

UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF MORECAMBE BAY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Modern Slavery Act 2015 – Statutory Statement

In accordance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, the University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay offers the following statement regarding its efforts to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking in any part of its own business or its supply chain for the financial year end 2023/24.

It demonstrates that the Trust has reviewed and met its requirements in line with Section 54 of the [Modern Slavery Act 2015](#).

Structure of the Trust

University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust provides community and hospital services across the Morecambe Bay area, an area covering a thousand square miles across south Cumbria and north Lancashire.

It operates the three hospital sites - Furness General Hospital in Barrow, the Royal Lancaster Infirmary and Westmorland General Hospital in Kendal, as well as a number of community healthcare premises including Millom Hospital and GP Practice, Queen Victoria Hospital in Morecambe and Ulverston Community Health Centre.

Furness General Hospital and the Royal Lancaster Infirmary have a range of General Hospital services, with full Emergency Departments, Critical/Coronary Care units and Consultant led services.

Westmorland General Hospital provides a range of General Hospital services, together with an Urgent Treatment Centre, that can help with a range of non-life threatening conditions such as broken bones and minor illnesses.

All three hospital sites provide a range of planned care including outpatients, diagnostics, therapies, day case and inpatient surgery. In addition, a range of local outreach services and diagnostics are provided from community facilities across Morecambe Bay.

The community services for adults within the community across Cumbria are provided in people's homes, community centres, clinics, GP practices, community hospitals and the main hospitals. The aim is to work with people to help them remain independent, improve their health and manage their conditions through high quality care, advice and support.

Trust's Compliance Requirements with the Modern Slavery Statement

The Trust fully supports the Government's objectives to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking and recognise the significant role the NHS has to play in both combatting it and supporting victims. The Trust will undertake the following:

- Comply with legislation and regulatory requirements;
- Make suppliers and service providers aware that we promote the requirements of legislation;
- Develop an awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery within our workforce; and
- Consider human trafficking and modern slavery issues when making procurement decisions.

Trust's Policies on Modern Slavery

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in any part of our business and, in so far as is possible, to requiring our suppliers hold a corresponding ethos.

Modern Slavery is incorporated within the Trust's Adult at Risk and Safeguarding Children policies, advising staff on the protocol to follow should modern slavery / human trafficking be suspected. Modern slavery is also included in training delivered by the Trust, with briefings issued from both Lancashire and Cumbria Local Safeguarding Adults Boards in relation to this. The Trust has recently

appointed a new Named Nurse for Safeguarding Adults who will take this forward as part of the Trust's Safeguarding Strategy.

We also have a number of internal policies that support our commitment to eradicating modern slavery, such as:

- Freedom to Speak up Raising Concerns;
- Early Resolution Policy (Behaviours at Work);
- Safeguarding Policy; and
- Procurement Policy.

We invest in appropriate training to ensure staff are aware of and able to respond to incidents of Modern Slavery within care settings.

We are working collaboratively across the Bay to the prevention of Modern Slavery and the protection of the health of survivors, raising wider awareness and ensuring consistency of approach. Further advice and training about slavery and human trafficking is available to staff through the Trust's Safeguarding Team.

Working with Suppliers

The Trust's procurement team will ensure its supplier base and associated supply chain, which provides goods and / or services to the Trust has taken the necessary steps to ensure modern slavery is not taking place.

To date we have:

- Reviewed our supply chain and identified general potential areas of risk including:
 - Provision of Food
 - Construction
 - Cleaning
 - Clothing (work wear)
- We have contacted the suppliers within these Supply Chains and have asked them to confirm that they are compliant with the Act; and
- Contacted our key suppliers and requested confirmation from them that they too are compliant with the Act.
- Introduced a 'Supplier Code of Conduct' and asking all existing and new suppliers to confirm their compliance;
- Added evidence gathering questions into our tendering procedures; and
- Ensured that procurement staff have received training with regard to Modern Slavery.

Approval for this Statement

The Board of Directors has considered and approved this statement, as part of the Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24, and will continue to support the requirements of the legislation.

Government Modern Slavery Statement Registry

This registry has been launched by the Home Office to enable easier access Modern Slavery Statements. Following approval of the Trust's Modern Slavery Statement for 2023/24, this will be added to the registry as well as being available on the Trust's website.

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