

Modern slavery and human trafficking statement

This statement is made in accordance with section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 July 2016.

We are a UK Higher Education Institute which provides a wide range of teaching, research and related activities. We are based in Manchester but are involved across the globe. We have 42,900 students registered on courses in the UK and across the world. We employ 12,125 people and had an income of £1.01 billion for the financial year ending 31 July 2015.

More information about us and our activities is available here:
<http://www.manchester.ac.uk/>

Our Policies

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. As part of this commitment we have adopted an Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy.

This demonstrates our zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery and determination to behave ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships. We are committed to transparency in what we do and expect the same from our contractors, suppliers and other business partners, and their supply chains.

We have updated our terms and conditions of business, to require compliance with this policy and the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Our Supply Chains

We purchase works, goods and services from a wide range of suppliers and across a number of categories and are committed to acquiring these in a responsible manner. In order to meet our obligations under the act we have adopted a single mechanism that allows us to engage directly with every one of our existing suppliers to identify their awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking. The same process is used for all new suppliers.

We have categorised our supply chain in order to target our activities where it will have the most impact. We have reviewed our supply base to identify those that are high risk in terms of the potential for slavery and human trafficking. All of our suppliers have been assessed based on a mix of environmental, economic and social (including slavery and human trafficking) factors. We will focus our efforts on supply partners that have high risk scores in this exercise and also suppliers in the following areas (if not already captured): agriculture, hospitality, construction and staff agencies, to promote best practice throughout our supply chains.

We are reviewing use of relevant standards to provide assurance on labour practices for applicable products and processes. In some very high risk category areas (such as clothing) we use external agencies to provide assurance on supply chain practice, and will continue to assess the suitability of external validation in other areas as well.

The revision of procurement documentation and processes to align them with our policy and the Modern Slavery Act 2015 is underway and will continue to ensure that they keep pace with any developments in this sphere.

We will continue to work with our sector colleagues to share best practice and keep up to date on slavery and human trafficking considerations within the supply chain.

Our People

There is a clear chain of accountability in this area; overall responsibility rests with the Board of Governors who have devolved day to day responsibility for implementing and monitoring the University's approach to the Director of Finance.

We are keen to ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and are committed to raise awareness amongst all staff about this. In particular we will stress the need for operational practice to match the expectations in this area. We will engage widely with staff on the issue during the coming year and will investigate the need for additional training for certain categories of staff.

Initial training on slavery and human trafficking has been provided for procurement professionals and further training is planned during the coming twelve months.

Guidance on slavery and human trafficking for internal purchasers and staff involved in purchasing from high risk categories is in preparation.