

**Report of the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety****Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2024****1. Purpose of Report**

To seek approval for the annually reviewed and updated Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement and for its inclusion on the website and publish on the Home Office's Modern Slavery Statement portal.

**2. Recommendation**

**Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2024 be approved and published.**

**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. The 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 third-party organisations along with Safeguarding, Equalities, Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR) and Environmental / Carbon Impact policies at account meetings.

The Council's 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 2023/24 there were ten 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 Panels (CCEP) compared to eleven in 2022/23. 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.

Local Authority Modern Slavery Statements are published on Local Authority websites and through the Home Offices' portal.

The Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2024 is attached at **Appendix 1**. A change table is attached at **Appendix 2** and an Equality Impact Assessment at **Appendix 3**.

4. Key Decision

This report is not a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

This is an updated statement covering 2023/2024 and as such has not been to pre-scrutiny or the Policy Overview Working Group.

6. Financial Implications

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

There are no additional financial implications for the Council with operational costs being contained within existing budgets.

7. Legal Implications

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

The legal implications are set out in the report, it sets out how the Council complies with these duties and the other requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

8. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

Not applicable.

9. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

The climate change implications are contained within the report.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is a change to the statement an equality impact assessment is included in **Appendix 3** to this report.

13. Background Papers

Nil.