

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

**Updated 2024**

### **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, Rowden Hill, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2AJ.

Our members are the following three NHS Foundation Trusts:

- Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS 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 specialised community services teams, who treat patients both at home and in clinic to provide a range of services including tissue viability, podiatry, orthotics, continence, heart failure, respiratory, PACE and oxygen, lymphoedema, 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 four community inpatient wards and two minor injury units across the county and support intermediate care and therapy. 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. 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 high quality and 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.

Wiltshire Health and Care supports the Government's objective to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking. Accordingly, we have a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery and are committed to ensuring there is transparency in our approach to tackling modern slavery throughout our supply chains. Our Executive team annually review a series of measures put in place to prevent any involvement in modern slavery in both our business and supply chains. We expect the same high standards from our contractors, suppliers and all 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 to be used in the provision of healthcare to patients.

A large proportion of our purchasing is undertaken through NHS supply chain, where suppliers are vetted centrally. From April 2022 NHS supply chains have adopted the government's Social Value Model (Procurement Policy Note 06/20) which ensures that all procurement undertaken will contribute to the NHS Net Zero and Social Value goals.

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**

In addition to producing an annual modern slavery statement Wiltshire Health and Care is committed to:

1. ensuring that slavery and human trafficking is considered and addressed in our approach to corporate social responsibility
2. ensuring that any concerns about slavery or human trafficking can be raised through our Freedom to Speak Up (whistleblowing) procedure
3. carrying out regular audits to ensure that all our employees are paid at least the National Minimum Wage and have the right to work in the UK
4. ensuring that all commercial agreements include an obligation on our suppliers to operate in accordance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, and to ensure that any of their suppliers and sub-contractors also operate in accordance with the Act
5. appointing a named individual to oversee the compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015
6. identifying and addressing any areas of high risk in our supply chain.

## **TRAINING**

We have developed a training package in relation to modern slavery obligations and the Modern Slavery Act which is undertaken by all staff. This training ensures all Wiltshire Health and Care colleagues are aware of their obligations regarding reporting obligations and the identification of risks in relation to modern slavery.

Wiltshire Health and Care has a Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy, which is reviewed by our Executive Team at least every three years. The next renewal of this policy is due in 2026.

## **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.

Modern slavery and the mechanisms by which concerns can be raised will be highlighted to all teams in the organisation via regular internal communications.

## **OUR EFFECTIVENESS IN COMBATING SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Wiltshire Health and Care reviews its Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement every year. This statement is presented to the Operating Board who approve and support this statement in a public meeting demonstrating commitment, ensuring visibility, and encouraging reporting standards.

This statement is approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by Shirley-Ann Carvill, Managing Director.

Signed: 

**September 2024**