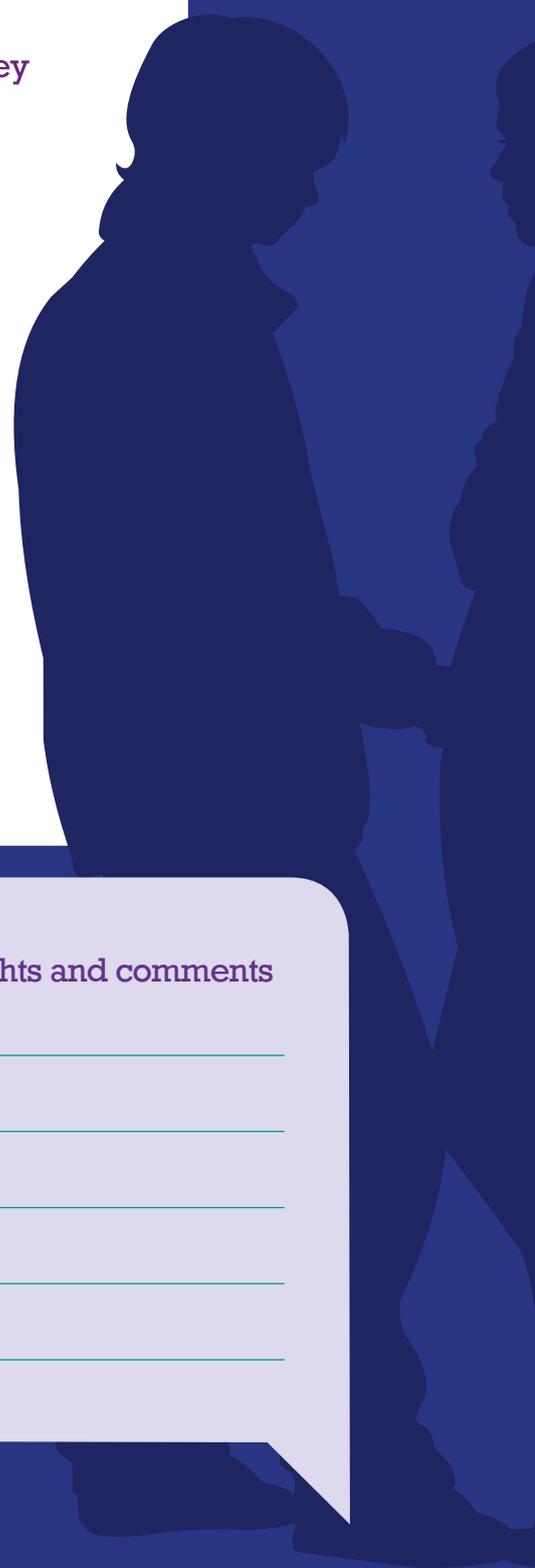
View the Prezzi presentation

Sexual exploitation

Any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, threatening or profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another

Alex is my best friend. We go to the same secondary school. We used to go everywhere together and stayed at each other's houses most weekends. We meet Charlie and Brook on the 2nd of May 2019; Alex really fancies Brook. I think they're cool as they're 9 years older than us so they both gets served cigarettes and alcohol and they have money and often buy us anything we want.

My mum found out I was smoking so I got grounded for two weeks. When I was allowed back out I went to hang around with Alex, Charlie and Brook but I felt like they didn't want me there, so I went home. Alex doesn't call me anymore. We sometimes see each other at break time but it's not the same, we are very distant and don't share our secrets anymore. Alex never wants to spend time with me out of school. Alex, Charlie and Brook are always together now. Alex's mum called my mum the other day to ask if we had seen Alex. She said that Alex hasn't been home for two days. I tried to call but my call was rejected. When I saw Alex I asked what had happened, but the subject was just changed. Alex's is always missing nowadays. Always tired and upset. Alex is really different now, we don't hang around together at all and barely even say hello to each other. The other day Alex looked really bad and I saw bruises all over Alex's arms and wrists.



Research has shown that

1 in 12

children in the UK have been sexually abused

Discuss

and summarise your thoughts and comments

Forced labour and modern slavery

Refers to situations in which persons are coerced to work through the use of violence or intimidation, or by more subtle means such as accumulated debt, retention of identity papers or threats of denunciation to immigration authorities.

I came to the United Kingdom as I wanted to work and send money over to my family. As a result, I started working on a family run farm along with five other people from different countries. Prior to starting my job I was told that I would have my own room on the farm but when I arrived, I was told that I would have to share with the five other employees.

We were made to work long hours and when it was payday; I was so upset with the reductions taken out of my wages. When applying for this job, I was under the impression that reductions had already been made on my wages and the wage stated on the advert would be the amount I could send back home to help my family. However, this was not the case, as I had under a quarter of my wage left once all reductions were made, and I needed the money so there was nothing I could do.

I didn't really like working at the farm, as we were constantly shouted at. On the third month of working there, my money was reduced even more, and when I asked my employer why this money had been reduced they stated that this reduction had been made as I had not been working hard enough. I did not understand this, as I had been working 15 hours a day and I had been trying so hard.

When I tried to argue my point; my employers stated that they had my family's address and will make threats towards my family if I did not work harder. I do not know what to do; I cannot leave, as I have no money to pay for travel and I fear that my family will be hurt if I do.

Research has shown there were
3,337
modern slavery offences recorded in England and Wales in 2017/18 ext

Discuss

and summarise your thoughts and comments

Domestic servitude

Domestic servitude is the seemingly normal practice of live-in help that is used as cover for the exploitation and control of someone, usually from another country. It is a form of forced labour, but it also warrants its own category of slavery because of the unique contexts and challenges it presents.

I came to the United Kingdom to study. My course was amazing and I sailed through my exams. I made a few acquaintances but not many good friends. Once I had completed my course, I got a work visa and started to look for work and accommodation. I must admit, I really struggled to find a job and one day on my way back from the library I met someone called Lee. Lee advised there was a family who wanted help around the house and they came with accommodation.

The next day I met my employer and moved straight in; they gave me a small room in the basement of their house. It was very basic, but I decided I could do it up a little and make it liveable. The first few days at my new job were OK, but I found the couple to be very abrupt and sometimes rude.

Over the next few weeks, I found that I was working about 15 hours a day and I had not yet been paid. I asked to have a day off to go shopping however, I was told that there is no time for me to go out as I had tasks to do. I was told that my wages this month had been used for living cost, rent, utility bills and food that I had eaten. I was so upset. I wanted to leave but I had nowhere to go.

I continued to work to earn my keep and decided to start looking for alternative work. One day I told my employers that I wanted to go the shop to get credit for my phone. The couple both stated that they would get this for me and asked for my phone. They never gave it back to me. Over the next few months things got drastically worse. I am not allowed out. I am often locked in my room. I'm still not allowed a phone. I cry every night and have no idea what to do.



It is estimated that

67 million

work as domestic workers across the world, this figure excludes children.

Discuss

and summarise your thoughts and comments

Enforced/ Forced Criminality

Exploitation of a person can take the form of forcing them to do criminal acts, such as pickpocketing, ATM theft, DVD selling, cannabis cultivation, and drug trafficking. This enforced criminal activity is often led by organised gangs. Being forced to conduct criminal activity stops victims from seeking help for fear of being arrested. Enforced criminality can also involve other forms of exploitation and often victims are locked away in homes. Exploitation can be due to debt bondage, which is when the employer forces the victim to pay off a debt or loan which is often inflated and nearly impossible to escape.

Jamie turned 16 years old last month and had just completed six GCESs; Jamie was so excited, school life was over and it was time to go out into the world and become an adult. Jamie searched for a job for months but had no experience, so employers were not even making contact for an interviews. One day, Jamie received a phone call from his older cousin who said that there was a job that Jamie could do, and all that he would have to do was to drop off a package and he would be paid £100.00.

Jamie was given instructions on where to go and was given the package. Jamie's first drop off went really well, so Jamie decided to do a few more drop offs just until he could find a job. Jamie made friends with a few of the people who arranged the drop offs, they were really nice and one of the older guys called Charlie, had bought Jamie an iPhone X as Jamie's phone was old and the screen was broken.

On the day of Jamie's fifth drop off; he travelled the same route that he had previously travelled on the train until Jamie noticed a group of boys and girls walking over his way. One of the boys told Jamie to hand over the package and pulled out a knife, without even waiting the boy pulled the package from his rucksack. Jamie called Charlie straight away and explained what had happened; Charlie sounded very angry and told Jamie to meet him straight away.

Charlie was really mad and pushed Jamie and explained the package would have to be replaced and it would cost £10,000.00 to replace this. Charlie told Jamie that this would have to be paid off by more work and that Jamie would have to work inside one of Charlie's houses selling drugs. Jamie was then driven by one of Charlie's friends to another town 4 hours away and taken to the house; Jamie was scared and did not know what to do.



Research has shown information gathered by the British crime survey suggests that

27,000

children in the UK identify themselves as gang members.

Discuss

and summarise your thoughts and comments

Forced Marriage

A forced marriage takes place when the bride, groom or both do not want to get married but are forced to by others, usually their families. People forced into marriage may be tricked into going abroad, physically threatened and/or emotionally blackmailed to do so.

My parents told me that on my sixteenth birthday I will meet the person I am going to marry. I am so scared, I don't want to get married this young. I want to meet my own partner when I'm older and get to know them before I decide if they are going to be the right person to get married to.

My parents said that I will shame the family if I do not marry the person they have picked and that they will disown me. They've told me that the person is 36 years old, that 20 years older than me. What will we have in common? And how am I going to fall in love with someone who I share no interests with?

I really don't want to do this, I always imagined my marriage day to be the happiest time of my life, but this is going to be the worst day of my life. I have been told that I won't see my future partner until my wedding day and I haven't even seen a picture. I think this is so unfair, I don't know what to do, I can't bring shame to my family and be disowned, but I am scared and I don't want to marry someone I do not love.

Discuss

and summarise your thoughts and comments

Human Trafficking

The action or practice of illegally transporting people from one country or area to another, typically for the purposes of forced labour or sexual exploitation.

I lived at home with my parents. We didn't have a lot of money and my dad was in a lot of debt, as he had to pay for medical expenses for my sister. One day, when I was working with my dad we spoke about work opportunities in the United Kingdom. I suggested I could go and earn some money and send it home to help the family. Thinking that, it sounded like a good opportunity and my dad agreed that I could do this.

Everything was arranged very quickly. I was picked up by a man in the morning and he drove me to the lorry that I would be traveling in. I was then put in the back of the lorry with around 20 other people. There were men, women, and children all different ages, all going to England to work. We had to hide in the lorry as we had no travel documentation and we travelled for days, we did not get out of the van at all and were made to go to the toilet in the buckets provided in the corner.

A lot of people became very unwell; I was hungry, thirsty, cold and very tired. I found myself drifting in and out of sleep and lost track of how long I had been traveling for. The next thing I can remember is waking up on the floor in a room with some other people from the lorry, the only things that were in the room was a jug of water and some bread on a table in the corner.

About an hour after I woke up, a man unlocked the door and entered the room. He shouted at everybody to get their belongings as we would all need to get up and start work, the man stated that if we did not do what he was asking us to do he would send someone to hurt our families. I was so scared, I had no one to turn to and I didn't know what to do.



Research has shown that
71%
of trafficked victims are female.

Discuss

and summarise your thoughts and comments



View the Prezzi presentation

Human trafficking information and legal rights

Click the link below or enter the keywords into a online search engine

- (YouTube video) Idas story >
- Stop the traffik >
- Unseen, Human trafficking >
- National Crime Agency human trafficking >

- Signpost Hub support for crime victims in Bedfordshire >
- GOV.UK After a crime, your rights >
- CPS witness and victim care treatment >
- Ministry Of Justice victim and witness information >

Now reflect

on the information, discuss and summarise your thoughts and comments



Research has shown that

37%

victims of trafficking in forced marriage were children.

Organ Harvesting

The trafficking in organs involves removing a part of the body, commonly the kidneys and liver, to sell often as an illegal trade

I came to work in the United Kingdom as I wanted to provide a better life for my family back home. I shared a room with some other people who were also there for the same purpose. I managed to find a couple of packing jobs which lasted for a few months, but after a few months I found myself unemployed again.

Over the following weeks I looked for work, but couldn't find any, I ran out of money so I could not afford to stay in the shared room and I found myself homeless. Due to my circumstances, I was not entitled to benefits and I could not afford any type of accommodation. I found myself sleeping in corridors of the local flats and eating from soup kitchens.

I met a lady who was in the same situation as me and we became good friends; she stated that she knew someone who would pay for my organs and that we could get different prices for different organs. She was confident that we could sell one of the organs that can be easily lived without. She said that she was going abroad next week to have one of her kidneys taken out and in exchange she will get some money and somewhere to live for six months and would be provided with a job.

She stated that she could talk to the person organising this and see if I could get the same opportunity which they later agreed to. I was scared and felt like I had no other options but to take this opportunity. I could not continue to live like this and I knew that my family were relying on me to provide for them.



Kidneys are the most common organ to be harvested in the illegal market.

Discuss

and summarise your thoughts and comments



WHO ARE

MARY
SEACOLE

HOUSING

At Mary Seacole Housing, we provide a diverse range of supported accommodation and community services for single people aged between 16-65 years. We cater for and provide support to individuals that feel at risk within society.

We liaise and work with other agencies in order to provide specialist services, as and when required.

Our mission is to support our residents to achieve their individual goals and move from a state of dependence to independence. We strive to make life more rewarding for everyone we support and aim to set them out on a path to a bright future.

Find out about Mary Seacole Housing by visiting <http://maryseacoleha.com>

Find out more about our supported accommodation and how we help our clients to move on >link

WHO ARE THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER?

The job of the Police and Crime Commissioner is to be the public's voice when it comes to policing Bedfordshire, setting priorities for the Chief Constable and Force to deliver in a strategic plan and holding the Chief Constable to account.

Kathryn Holloway is Bedfordshire's elected Police and Crime Commissioner and is responsible for directing the spending of a £100M budget and for supporting the Victims of Crime and increasing security as a result of grants. These grants are distributed to partner agencies through the Community Safety and Victim Support funds.

You can find out more about Kathryn Holloway and the work of the Commissioner by visiting: <https://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk>