

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Barbican Centre Board	21 November 2018
Subject: Modern Slavery statement 2018/19 – Barbican Centre	Public
Report of: Louise Jeffreys, Artistic Director Report Author: Nick Adams, Senior Policy and Communications Manager	For Decision
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <p>In 2015 Parliament passed The Modern Slavery Act, a piece of legislation setting out a range of measures on how modern slavery and human trafficking is dealt with in the UK, including trafficking of people, forced labour, servitude and slavery.</p> <p>In June 2017, the Barbican Board Risk Committee took the decision that the Barbican should publish an annual statement on its website in response to this legislation, setting out the steps it is taking as an organisation to ensure that modern slavery is not occurring in its supply chains or in the organisation itself. The Barbican Board approved the Barbican's 2017/18 Modern Slavery statement in November 2017.</p> <p>The Appendix to this paper is a draft of this statement covering the 2018/19 financial year, submitted to the Board for review and approval. If approved, the statement would be published on the Barbican website and the actions set out in the statement implemented this financial year.</p>	

Main Report

Background

In 2015 Parliament passed [The Modern Slavery Act](#), a piece of legislation setting out a range of measures on how modern slavery and human trafficking is dealt with in the UK, including trafficking of people, forced labour, servitude and slavery.

One area the act covers is transparency in supply chains, which makes the following provision:

'The Act requires that any commercial organisation in any sector, which supplies goods or services, and carries on a business or part of a business in the UK, and is above a specified total turnover, must produce a slavery and human trafficking statement for each financial year of the organisation.'

Regulations have set the total turnover threshold at £36m. The statement must set out what steps they have taken during the financial year to ensure that modern slavery is not occurring in their supply chains and in their own organisation.'

The statement in the Appendix sets out the action the Barbican is, or will be, undertaking to ensure modern slavery and human trafficking are not occurring in its supply chain. The statement covers key areas such as recruitment, payment of staff and contractors, staff conduct, whistleblowing, ethics, and procurement and supply chains.

The statement has been agreed by the City of London Corporation Procurement, Legal and Town Clerk's departments, as well as the Barbican Directorate.

Current Position

The Barbican approved the Barbican's first Modern Slavery statement in November 2017 which covered the 2017/18 financial year. This new statement covers the 2018/19 financial year, outlining the progress made in this area over the past twelve months and the future steps the Barbican will take to help mitigate risks around modern slavery occurring in its supply chains.

Since the publication of the Barbican's Modern Slavery statement in November 2017, the City of London Corporation took the decision to begin publishing its own Corporation-wide statement, the first of which was published in September 2018.

Options

We are asking that the Board agrees to adopt the current draft of the Modern Slavery statement with the option of suggesting any amendments.

There are no estimated costs associated with this option. If not adopted, there are potential reputational risks due to accusations that the Barbican is not continuing to taking the necessary steps to mitigate risks in this area.

Should the statement gain this approval, it would be published on the Barbican website and used as a framework for decision making across the organisation.

Due to the increasing synergy and joined up actions between the Barbican's approach to Modern Slavery and the wider City of London Corporation approach, it has been suggested that the Corporation and the Barbican combine their statements for future financial years. The Barbican Board is asked to consider and comment on this potential course of action.

Proposals

The current draft of the Modern Slavery statement has been approved by the Barbican Directorate with the recommendation that the organisation adopts it, subject to approval of the Barbican Board.

Publishing and undertaking the actions set out in the statement would ensure we are following corporate best practice and fulfilling our ethical obligations in putting

effective systems and controls in place to safeguard against any form of modern slavery.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Adopting this modern slavery statement commits the Barbican to undertaking measures that minimise the risk of modern slavery occurring in its supply chains. A number of measures that have been undertaken and that will be taken in future to minimise these risks are outlined in the statement.

The policy references existing City of London Corporation policies such as the employee code of conduct, recruitment and selection policy, London Living wage policy, whistleblowing policy and responsible procurement strategy. The statement is compliant with existing City of London Corporation governance procedures.

The Barbican's Modern Slavery statement contributes to achieving the following outcomes from the Corporate Plan:

Outcome 1 - People are safe and feel safe through contributing to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk

Outcome 2 - People enjoy good health and wellbeing through raising awareness of how illegal employment practices impacts on individuals' mental and physical health.

Outcome 3 - People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential through providing fulfilling employment opportunities.

Outcome 5 – Businesses are trusted and socially and environmentally responsible through supporting and advocating for responsible practices and investments.

Implications

The draft text of the statement has been agreed with the City Solicitors department who have ensured the text will have no legal implications and is in line with current City of London Corporation governance procedures.

The text has also been approved by the Town Clerk's department and the Procurement team. The statement commits the Barbican to working alongside the Procurement team to develop a Corporation-wide Modern Slavery statement and Ethical Sourcing Policy.

Conclusion

- The Barbican has committed to publishing an annual Modern Slavery statement in response to the Modern Slavery Act 2015.
- The draft statement sets out the action the Barbican is, or will be undertaking to ensure modern slavery and human trafficking are not occurring in its supply chains.

- Should the statement gain approval, it would be published on the Barbican website and the actions set out in the statement implemented this financial year.
- The Board are asked to consider and comment on the proposal that in future the Barbican does not publish a standalone Modern Slavery statement, with the Barbican's work in this area reflected instead in the City of London Corporation's organisation-wide statement.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Draft Modern Slavery statement for 2018/19 financial year

Nick Adams

Senior Policy and Communications Manager

T:0207 382 5274

E: nick.adams@barbican.org.uk