

Leeds Beckett University Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2016/17

Introduction

Leeds Beckett University has almost 26,000 students studying at our Leeds campuses and over 2,300 full-time-equivalent members of staff offering a range of undergraduate, postgraduate and professional provision across 13 schools. Our role is to make a decisive difference to individuals and organisations through education, training and the application of knowledge, skills and expertise. We work closely with employers and partners to enrich our portfolio and ensure that our graduates are ready to seize the opportunities that lie ahead.

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 a fair share of taxes and being open, transparent and fair in all of our working relationships.

This is our second 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

In our first Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement we committed to:

- work with our supply chains to satisfy ourselves that our existing suppliers share our objective to prevent modern slavery in their organisations and in their supply chains;
- ensure that procurement activity will encourage awareness of and adherence to the Modern Slavery Act 2015;
- work in collaboration with other universities and purchasing consortia to pool resources and share best practice;
- investigate the use of sustainability tools to support and develop sustainability and compliance with modern slavery in supply chains; and
- develop best practice in our procurement processes.

In 2016/17 we made the following progress:

- communicated to internal stakeholders and suppliers to promote awareness of the modern Slavery Act
- invested in a sustainability tool to support compliance with modern slavery
- Collected and analysed statements from other universities to identify common themes
- Worked with the NEUPC Consortia to share best practice
- Incorporated Modern Slavery into all our procurement documentation

Future plans

We will continue to work through our action plan including:

- Produce online training for stakeholders to improve awareness and knowledge
- Use our sustainability tool to ensure all key suppliers (over £10k spend) comply with The Modern Slavery Act and we will support their action plans
- Investigate opportunities for collaboration through the NEUPC Sustainability Group

This statement was approved by our University's Governance and Nominations Committee on 26th January 2018, will be reviewed at least once annually in the future and is available from our public information pages here <http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/-/media/files/about/governance/txslaveryandhumantraffickingstatement.pdf?la=en>.



Signed on behalf of the Board of Governors by Professor Peter Slee, Vice Chancellor
26th January 2018