



**Bath and
North East Somerset**
Clinical Commissioning Group

Modern Slavery Act 2015

**Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning
Group (BaNES CCG) Statement**

March 2017



What is modern slavery?

Slavery is a violation of a person's human rights. It can take the form of human trafficking, forced labour, bonded labour, forced or servile marriage, descent-based slavery and domestic slavery. A person is considered to be in modern slavery if they are;

- Forced to work through mental or physical threat
- Owned or controlled by an "employer", usually through mental or physical abuse
- Dehumanised, treated as a commodity or sold or bought as "property"
- Physically constrained or has restrictions placed on their freedom of movement

Bath and North East Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

As leaders in commissioning health care services for the population of Bath and North East Somerset and as employers, the CCG provide the following statement in respect of its commitment to, and efforts in, preventing slavery and human trafficking practices in the supply chain and employment practices. The CCG is a proactive member of the B&NES Adult Safeguarding Board and will work with our colleague agencies to ensure this commitment is met

BaNES CCG believes there is no room in our society for modern slavery and human trafficking. We have a zero tolerance for modern slavery and breaches in human rights and will ensure this is built into the processes and business practices that we, our partners and our suppliers use. As an authorised statutory body, the CCG is the lead commissioner for health care services (including acute, community, mental health and primary care) in BaNES – covering a population in excess of 190,000.

Our commitment to prevent slavery and human trafficking

Our Governing Board and all employees are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in any part of our business activity and in so far as is possible to holding our suppliers to account to do likewise.

Our approach

Our overall approach will be governed by compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements and the maintenance and development of best practice in the fields of contracting and employment and we will:

- Review our commissioning cycle for opportunities to ensure a robust approach
- Continue to ensure that our recruitment processes are highly mature, requiring practices that adhere to safe recruitment principles. This includes strict requirements in respect of identity checks, work permits and criminal records. Our pay structure is derived from national collective agreements and is based on equal pay principles with rates of pay that are nationally determined.

- Ensure our procurement processes provide assurance that organisations are taking relevant steps to adhere to the CCG standards.
- Make declarations and contractual provisions with existing healthcare providers to ensure they understand the CCG approach to the Act.
- In the case of children and young people Local Safeguarding Children board multi-agency policies and procedures are followed, with regard to children and young people at risk. All CCG staff can access support in this regard by contacting the designated safeguarding children professionals as to alert a carer or parent may increase risk.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 March 2017.

What you can do

If you identify a potential victim they can be referred to the National Referral Mechanism to be formally identified as a victim of modern slavery and offered Government-funded support. Referral for potential adult victims is by consent. Government-funded support is provided through a range of specialist providers across the UK. There is also Modern Slavery Helpline on 0800 0121 700. Also, in England and Wales if an adult victim indicates they require support or safe accommodation please contact the Salvation Army's 24 hour referral line on 0300 303 8151