

Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking Statement

NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 has introduced changes in UK law focused on increasing transparency in supply chains, to ensure that supply chains are free from modern slavery (that is, slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking). As both a local leader in commissioning health care services for the population of South Sefton and as an employer, NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group provides the following statement to provide assurance of its commitment to, and efforts to, prevent slavery and human trafficking practices in the supply chain and employment practices.

Our Organisation

As an authorised statutory body, the CCG is the lead commissioner for health care services covering a population in excess of 150,000. Please see the CCG vision and values via link: <http://www.southseftonccg.nhs.uk/about-us/our-vision-and-values/>

Our commitment to prevent slavery and human trafficking

The Governing Body, Senior Management Team and all employees are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in any part of our business activity and in so far as is possible to holding our suppliers to account to do likewise.

Our approach

Our overall approach will be governed by compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements and the maintenance and development of good practice in the fields of contracting and employment.

Our policies and arrangements

Our recruitment processes are highly mature – requiring practices that adhere to safe recruitment principles. This includes strict requirements in respect of identity checks, work permits and criminal records/ DBS checks. This safe recruitment principle is supported by a Recruitment and Selection policy.

Our policies such as Bullying and Harassment at Work policy, Equality and Diversity policy and Whistleblowing policy provide an additional platform for our employees to raise concerns about poor working practices.

Our Safeguarding policies also provide guidance in relation to managing potential cases of slavery and human trafficking for employees.

Our procurement approach follows the Crown Commercial Service standard

When procuring goods and services, we apply NHS Terms and Conditions (for non-clinical procurement) and the NHS Standard Contract (for clinical procurement). Both require suppliers to comply with relevant legislation.

During 2017/18, we will continue to raise awareness of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 internally and as part of all procurement processes we will request all providers to set out evidence of their plans and arrangements to prevent slavery in their activities and supply chain.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 March 2018.

Debbie Fagan – Chief Nurse
NHS South Sefton CCG