

Media Release
19 April 2010

Police Employee To Run Marathon To Raise Funds For Trafficking Charity

STOP UK, supporting trafficked and oppressed people, commends police officer John O'Mahony, 43, for his fundraising endeavours in running this year's Virgin London Marathon on 25 April.

Geographical Support Officer John from Hove in Sussex, is running his second marathon. He hopes to complete the race in under four hours and raise £2000.

STOP UK works at Gatwick Airport in partnership with the UK Border Agency and Sussex Police. The outreach work by STOP UK supplements the work undertaken by these agencies in relation to the prevention of human trafficking.

John said: "I have the honour and pleasure of running the Virgin London Marathon for STOP UK. I am honoured because STOP UK have only one place in which they only get once every five years and this place they have offered me to run for them. That's why we need to use it to collect as much money as possible and make 26 miles on a Sunday morning in April make a difference. Make a difference to people who are scared for their lives and in some instances the lives of their families. In other words, help me to help them and make that difference! The pleasure for me is knowing that my endeavours as a runner will hopefully reach victims of trafficking who need support and assistance. I am looking forward to raising money for a cause that I care so deeply about."

Stop UK's Chief Executive Juliet Singer said: "At the charity we are privileged to have John as our only runner. We hope that his efforts will further help educate people. Human Trafficking deceives people into leaving their home with promises of a better future. Victims are then transported, from city to city, or country to country. Then they are exploited, often to be used in the vice industry, but also for forced labour and domestic servitude. Human Trafficking is modern day slavery."

For more information about the charity and trafficking issues visit www.stop-uk.org
To sponsor John go to www.justgiving.com/john4stopuk

Media Enquiries

Please contact Brian Cowan at the charity STOP UK on 07752 478549 or email media@stop-uk.org

Available for interview:

- Chief Executive Juliet Singer

- John O'Mahony

Images available:

- STOP logo

Notes to Editor

STOP (Trafficking UK) is a charity established to support trafficked people and raise awareness of the urgent problem of modern day slavery in the UK. (Registered Charity No. 1116332)

STOP operates a confidential helpline **0844 800 33 14** to provide support and advice to those who find themselves victims of forced labour, domestic servitude or prostitution.

Donations can be made online at www.justgiving.com/stopuk

For further information visit www.stop-uk.org

Key facts:

Human trafficking is thought to have a turnover exceeding US \$10 billion. Estimates suggest that the number of people trafficked annually is between 600,000 (US government figure) and three million (International Labour Organisation figure).

STOP can provide a support network and assistance with:

Rescue and shelter, physical and medical conditions, legal problems, family tracing, witness co-ordination.