

Statement on Modern Slavery

Introduction

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (the “MSA”) and constitutes the slavery and human trafficking statement of the University of Surrey. It will replace our previous statement, published in September 2017, effective upon approval by the Executive Board.

We are committed to improving our practices to combat slavery and human trafficking and are committed to ensuring that slavery and human trafficking are not taking place in our supply chains or in any parts of our business.

Our organisation's structure

The University of Surrey is constituted and founded by Royal Charter within the Higher Education sector. The University has approximately 3000 employees. Our operations are primarily based within the United Kingdom. The University is supported by a centralised procurement and contracting team with transactional purchasing devolved to individual departments. We also own a number of subsidiaries, including Surrey Sports Park Limited and Blackwell Developments (Guildford) Limited.

Our supply chains

Our main supply chains are:

- Laboratory testing consumables and equipment
- Information Technology equipment and services
- Estates goods and services
- Business and Trading Services
- Professional services

Within these categories we believe the following types of goods and services contract are likely to carry the highest risks in relation to modern slavery and human trafficking:

- Construction and land development
- Cleaning
- Catering
- Clothing and promotional goods
- IT
- Temporary labour

Many of the above are purchased under the Southern Universities Procurement Consortium (SUPC), who fully support the MSA. SUPC’s statement and further information on how they ensure compliance with the MSA can be found via the following link:

<http://www.supc.ac.uk/images/documents/SUPCStatementonModernSlavery.pdf>

Our policies on slavery and human trafficking

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business.

The University Purchasing policy has been updated and approved by the University's Executive Board and will be communicated to key stakeholders shortly. The updated policy reflects our commitment to act with integrity and ethically in all our business relationships and to implement and enforce effective systems and controls, including in relation to combatting modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains.

We intend to include slavery and human trafficking policy provisions in a future update to appropriate an existing policy. Consideration will also be given in future to implementing a standalone policy on slavery and human trafficking.

The University has a whistleblowing policy in place that is intended to provide a process for and protection to University workers who wish to raise genuine concerns regarding, amongst other things, our business practices. This policy was updated last year to ensure it is consistent with recent legal developments and recommended good practice as well as making express reference to modern slavery in a supply chain as an example of a potential concern staff might disclose under the policy.

What we are doing now

Implementing a "contract lifecycle management programme". This includes:

- Identification and training of a limited number of key individuals who have authority to purchase material goods and services.
- A "contracts repository". We are in the process implementing a suitable contracts repository software solution. The repository will include functionality to identify risks types, including modern slavery. It will also identify the University contract manager and signpost where guidance on MSA is provided and what the responsibilities of the contract manager are in identifying, managing and mitigating risks.
- Requirement for appropriate due diligence for new suppliers with whom we contract, which will include modern slavery checks.
- Updated standard terms and conditions of purchasing, which will include provisions concerning compliance with applicable modern slavery laws.

Developing the policies and supporting practices referred to above.

A modern slavery working group exists for:

- Continuing to identify and assess potential risk areas in our supply chains.
- Continuing to establish how to mitigate the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring in our supply chains.
- Continuing to monitor potential risk areas in our supply chains and consider proportionate ways to ensure compliance by our suppliers.
- Continuing to commit to the protection of whistle blowers and to encourage the reporting of genuine concerns, including in respect of modern slavery and human trafficking.
- Considering appropriate, effective and proportionate ways of raising staff awareness.
- Providing input on the above referred to policies which are in development.

This statement was approved by the Executive Board of the University of Surrey on 20 September 2018.