

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement, NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin Integrated Care Board

As both a local leader in commissioning health services for the population of Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin (STW) and as an employer, NHS STW provides the following statement in respect of its commitment to, and efforts in, preventing slavery and human trafficking practices in the supply chain and its employment practices. NHS STW is a proactive member of the Adult and Children's Safeguarding Boards and sub-groups and works closely with our partner agencies to ensure this commitment is met.

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 introduced changes in UK law focussing on increasing transparency. The Transparency in Supply Chains provision in the Modern Slavery Act seeks to address the role of businesses in preventing modern slavery from occurring in their supply chains and organisations. This includes suppliers (consumables, facilities and subcontracted services such as cleaning, security, transport etc.) and commissioned service providers.

Our Organisation

As an authorised statutory body, the NHS STW is the commissioning body for health care services (including primary, acute, community and mental health) in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

Our commitment to prevent slavery and human trafficking

Our Board, Senior Management Team and all employees are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in any part of our business activity, and insofar as is possible, to holding our commissioned providers to account to do likewise.

Our Approach

Our overall approach will be governed by compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements and the maintenance and development of good practice in the fields of contracting and employment.

Our Policies and Arrangements

Our recruitment processes adhere to safe recruitment principles. This includes strict requirements in respect of identity checks, work permits and criminal records. Our pay structure is derived from national collective agreements.

Our policies such as Grievance and Disputes Policy, Equality and Diversity Policy and Freedom to Speak Up Policy provide an additional platform for our employees to raise concerns about poor working practices.

Our procurement approach follows the UK Central Government standard. When procuring goods and services, we apply NHS Terms and Conditions (for non-clinical procurement) and the NHS Standard Contract (for clinical procurement). Both require suppliers to comply with relevant legislation. All procurement tenders include statutory questions requiring providers to comply with the prevailing law.

During 2024/25 we will continue to raise awareness of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 internally, and as part of procurement processes, we will request providers that are required as per the prevailing law to set out evidence of their arrangements to prevent slavery in their activities and supply chain.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31st March 2025.

Simon Whitehouse
Chief Executive Officer

