

## **Key achievements of the Parliamentary Group on Human Trafficking since its formation in July 2006.**

### **Key milestones**

9 July 2006 - Launch of Parliamentary Group - Chief Constable Grahame Maxwell, lead in Operation Pentameter I - a national Police operation tackling trafficking.

5 February 2007 - The Speaker becomes first President of the Group

29 January 2008 - Launch: Blue Blindfold Campaign (House of Commons) to raise awareness of human trafficking problems, together with Yorkshire constabulary

28 October 2008 - Launch: Pan-European Campaign to establish other parliamentary groups in EU parliaments

### **Visits**

1 March 2007 - Europol, The Netherlands

30 April 2007 - Poppy Project, Camberwell – sole London shelter for trafficked women over 18 years old

31 January 2008 - Asylum Screening Unit, Croydon

1 February 2008 - Immigration control, Gatwick Airport

12-16 May 2008 - Group chairman invited by parliamentary Home Affairs Select Committee to accompany them to Ukraine and Russia in their human trafficking investigations

16 July 2009 - On the beat in Soho with Police from Charing Cross Police Station

30 July 2009 - On patrol with Police from Clubs and Vice Team

31 July 2009 - Police 'Kidnap' Unit

5 August 2009 - On police raid to sauna parlour in Hackney

11 August 2009 - On police raid for trafficked children in Ilford

26 October 2009 - Visit to Kalayaan, NGO, meeting women and men who had been in 'domestic slavery'

23 November 2009 – Visit to UK Human Trafficking Centre, Sheffield

## International conferences

12 February 2008 - Parliamentary Forum, Vienna, to discuss how best to fight Human Trafficking

3-6 February 2009 - Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Migration & Human Trafficking Conference

14 May 2009 - Home Affairs Select Committee Human Trafficking Conference

14-15 September 2009 - Panel chairman at OSCE Conference, Vienna

20 October 2009 - Presentation to parliamentarians at annual Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference, Geneva

20 November 2009 – ECPAT and Operation Golf Human Trafficking Conference, Lincoln’s Inn

## Evidence sessions

16 July 2007 - “Why are there so few charges and convictions of traffickers?”

Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Ken Macdonald, QC

17 October 2007 - “Why do trafficked children go missing from Social Services care?”

Director, Children’s Services Manchester City Council; Chairman, Social Service Asylum Task Force, Pauline Newman

4 December 2007 - “Operation Pentameter II and police priorities on tackling human trafficking”

Head of the UK Human Trafficking Centre, Nick Kinsella

29 January 2008 - “How trafficked children slip through the immigration system”

Chief Executive of the UK Borders Agency, Lin Homer

24 June 2008 - “Successes and failures of Operation Pentameter II”

Chief Constable of Gloucestershire, Dr Tim Brain

29 June 2009 - “Crown Prosecution Service Performance on Human Trafficking”

Director of Public Prosecutions, Keir Starmer QC

19 October 2009 - “Trafficked Children Speaking About Safe Accommodation”

ECPAT UK and British Association for Adoption & Fostering

## European initiative

28 October 2008 - Launch of Pan-European Campaign to establish parliamentary groups in all EU parliaments

18-20 November 2008 - Pre-Presidency visit to Czech Republic to discuss putting human trafficking on presidential agenda, with European Scrutiny Select Committee

18-19 March 2009 – Visit to Polish Parliament to discuss situation of human trafficking and foster parliamentary links

30-31 March 2009 - Visit to Lithuanian Parliament to meet MPs campaigning against trafficking and foster parliamentary cooperation

28-29 May 2009 - Visit to German Parliament to meet MPs and Human Trafficking Police Team

15-16 June 2009 - Visit to Croatian Parliament as part of European Scrutiny Select Committee visit, to meet MPs

17-18 June 2009 – Visit to Danish Parliament to meet MPs campaigning against trafficking

28 June 2009 - Carmen Calvo MP, Spanish former Minister for Equality, visits UK to discuss closer working relations with the UK Parliament

6-8 July 2009 - Visit to Romania with Baroness Butler-Sloss to meet parliamentarians campaigning against trafficking

9-11 September 2009 - Visit to the Netherlands to meet Members of Justice Committee and Human Trafficking Police Team

4 November 2009 – Chairman of Group visits Bulgarian Ambassador to discuss Human Trafficking

1-2 December 2009 – Visit to Spain to meet parliamentarians campaigning against trafficking

10 December 2009 – Visit to Paris to meet parliamentarians campaigning against trafficking

20 January 2010 – Chairman meets Cypriot parliamentary delegation to discuss human trafficking

## Speeches, Parliamentary Debates and Questions

13 December 2006 - Commons Debate on Human Trafficking, initiated by Anthony Steen MP and speeches by Officers & Members of the APPG

20 March 2007 - Commons Debate on the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade

9 May 2007 - Amendment by Anthony Steen MP to the second reading of the UK Borders Bill in the Commons concerning child trafficking

24 May 2007 - Commons Debate on Human Trafficking - 26th report of the Joint Committee on Human Rights, Session 2005 – 2006, HC 1127 and the Government's response thereto, Cm. 6996

20 November 2007 - Westminster Hall Debate on Children in Immigration Detention

16 January 2008 - Opposition Day Debate on Human Trafficking in the House of Commons

6 February 2008 - Westminster Hall Debate on Trafficking of Roma Street Children for Criminal Activity, initiated by Anthony Steen MP; speakers include Under-Secretary of State Vernon Coaker MP

8 July 2008 - Westminster Hall Debate Results of Operation Pentameter II initiated by Anthony Steen MP, speakers: Minister of State Vernon Coaker MP; Peter Bone MP; Dennis MacShane MP, Andrew Dismore MP; Fiona Mactaggart MP; Damien Green MP

3 February 2009 - Westminster Hall Debate on the Implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in human beings, led by Anthony Steen MP, answered by Home Office Under Secretary of State Meg Hillier MP

23 June 2009 - Westminster Hall Debate on Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation, answered by Minister for Children, Dawn Primarolo

7 October 2009 - Fringe meeting speech at Conservative Party Conference with Director of Poppy Project (Denise Marshall), to discuss Human Trafficking and the Olympics

20 January 2010 – Westminster Hall Debate on UK Human Trafficking Centre, answered by Home Office Under-Secretary of State, Alan Campbell MP

Approximately 300 Oral and Written Parliamentary Questions have appeared on Order Paper in last 3 years

## Developments across the UK since formation of Group

1 February 2006 - Launch of Operation Pentameter I: a nationwide police campaign to tackle the illegal exploitation of trafficking victims in the UK

3 October 2006 - Opening of the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre in Sheffield

23 March 2007 - Government signs Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

23 March 2007 - Launch of the Government's Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking

11 July 2007 - Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) report on child trafficking in the UK, findings: 183 of the 330 known or suspected trafficked children that were reported missing

3 October 2007 - Operation Pentameter II launched by Home Office Secretary, UK wide operation to identify and disrupt those involved in human trafficking, rescue victims, and raise awareness

18 October 2007 - Chairman Anthony Steen awarded ECPAT Children's Champion award 2007 for his work campaign for trafficked children

14 January 2008 - Government's announcement to review the current Reservation on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on Immigration and Nationality

2 July 2008 - Operation Pentameter II results published: 167 victims identified; 528 criminals arrested; 822 premises visited; 6,400 police intelligence reports gathered; more than £500,000 worth of cash has recovered; 13 of the victims were children with the youngest 14 years old.

July 2008 - Launch of the Government's Updated Action Plan, involving the following ministries: Justice; Home Office; Communities and Local Government; Children, Schools, and Families; International Development; Foreign and Commonwealth Office; and Health

December 2008 - Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

1 April 2009 - Implementation of Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking

24 April 2009 - Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) report : A study into outcomes for children and young people encountered in cannabis factories in the UK

5 May 2009 - Guardian Newspaper reveals Border and Immigration report that 77 Chinese children went missing from care home near Heathrow

19 October 2009 - Government publishes Updated Action Plan, involving the following ministries: Justice; Home Office; Communities and Local Government; Children, Schools, and Families; International Development; Foreign and Commonwealth Office; and Health

## Miscellaneous

12 October 2006 - Briefing meeting on child trafficking with ECPAT UK

17 October 2006 – Meeting with Under-Secretary of State for Home Office, Vernon Coaker MP

24 October 2006 – Meeting seven African child victims of trafficking in House of Commons

1 March 2007 – Discussion with Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings, Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, The Hague, NL

August 2007 – Meeting with Anti-Slavery International on trafficking of Vietnamese boys for cannabis factories

17-19 September 2007 - Europol and Interpol, The Hague, The Netherlands. Part of involvement in Police Service Parliamentary Scheme, in which Anthony Steen MP was a recruit

12 December 2007 - Officers of the APPG plan strategy and timetable for upcoming year.

31 January 2008 – Meeting with Kalayaan, a NGO providing support for migrant domestic workers and women trafficking for labour exploitation, London

19 February 2008 – Discussion with Home Secretary, Rt Hon Jacqui Smith MP, on ratification of the Council of Europe Convention

6 May 2008 - Officers of the Group plan strategy

18 June 2008 – Visit by Dutch National Rapporteur on trafficking to discuss her role and powers, House of Commons

10 July 2008 - Home Office Under-Secretary of State, Vernon Coaker MP regarding Pentameter II; Articles 10-14 of Council of Europe Convention

10 July 2008 - Helen Bamber Foundation, care and support for victims of human trafficking

2 October 2008 - UKHTC Director Nick Kinsella to discuss progress of the UKHTC

21 October 2008 - Group AGM and Strategy meeting

20 January 2009 – Operation Golf Police briefing at West End Central Police Station on situation of Roma children, together with Officers of the Group

4 March 2009 - Police briefing from Chief Inspector Dale from Devon & Cornwall Constabulary on case of sex trafficking of Czech national into Paignton

23 April 2009 - Briefing by head of Lithuanian International Organisation for Migration concerning spread of trafficking throughout Eastern Europe

12 May 2009 - Roundtable meeting with key anti-trafficking NGOs. Discussed Section 14 Policing and Crime Bill

14 July 2009 - Annual General Meeting of APPG; officers re-elected

7 September 2009 - Meeting with John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, to discuss human trafficking exhibition in Upper Waiting Room Corridor

15 October 2009 - Meeting with Croydon Community Action against Trafficking (CCAT)

24 November 2009 – Meeting with Immigration Minister, Phil Woolas MP, re domestic visa regulations

7 December 2009 – Meeting with Judge Anthony Pitts QC to discuss current state of law