

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATEMENT 20231. Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the annually reviewed and updated Modern Slavery Statement and for its inclusion on the website and the Home Office's published Modern Slavery statements.

2. Recommendation

The Policy Overview Working Group RECOMMENDS that Cabinet RESOLVES that the Modern Slavery Statement 2023 be approved, and that in future years the report contains data from modern slavery outcomes relevant to Broxtowe managed through the Nottingham hosted modern slavery team, and that Councillors be reminded of opportunities for online training on modern slavery.

3. Detail

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 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.

Modern slavery clauses are included in our legal contracts where appropriate and Modern Slavery Policies are requested from 3rd party organisations along with Safeguarding, Equalities, Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR) and Environmental / Carbon Impact policies at account meetings.

The Councils contract and procurement arrangements require clauses in all contracts which relate to contractors complying with our policy on slavery.

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. It is considered that Broxtowe Borough 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 2022/23 there were 11 young people in Broxtowe, who were victims of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) that were managed locally through the Neighbourhood Safeguarding and Disruption (NSD) or the Child Criminal Exploitation (CCEP) Panels compared to 20 in 2021/22. The exploitation worker for the City attends the monthly Neighbourhood Safeguarding and Disruption

meetings and Complex Case Panel meetings to assist in identifying and managing victims and those at risk of being victims of exploitation.

The number of young people being managed through the NSD and CCEP meetings are expected to increase in 2023/24 due to changes resulting in the NSD accepting referrals for Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) cases referred for management from Nottinghamshire Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation Panel (MASE) and young people at risk of being involved in CCE rather than just those who are already involved.

Local Authority modern slavery statements are published on Local Authority Websites and through the Home Offices portal.

The Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2023 is attached at Appendix 1, a change table is attached at Appendix 2 and an Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 3.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

The legal implications are contained within the body of the report.

6. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

No comments

7. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

No comments

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

There are no data protection issues to be considered.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

The Equality Impact Assessment is attached at appendix 2.

10. Background Papers

Nil