

Modern Slavery Act 2015 Annual Statement 2016

Introduction

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust offers the following statement regarding its efforts to prevent slavery and human trafficking in its supply chains, and in any part of its own business.

CWP provide mental health, substance misuse, learning disabilities and community physical health services. These are provided in partnership with commissioners, local authorities, voluntary and independent organisations, people who use our services and their carers. We also provide specialist services in Liverpool, Sefton, Bolton, Warrington, Halton and Trafford.

We serve a population of over a million people and employ more than 3,400 staff across 65 sites. Our annual turnover is 161 million.

Our vision is 'leading in partnership to improve health and well-being by providing high quality care'. We are committed to the safeguarding agenda which encompasses a safeguarding strategy that ensures that all those who use CWP are appropriately protected.

We are also committed to the highest level of ethical standards and sound governance arrangements and fully support the government's objectives to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking.

Supply chain policy

The trust has internal policies and procedures in place that assess supplier risk in relation to the potential for modern slavery and human trafficking. The top 80% of suppliers nationally, affirm their own compliance with the Modern Slavery Act within their own organisation, sub-contracting arrangements and supply chain.

Internal audit undertake an annual audit on non-pay expenditure as part of their audit plan. The audit includes a statutory compliance element. In future this will include the modern slavery and human trafficking act requirements.

We expect our delivery partners, organisations within our Frameworks and other companies we engage with to ensure their goods materials and labour-related supply chains to:

- Fully comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015; and are
- Transparent, accountable and auditable; and are
- Free from ethical ambiguities.

Assessment of risk

The trust has evaluated the principal risks related to slavery and human trafficking and identifies them as:

- Reputational

- Lack of assurances from suppliers
- Lack of anti-slavery clauses in contracts

Mitigation of risks

- Add a provision in our tender documentation which includes the mandatory exclusion of any bidder who had been convicted of an offence under section 1, 2 or 4 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.
- Will seek to impose in new contracts that we enter into provisions for termination in the event of a modern slavery or human trafficking breach by the supplier.
- Act promptly where a compliance breach has been identified or flagged.
- Train relevant staff in relation to the Act and to support them to maintain the trust's position around its requirements. Safeguarding policies and training references the action to be taken where slavery is suspected or identified.
- The trust will raise awareness of this published statement by notifying organisations in our framework, delivery partnerships and other companies with which we regularly engage.

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

Signed



Chief Exec and Chair



Date.

10/11/2016