



EAST RIDING

OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2017-2022

Introduction

Modern slavery is a crime and a violation of fundamental human rights. It takes various forms, such as slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking, all of which have in common the deprivation of a person's liberty by another in order to exploit them for personal or commercial gain.

The Council is committed to implementing good practice and supply chain management to support eradication of slavery and human trafficking.

The Council is not required to make a statement under section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 but this voluntary statement is made commensurate the requirements of the Act to demonstrate our commitment to the principles of the Act and appropriate engagement with our supply chain partners to achieve the aims of the Act.

Organisational structure

We are a large unitary authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region of the United Kingdom with a population of 338,000 and 153,000 dwellings.

The Council covers 26 wards and comprises 67 elected members. The Council's Cabinet makes most of the day to day decisions whilst other committees have specific decision making powers for things such as planning applications, taxi licenses, licensed premises and education appeals.

The corporate management structure is divided into five directorates reporting to the Chief Executive:

- Director of Corporate Resources
- Director of Corporate Strategy and Commissioning
- Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services
- Director of Planning and Economic Regeneration
- Director of Children, Families and Schools

Our Modern Day Slavery Policy

The Council adopted a Policy in July 2017 which sets out our commitment and responsibilities in relation to the issue, and cross-referencing the Policy to the Council’s vision and Corporate Priorities.

The Policy contains the following statement:

“The Council recognises the importance of tackling Modern Day Slavery and will work to identify victims, provide them with appropriate support and ensure they are passed on to the National Referral Mechanism. The Council will work to ensure as far as practicable there is no Modern Day Slavery within its supply chain.”

The Statement also describes how policy will be implemented across the Council, including working together with Humberside Police and supporting victims

Our supply chains

The Council has an annual third party spend of approximately £270m, typically split across spend categories as shown Chart 1 below.

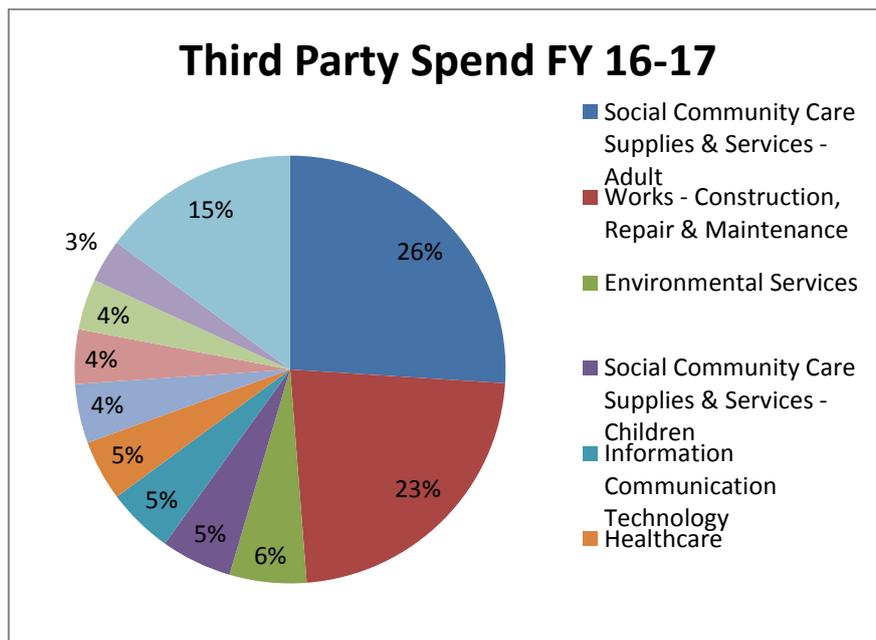


Chart 1

Managing the Risk

The Council has appointed a lead officer to oversee representatives from services across all directorates to the Council’s Policy in relation to the Modern Slavery Act. We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business. We comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) and the Crown Commercial Services standard selection questionnaire to reduce the likelihood of slavery and trafficking in our supply chain and include provision

within our contract terms and conditions above the EU threshold to terminate any contract where a supplier is found to have committed an offence under the Modern Slavery Act.

The Council's Constitution, Contract Procedure Rules and Commissioning and Procurement Policy provide robust governance to deliver assurance and accountability through transparent and auditable processes, and a Procurement Strategy that directly links to the Council's corporate priorities.

Our workplace policies and procedures demonstrate our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships. Our human resources policies and procedures reflect European and UK employment law.

The Council is represented at the regional Strategic Procurement Group and supports regional initiatives to share information and best practice in all relevant matters including slavery and human trafficking.

Training

There is a rolling programme of training and guidance being developed by the cross-directorate modern slavery working group that aims to ensure that relevant staff are aware of the importance and likelihood of slavery or trafficking and well placed to identify and refer potential instances.

Caroline Lacey
Chief Executive
January 2018