

Modern Slavery Act 2015 and Transparency in Supply Chains Act 2010 Statement

Updated 2021

OVERVIEW

This statement, made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, sets out the approach taken by Wiltshire Health and Care to ensure that slavery, servitude, forced labour and/or human trafficking (together Modern Slavery) does not exist in our supply chains.

OUR BUSINESS AND VALUES

Wiltshire Health and Care LLP is the provider of NHS community services for patients living or residing in Wiltshire.

Our registered address is Chippenham Community Hospital, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2AJ.

Our members are the three local NHS Foundation Trusts:

- Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Royal United Hospitals Bath MNHS Foundation Trust; and
- Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust.

We provide community nursing, physiotherapy, and occupational health services to patients who benefit from being cared for in their homes. This is supported by a team of specialised community services, who treat patients both at home and in clinic to provide services such as tissue viability, podiatry, orthotics, continence, heart failure, respiratory, PACE and oxygen, lymphedema, diabetes, dietetics, MSK, speech and language therapy, and wheelchair and specialist seating services. We also provide support for those with learning disabilities, and support for those with long COVID. We care for patients in community wards in three parts of the county (Chippenham, Warminster, and Marlborough), support intermediate care and therapy, and run the Minor Injuries Units in Chippenham and Trowbridge. We work as part of the local health and social care economy with our acute care partners, local primary care, social care colleagues, Carers Support Wiltshire, and many other third sector agencies. Of course, this is supported by a broad network of family members, friends, carers, and volunteers.

We have an overarching principle of removing the organisational barriers to healthcare to ensure that patients receive a seamless experience.

Wiltshire Health and Care has around 1400 employees and operates only out of Wiltshire, England, which is deemed a low risk country by the global slavery index.

We have a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery. Members of our Executive team oversee a series of measures to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking from touching our business and supply chains. We expect the same standards from all our contractors, suppliers and other business partners.

OUR SUPPLY CHAINS

We buy a wide range of goods and services, from medicines, and consumables, through to clinical clothing and waste disposal. The majority of these products and services are used in the provision of healthcare to patients.

Our goods come from a range of suppliers, many of which, in turn, have their own supply chains. However a large proportion of our purchasing is undertaken through NHS supply chain, where suppliers are vetted centrally. Our significant procurements are supported by an expert procurement team, hosted by, and shared with, our members. Modern slavery checks are a standard part of the supplier questionnaire process.

MODERN SLAVERY OVERSIGHT MEASURES

To ensure that other organisations comply with our own standards and values, we have developed Modern Slavery Oversight Measures which seek to mitigate supply chain risk. This, facilitated by the procurement team that supports Wiltshire Health and Care, includes undertaking due diligence on new suppliers and ensuring mandatory modern slavery compliance terms are included in new supply contracts (i.e. that the supplier must warrant that it is compliant with modern slavery legislation). The procurement team that supports Wiltshire Health and Care also carries out regular assessments of key suppliers.

Where a supplier does not satisfy us of their position with regard to modern slavery, we will raise our concerns. If there is a lack of engagement or insufficient assurance provided, we will review the continued use of that supplier with a view to changing to a supplier that is able to meet our expectations on modern slavery.

TRAINING

We have developed a training package in relation modern slavery obligations and the Modern Slavery Act. We continually take steps to raise awareness of modern slavery across Wiltshire Health and Care through communications and engagement.

Wiltshire Health and Care has an Anti-Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy, which is reviewed by our Executive Team at least every three years.

RAISING CONCERNS

We are committed to dealing with any concerns raised in an open and honest manner, empowering and protecting those who do so. Our staff can report concerns through a variety of channels including: (i) to their line manager; (ii) to a member of the Executive and senior management team; and (iii) to a Freedom to Speak up Guardian.


OUR EFFECTIVENESS IN COMBATING SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

As part of our Modern Slavery Oversight Measures, our crucial concern is that our staff members know what to do if they become concerned that there may be circumstances of modern slavery linked to the people we engage as staff or suppliers.

Throughout the next we will continue to promote awareness through a further communication exercise to all staff on our intranet pages.

Our Executive and senior management team will reflect upon the impact of the above and use that intelligence to inform the future development of the strategy and policy for combating modern slavery within Wiltshire Health and Care.

This statement is approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by Douglas Blair, Managing Director.

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June 2021