

Statement on Modern Slavery 2019-20

Introduction

This statement is made pursuant to Section 54 part 6 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and sets out the steps that the University of Chichester has taken in the financial year ending 31 July 2020 to ensure that slavery and human trafficking are not taking place in any part of our business or our supply chains.

Modern slavery is a crime and a violation of fundamental human rights. We are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls in our business to support the eradication of modern slavery globally.

Organisation structure

We are a university and a charity, established under the laws of the UK, with our administrative offices at our Bishop Otter Campus, College Lane, Chichester PO19 6PE. Our company number is 4740553. We have nearly 1000 employees and over 5000 students at any one time. Our annual turnover is in excess of £50 million, and while our key expenditure is on our academic and administrative staff, we engage with a range of suppliers nationally and globally to enable us to provide our services.

The University is organised into multiple academic institutions and departments, which are supported by our professional service departments. Our key supply chains include the purchasing of IT equipment and services, building works, printing and design work, catering and accommodation-related services, security services and medical support services.

The University has one wholly-owned subsidiary, Chichester Enterprises Limited (company number 5162778), through which it provides certain services such as consultancy and other commercial services.

The University is associated with, but is legally separate from, the University of Chichester Students' Union (company number 11937134) and the University of Chichester (Multi) Academy Trust (company number 8595545).

Our policies on slavery and human trafficking

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in any part of our business or our supply chains.

We have a clear framework of rules and behaviours and encourage the reporting of any concerns or breaches so that they can be dealt with appropriately in accordance with our policies and procedures.

Our Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy reflects our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains. The policy is binding on all of our employees and is supported by our policies on Public Interest

Disclosure (Whistleblowing), Risk Management, and our Financial Regulations. All of our policies are accessible via our website at <https://www.chi.ac.uk/about-us/policies-and-statements/>.

All suppliers are issued with contracts referencing the University's policies and the requirements we expect them to meet on modern slavery. As part of our procurement process, suppliers are required to answer questions about their environmental and ethical practices in their business and in their supply chains. The responses to these questions enable us to identify and exclude any supplier who falls short of our requirements.

What we have done this year

In addition to our standard procurement practices, in our financial year 1 August 2019 – 31 July 2020, we have:

- appointed a Chief Operating Officer, with broad responsibility for our professional services teams, who will provide strategic oversight for our Procurement Working Group;
- concluded the re-tendering of our catering services provision, with the associated due diligence and commitments from our chosen supplier;
- reviewed our procurement practices as part of amendments to our Financial Regulations and during relevant internal audits; and
- rolled out an e-learning module on modern slavery, which was made in-house, to all staff.

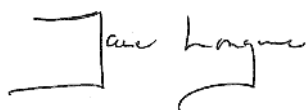
The latter half of this financial year was dominated by the national response to the Covid-19 pandemic, which required wide-ranging changes to how we do business. While prioritising the health and safety of its campus community, the University recognised the increased risk created by these unusual circumstances and ensured that it maintained compliance throughout.

What we plan to do next year

Following a review of the effectiveness of the steps we have taken this year, in the coming year, we will:

- roll out the modern slavery e-learning module to more staff members;
- promote our actions on modern slavery as part of our community focus; and
- continue to monitor our major suppliers and any significant developments in our supply chains for risk and respond accordingly.

We welcome feedback on our progress to date and suggestions for further improvement.



Professor Jane Longmore, Vice-Chancellor
University of Chichester