

Committee(s): Policy and Resources Committee – For Decision Community & Children's Services Committee – For Information City Bridge Foundation Board – For Information Police Authority Board – For Information Court of Common Council – For Decision	Dated: 17/10/2024 11/11/2024 29/11/2024 04/12/2024 05/12/2024
Subject: Modern Slavery Statement 2024–2029	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	Providing Excellent Services
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Greg Moore, Deputy Town Clerk	For Decision
Report author: Emily Slatter, Office of the Policy Chairman	

Summary

This report accompanies a draft of the City Corporation's refreshed Modern Slavery Statement made pursuant to Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. This is attached at Appendix 1.

The draft statement continues the work laid out in our 2018 and 2021 statements, outlining the steps that the City of London Corporation has taken and is continuing to take to ensure that modern slavery is not taking place within our organisation, within the Square Mile, or within our supply chains.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Approve the draft Modern Slavery Statement 2024-2029 at Appendix 1.
- Approve the publication of the draft statement at Appendix 1 both on the City Corporation website and the HM Government's Modern Slavery Statement registry.

Main Report

Background

1. This Modern Slavery Statement is made in response to Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ('the Act').
2. The City Corporation was not a relevant commercial organisation as defined by section 54 of the Act, however, in November 2018, Policy and Resources Committee signed off the City Corporation's Modern Slavery Statement. This decision aligns with our

dedication to responsible business principles and demonstrates our commitment to due diligence and transparency.

3. Members approved the first City Corporation Modern Slavery Statement in 2018 (Appendix 2). This brought together the roles, remits, commitments, and all work undertaken to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking across the organisation. This contained an ambition to publish a Modern Slavery Statement on an annual basis and set in motion a number of initiatives – e.g., a CoLC Modern Slavery Working Group.
4. The City Corporation have published a subsequent Modern Slavery Statement since by way of an update in 2021 (Appendix 3) coordinated by the Responsible Procurement Manager with support from officers across the Corporation.
5. Due to disruption caused by the outbreak of COVID-19 with subsequent resourcing pressures, the ability to keep an updated, annual publication of a Modern Slavery Statement has not been met.

Current Position

6. In 2023, an internal review was conducted to ascertain how we can improve on our efforts to combat modern slavery. Recommendations have been taken forward to relevant Department leads and incorporated within this statement.
7. As a result, the Deputy Town Clerk (DTC) has been put forward by the Town Clerk's Executive Leadership Board as Corporate Lead for the Corporation's Modern Slavery Statement. Moving forward, the DTC will be supported by a Modern Slavery Strategic Lead, to help coordinate delivery of contributing officers across the Corporation.
8. The draft put before Members at Appendix 1 has been written with support from the City of London Police, Department for Children and Community Services, Port Health and Public Protection, People and Human Resources, Corporate Strategy and Performance, Town Clerk's Department, Commercial, Change, and Portfolio Management team in the Chamberlain's Department and officers from the City Bridge Foundation.
9. It is intended this Statement will be valid for the period from 2024-2029, in line with our Corporate Plan and People Strategy, with any required textual changes to be updated annually. Our efforts to combat modern slavery will be reflected in respective Departmental and Institutional reporting.

Proposals

10. Members are asked to approve the Draft Modern Slavery Statement at Appendix 1 and approve the publication of the statement on both the City Corporation website and HM Government's Modern Slavery Statement registry.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications – Though this statement principally supports our Corporate Plan 2024-2029 ambition to Provide Excellent Services, all six outcomes are interlinked and strive for equity, equality, diversity and inclusion to ensure impactful delivery of services.

Financial implications – None.

Resource implications – Work on modern slavery has already been established and is being delivered by the relevant Departments and Teams. This paper does not request any changes to the level of resources allocated to tackle modern slavery.

Legal implications – The City of London Corporation is under no legal duty to produce a Modern Slavery Statement at this time.

Risk implications – None.

Equalities implications – Work to tackle modern slavery and, as relevant to the functions being discharged by the City Corporation, Equalities Impact Assessments would be completed by teams undertaking work to ensure proper consideration of equalities implications.

Conclusion

11. The City of London Corporation acknowledges its responsibility to identify and eradicate modern slavery within its operations. This Statement demonstrates the City Corporation's comprehensive and ongoing commitment to preventing modern slavery in all aspects of our organisation, jurisdiction, and supply chains.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – 2024-2029 Modern Slavery Statement (Full Statement, and Statement Summary)
- Appendix 2 – 2018 Modern Slavery Statement
- Appendix 3 – 2021 Modern Slavery Statement Update

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