

Modern Slavery Act Statement

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust is one of the largest integrated care providers in England, serving a population of around 600,000 people. Our highly skilled consultants, doctors, midwives and other clinical staff provide a wide range of medical, surgical, emergency and community services, as well as a range of paediatric, neonatal and specialist services.

All clinical or non-clinical staff within the Trust have a responsibility to consider issues regarding modern slavery and incorporate their understanding of these issues into their day to day practice.

In agreement with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust is committed to preventing acts of modern slavery i.e. human trafficking and slavery within both its business and supply chain. Following this, the Trust imposes those high standards on its suppliers.

The Trust is fully aware of the responsibilities it bears towards patients, employees and the local community and as such, we have a strict set of ethical values that we use as guidance with regard to commercial activities.

In compliance with the consolidation of offences relating to trafficking and slavery within the Modern Slavery Act 2015, the Trust is currently reviewing its supply chains with a view to confirming that such actions are not taking place.

To date we have:

Reviewed our supply chain and identified general potential areas of risk including:

- Provision of Food
- Construction
- Cleaning
- Clothing (Work Wear)

We are contacting the suppliers within these supply chains to ask them to confirm that they are compliant with the Act.

We are contacting our key suppliers to request confirmation that they too are compliant with the Act. We also intend to:

- Introduce a “supplier Code of Conduct” and ask all existing and new suppliers to confirm their compliance
- Add evidence gathering questions into our tendering procedures.

Advice and training about slavery and human trafficking will need to be delivered by the Safeguarding Team.

Further information on Modern Day Slavery can be found by visiting:
<https://modernslavery.co.uk/>