

Appendix 2

Chichester District Council- Anti-Slavery Pledge

Declaration of intent to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking by Chichester District Council (CDC)

Modern slavery is the illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain. Modern slavery includes human trafficking, domestic servitude, forced labour and criminality and sexual exploitation.

Victims of modern slavery can be any age, gender, nationality, and ethnicity. They are tricked or threatened into work and may feel unable to leave or report the crime through fear or intimidation. They may not recognise themselves as a victim.

Modern slavery is a hidden crime, and it is closer than we think. It is happening in every corner of the country and that includes Chichester District.

CDC as part of Local Government and as an employer, recognises that it has a responsibility to take a robust approach to slavery and human trafficking.

The Council acknowledges its duty to notify the Secretary of State of suspected victims of slavery or human trafficking. The relevant sections of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 are Sections 43, 52 and 54. The Council is absolutely committed to preventing and taking action against identified slavery and human trafficking in its corporate activities, its supply chains, and the wider community.

Building on this, CDC is pleased to adopt this declaration of intent which will be the council's response to the horror of modern-day slavery and human trafficking and serve as the basis of future policies and procedures to tackle it.

1	CDC abhors the crime of modern slavery and human trafficking in which people are treated like commodities and exploited for criminal gain. The council will do everything in its power to work with Sussex Police and other law enforcement agencies to help disrupt and bring to justice perpetrators of such crimes across the county.
2	CDC will adopt a victim-focused approach to modern slavery and human trafficking and endeavour to safeguard such individuals.
3	CDC will do all in its power to avoid any element of modern slavery and human trafficking in its procurement process or its procurement supply chain. In accordance with Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 WSCC will produce a Transparency Statement to this effect.
4	CDC is fully aware of its designation as a First Responder Organisation under the National Referral Mechanism and its responsibility to identify potential victims and refer cases to the Single Competent Authority.
5	CDC is aware of the need to train its staff and elected members to identify victims of modern slavery and human trafficking to ensure they are able to rescue victims and refer them into the National Referral Mechanism should the victim consent to do so.

6	CDC is working with the Sussex Anti-Slavery Network to ensure that all local authorities (including districts and boroughs) develop and deliver appropriate First Responder Training to staff
7	CDC will publish support guides and the Modern Slavery Helpline number and other helpful information on its corporate website to help victims, staff, and other citizens to report incidents of modern slavery
8	CDC will actively seek to work in partnership with government, Sussex Police, National Health Service, other law enforcement agencies, community and voluntary sector organisations, and any other bodies or organisations working to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking
10	CDC will work with Sussex Police to share intelligence and to help engage with Sussex Police to disrupt modern slavery and human trafficking activity when and where the council become aware of it
11	CDC is fully aware that under Section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, it has a Duty to Notify in relation to anyone who is believed to be a victim – both adults and children – of human trafficking (including internal trafficking within the UK) and is willing and keen to do so.
12	CDC is willing to share appropriate data with all agencies to help tackle this issue utilising powers under the Crime & Disorder Act 1988.

This has been agreed and signed by the following:

Diane Shepherd Chief Executive of Chichester District Council

signature

Eileen Lintill Leader of the Council

signature