

Report of the Chief Executive

MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATEMENT1. Purpose of report

To advise Committee of an updated Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement for 2021-22

2. Detail

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 (the Act) consolidates various offences relating to human trafficking and slavery.

Section 54 of the Act imposes a legal duty on commercial organisations, which supply goods and/or services from or to the UK and have a global turnover of more than £36 million, to publish a slavery and human trafficking statement each financial year. Broxtowe Borough Council engages in commercial activities by providing services (some of which are statutory and some discretionary) and its annual turnover is greater than the specified £36 million.

Whilst the Modern Slavery Act 2015 does not state that local authorities specifically are included in those organisations legally required to publish a statement, many do so as a matter of good practice. At its meeting on the 12 December 2018, the Community Safety Committee resolved that Broxtowe Borough Council should produce an annual statement. This was on the basis that the Council should be keen to raise awareness of slavery and human trafficking and as a large scale local employer and provider of services, should make its position of zero tolerance in respect of slavery and trafficking clear and unequivocal.

In terms of training our employees, relevant information is provided in mandatory course on Broxtowe Learning Pool which has recently been reviewed and updated. There are 426 employees in the audience for this course and 36 of them completed it during 2020/21. However, a total of 389 current employees have completed the course since its launch in 2016 and are certified.

Modern slavery clauses are included in our legal contracts where appropriate and Modern Slavery Policies are requested from T party organisations along with Safeguarding, Equalities, Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR) and Environmental / Carbon Impact policies at account meetings.

A proposed Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement, updated for 2021-22 is attached at appendix 1. An extract from the Act giving details of the requirement is attached at appendix 2. The response in Broxtowe is attached at appendix 3.

Recommendation

Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2021-22 be approved.

Background papers: Nil