

Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement for 2019/20

Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust continues to fully support the Government's objectives to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking and recognises the significant role the NHS has to play in both combatting it, and supporting victims. In particular, we are strongly committed to ensuring our supply chains and business activities are free from ethical and labour standards abuses. Steps taken to date are included below.

Our Staff

We confirm the identities of all new employees and their right to work in the United Kingdom, and pay all our employees in line with best practice and national guidance. Our Grievance Policy and Raising Concerns Policy additionally give a platform for our employees to raise concerns about poor working practices.

Whistleblowing

The Trust has a process for investigating any concerns raised by our staff in line with national guidance. Our staff are encouraged to raise concerns in line with our Raising Concerns Policy without fear of retaliation. The policy also provides for concerns to be raised anonymously, if required. Staff also have the option to escalate concerns to the National Guardian's Office if they are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation.

Procurement and our supply chain

The Trust complies with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and uses the mandatory Crown Commercial Services (CCS) Pre-Qualification Questionnaire on procurements, which exceed the prescribed threshold. Bidders are required to confirm their compliance with the Modern Slavery Act.

Our procurement and contracting team is qualified and experienced in managing healthcare contracts and have receive appropriate briefing on the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, which includes:

- requesting evidence of their plans and arrangements to prevent slavery in their activities and supply chain;
- using our routine contract management meetings with our providers, to address any issues around modern slavery;
- implementing any relevant clauses contained within the Standard NHS Contract; and
- Training and Awareness.

Patients and Service Users

Modern Slavery awareness is integrated into our safeguarding policies and training. Awareness is also raised through information sharing on the Trust intranet and on the public website. This is to ensure that our staff know how to raise concerns if they suspect modern slavery or human trafficking when interacting with patients or service users.

Review of effectiveness

We continue to take further steps to identify, assess and monitor potential risk areas in terms of modern slavery and human trafficking, particularly in our supply chains.

In 2019/20, our anti-slavery programme will also work to:

- continue to support our staff to understand and respond to modern slavery and human trafficking, and the impact that each and every individual working in the NHS can have in keeping present and potential future victims of modern slavery and human trafficking safe through our Safeguarding team;
- continue to ensure that all our staff have access to formal training on modern slavery and human trafficking which will provide the latest information and the skills to deal with it; and
- work with our partners to ensure modern slavery and human trafficking are taken seriously and feature prominently in safeguarding agendas.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and applies to Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust.

The Board approved this statement at its meeting on 8 May 2019.

Matthew Winn

Chief Executive