

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Act 2015 Annual Statement 2020/21

Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust offers the following statement regarding its efforts to prevent slavery and human trafficking in its supply chain.

Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 requires all organisations to set out the steps the organisation has taken during the financial year to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any of its supply chains and in any part of its own business or supply chain.

The Organisation

Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust provides secondary care, community and older persons' mental health services to a local population of approximately 200,000. Wider populations are served for specialist screening services, gynaecology-oncology services and some breast services, including South of Tyne, Northumberland, Humberside, Cumbria and Lancashire. Our annual turnover is around £349m and we have a workforce of around 4,417 people.

Our Commitment

The Trust considers the potential social impact and effect of its supply chain prior to the commencement of a procurement. It is committed to ensuring its suppliers adhere to the highest standards of ethics and undertakes due diligence when considering new suppliers as well as regularly reviewing existing suppliers.

The Trust recognises that it has a responsibility to take a robust approach preventing and addressing any concerns to slavery and human trafficking.

The organisation is committed to preventing slavery and human trafficking in its corporate activities and to ensuring that its supply chains are free from slavery and human trafficking.

We are committed to acting ethically and with integrity and transparency in all business dealing and to putting effective systems and controls in place to safeguard against any form of modern slavery taking place within the business of our supply chain.

Training

Advice and training regarding modern slavery and human trafficking is available to staff through our safeguarding children and adults training programmes, our safeguarding policies and procedures and our safeguarding lead.

Although specific training has not been undertaken for staff, Trust staff undertake safeguarding training as part of core training which references Modern Day Slavery and informs staff how to raise concerns regarding any vulnerable adult.

Members of the Procurement senior team are Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) qualified and abide by the CIPs code of professional conduct.

The Trust's Policy Framework

The Trust has a number of policies in place which support this agenda including-

- a Recruitment and Selection policies
- b Safeguarding policies
- c Raising Concerns – Freedom to Speak Up
- d Managing Conflicts of Interest

Our Due Dilligence

As part of our efforts to monitor and reduce the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring within our supply chain we have taken the following steps:

- Gathered information from the business concerning existing suppliers;
- Identified tier 1 suppliers to our business;
- Sought confirmation from those suppliers of their own compliance with the Modern Slavery Act (where appropriate) and their commitment to ethical business practices and transparency in their own supply chains.

These steps have been taken to enable us to:

- Establish and assess areas of potential risk in our business and supply chains;
- Monitor potential risk areas in our business and supply chains;
- Train our employees on what to look for (the signs of modern slavery);
- Reduce the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring in our business and supply chains;
- Provide adequate protection for whistle blowers.

As a result, we undertake a process of due diligence to provide assurance to all relevant interested parties (ie our staff and our customers) that we work alongside reputable organisations.

We also confirm the identities of all new employees and their right to work in the United Kingdom in line with NHS employment check standards within our recruitment and selection practices and pay all our employees above the National Living Wage.

Our ICORE values, Harassment and Bullying, Grievance and Raising Concerns policies give staff a platform for our employees to raise concerns about poor working practices or behaviours not in line with those expected.

Risk and Compliance

The Trust has taken steps to evaluate the nature and extent of its exposure to the risk of modern slavery occurring within our supply chain, measured against legislative and regulatory requirements.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bilcliff', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Signed:

Jackie Bilcliff

Acting Chief Executive

Date: 10 June 2021

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes the need for transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and techniques used to collect and analyze data. It includes a detailed description of the experimental procedures and the statistical tools employed.

3. The third part of the document presents the results of the study, including a comparison of the different methods and a discussion of the implications of the findings.

4. The fourth part of the document concludes the study and provides a summary of the key findings and recommendations for future research.

5. The fifth part of the document contains a list of references and a list of figures and tables.

6. The sixth part of the document contains a list of appendices and a list of footnotes.

7. The seventh part of the document contains a list of acknowledgments and a list of contact information.

8. The eighth part of the document contains a list of abbreviations and a list of symbols.

9. The ninth part of the document contains a list of definitions and a list of terms.

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