

Leeds Beckett University Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2017/18

Introduction

Leeds Beckett University transforms the lives and prospects of thousands of individuals and organisations in the city, the wider region, and beyond. Our mission is to ensure we use our knowledge and resources to make a positive and decisive difference to people, communities and organisations. The practical nature of our world-leading research makes a difference to people's lives, from helping to combat obesity, to improving the performance of elite athletes and tackling doping in sport. The university is investing £200m in its campuses with an ambitious programme of development over the next 2 years, focusing on sport and the creative industries, and holds silver status in the Teaching Excellence Framework for its high quality teaching.

There are more than 28,000 students on Leeds Beckett University programmes in the UK and overseas across our 13 academic schools and a diverse student population from 143 countries. Contributing £520m to the regional economy, the university is an integral part of the region, with more than 3,000 staff and more than 6,000 graduates entering the talent pool each year.

We have an Ethics Policy Framework, which sets out the context, values and associated policy framework through which we seek to apply the highest standards of ethical conduct and behaviour in all aspects of our business. We have signed up to the Leeds Social Value Charter, which includes being sustainable, fair and ethical in all that we do as one of its guiding principles, including paying suppliers on time, paying our staff the living wage, paying a fair share of taxes and being open, transparent and fair in all of our working relationships.

This is our third Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement, providing an update on the steps we have taken over the last 12 months to continue to support the aims of the Modern Slavery Act.

Action taken over the last 12 months

The key risks to the University are in our supply chains, therefore, the Head of Procurement is the lead on our action plan. This year we made the following progress, in line with commitments made in our 2016/17 statement:

- All procurement staff successfully completed the SUPC Modern Slavery Training module and we invited all internal stakeholders to complete online training;
- We promoted awareness to our internal and external stakeholders through our procurement webpages;
- We updated our standard terms and conditions of contract to include a Modern Slavery clause;
- 395 suppliers signed up to our sustainability tool and 98% are aware of Modern Slavery. Supplier actions include having a zero tolerance approach, training all staff, having Modern Slavery policies in place and ensuring sub-contractors can evidence compliance and sign up to ethical guides;
- We shared best practice through the NEUPC Sustainability Group meetings and their webpages.

Future plans

We will continue to work through our action plan including:

- Promoting awareness and training to our stakeholders;
- Supporting key suppliers with their action plans through our contract management meetings to satisfy ourselves that they share our objective to prevent modern slavery in their organisations and in their supply chains;
- Working collaboratively to support our suppliers including training, recognition of good practice and supply chain mapping.

This statement was approved by our University's Governance and Nominations Committee on **18 January 2019**, will be reviewed at least once annually in the future and is available from our public information pages here <http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/governance/>

Signed on behalf of the Board of Governors by Professor Peter Slee, Vice Chancellor
18 January 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Slee', written in a cursive style.