Derbyshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT – 2023/24

INTRODUCTION

This Statement is made pursuant to section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and sets out the steps that Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust) has taken, and is continuing to take, to make sure that modern slavery or human trafficking is not taking place within our business or supply chain.

Modern slavery encompasses slavery, servitude, human trafficking and forced labour. The Trust has a zero-tolerance approach to any form of modern slavery. We are committed to acting ethically and with integrity and transparency in all business dealings and to put effective systems and controls in place to safeguard against any form of modern slavery taking place within our business or our supply chain.

AIM OF THIS STATEMENT

The aim of this statement is to demonstrate that the Trust follows good practice, and all reasonable steps are taken to prevent slavery and human trafficking.

All members of staff have a personal responsibility for the successful prevention of slavery and human trafficking, with the Procurement Department taking the lead responsibility for compliance in the supply chain.

ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

The Trust is a provider of mental health, learning disability and children's services across the city of Derby and wider county of Derbyshire. We provide a variety of inpatient and community-based services throughout the county. We also provide specialist services across the county including substance misuse and eating disorders services.

Successful partnership working is essential to the delivery of many of our services. The Trust works in close collaboration with our commissioners and fellow providers of local healthcare services, together with local authority colleagues at Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council, and voluntary and community sector organisations. Derbyshire Healthcare is an active partner in Joined Up Care Derbyshire, an Integrated Care System of health and care organisations working collectively to address challenges and improve the level of joined up working within the local health and care economy.

The Trust provides services to a diverse population, including areas of wealth alongside significant deprivation. The Trust's catchment area includes both city and rural populations, with over 70 different languages being spoken.

We became a Foundation Trust in 2011 and we employ over 2,400 staff based in over 60 locations across the whole of Derbyshire. Across the county and the city, we serve a combined population of approximately one million people.

OUR POLICIES ON SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Trust is aware of its responsibilities towards patients, service users, employees and the local community and expects all suppliers to the Trust to adhere to the same ethical principles. The Trust is committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business. Our internal policies replicate our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships.

Currently all awarded suppliers sign up to our terms and conditions of contract which contain a provision around Good Industry Practice to ensure each supplier's commitment to anti-slavery and human trafficking in their supply chains; and that they conduct their businesses in a manner that is consistent with the Trust's anti-slavery policy.

The Trust policies, procedures, governance and legal arrangements are robust, ensuring that proper checks and due diligence are applied in employment procedures to ensure compliance with this legislation. We also conform to the NHS employment check standards within our workforce recruitment and selection practices. This strategic approach incorporates analysis of the Trust's supply chains and its partners to assess risk exposure and management on modern slavery.

If required, the information may also be provided in other languages.

We operate a number of internal policies to ensure that we are conducting business in an ethical and transparent manner. These include the following:

Recruitment and Selection policy and procedure: We operate a robust recruitment policy including conducting eligibility to work in UK checks for all directly employed staff. Other checks include checks of identity, evidence of qualifications, health clearance, employment history and Disclosure Barring Service criminal records check for roles that meet the requirements. External agencies are sourced through the NHS Improvement nationally approved frameworks and are audited to provide assurance that pre-employment clearance has been obtained for agency staff to safeguard against human trafficking or individuals being forced to work against their will.

Equal Opportunities: We have a range of controls to protect staff from poor treatment and/or exploitation which comply with all respective laws and regulations. These include provision of fair pay rates, fair terms and conditions of employment, and access to training and development opportunities.

Safeguarding Policies: We adhere to the principles inherent within both our Safeguarding Children and Adults policies and procedures. These provide clear guidance so that our employees are aware as to how to raise safeguarding concerns about how colleagues or people receiving our services are being treated, or about practices within our business or supply chain.

Freedom to Speak Up Policy: We operate a Speak Up policy so that all employees know that they can raise concerns about how colleagues or people receiving our services are being treated, or about practices within our business or supply chain, without fear of reprisals.

Standards of Business Conduct (within Standing Orders): This policy explains the manner in which we behave as an organisation and how we expect our employees and suppliers to act.

WORKING WITH SUPPLIERS

The Procurement Team ensures that due diligence is undertaken for all new and ongoing suppliers of goods and services to the organisation and their associated Supply Chains by sourcing through the following compliant routes:

1. Competitive PCR 2015 (Public Contract Regulations) procurements tendered in compliance with UK guidance which require suppliers to confirm they comply with the Modern Slavery Act. To support their response bidders are also required to state:

    a. *the organisation's structure, its business and its supply chains;*
    b. *its policies in relation to slavery and human trafficking;*
    c. *its due diligence processes in relation to slavery and human trafficking in its business and supply chains;*
    d. *the parts of its business and supply chains where there* is *a risk of slavery and human trafficking taking place, and the* steps *it* has *taken to* assess *and manage that risk;*
    e. *its effectiveness in ensuring that slavery and human trafficking* is *not taking place in its business or supply chains, measured against such performance indicators as it considers appropriate;*
    f. *the training and capacity building about slavery and human trafficking available to its staff.*

2. Procurement through compliant national government frameworks. The Trust purchases large amounts of products from third party distributors such as NHS Supply Chain and utilises framework agreements from national framework providers such as Crown Commercial Services (CCS) which include specific questions around the Modern Slavery in their procurement documentation and any breaches of labour laws which result in disqualification of unsuitable organisations.

3. All contracts and associated purchase orders are raised on the NHS Standard Terms and Conditions which suppliers are mandated to comply with. These conditions state:

    10.1.28 it shall: (i) comply with all relevant Law and Guidance and shall use Good Industry Practice to ensure that there is no slavery or human trafficking in its supply chains; and (ii) notify the Authority immediately if it becomes aware of any actual or suspected incidents of slavery or human trafficking in its supply chains;

    10.1.29 it shall at all times conduct its business in a manner that is consistent with any anti-slavery Policy of the Authority and shall provide to the Authority any reports or other information that the Authority may request as evidence of the Supplier's compliance with this Clause 10.1.29 and/or as may be requested or otherwise required by the Authority in accordance with its anti-slavery Policy.

TRAINING

Advice and training about Modern Slavery and human trafficking is available to staff through our mandatory Safeguarding Children and Adults training programmes, our Safeguarding policies and procedures, and our Safeguarding Leads. It is also discussed at our compulsory staff induction training.

Awareness is also raised through information sharing on the Trust intranet and our public website.

Advice and training about Modern Slavery and human trafficking is available to staff through our Safeguarding Children and Adults training programme. The Trust is committed to and follow the Derbyshire and Derby Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures and the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Procedures.

OUR PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We will know the effectiveness of the steps that we are taking to ensure that slavery and/or human trafficking is not taking place within our business or supply chain if:

- No reports are received from our staff, the public, or law enforcement agencies to indicate that modern slavery practices have been identified.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' APPROVAL

The Board of Directors has considered and approved this statement and will continue to support the requirements of the legislation.

This statement is made pursuant to Section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our organisation's modern slavery and human trafficking statement for the current financial year.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors:





Selina Ullah
Trust Chair

Mark Powell
Chief Executive