

STOCKPORT COUNCIL MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT REVIEW

Report of the Service Director for Strategy & Commissioning

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Following the passing of a council motion, with cross-party support, in September 2018 condemning the practice of modern slavery, the council signed a Modern Slavery Charter.
- 1.2 One of the Charter's commitments was to publish a Modern Slavery Statement that sets out the measures the council has implemented to ensure its supply chains are not linked to modern slavery, as well as further measures it intends to implement.
- 1.3 The Charter also committed the council to reviewing the Modern Slavery Statement annually.
- 1.4 Stockport Council's first Modern Slavery Statement was published in April 2019 and included a range of actions for both Stockport Council and our procurement partner, STAR Procurement.
- 1.5 The Modern Slavery Statement was reviewed in the summer and autumn of 2020.
- 1.6 This report therefore presents the second iteration of the Stockport Council Modern Slavery Statement, to cover the period up to 31st March 2022, and seeks committee's approval to adopt that refreshed statement.

2. REVIEW PROCESS

- 2.1 The review consisted of the following:
 - Consultation with action owners (in the council and STAR Procurement) on implementation of actions in the 2019/20 iteration of the statement and on any additional activity required.
 - An audit of the statement and its implementation carried out by the council's Internal Audit service.
- 2.2 The findings of the review were used to produce an updated version of the statement. It includes a new set of actions to be implemented by 31st March 2022.

3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Committee is asked to:
 - Consider the draft updated statement (which accompanies this report), which will run to 31st March 2022.

- Subject to any necessary amendments identified by committee, agree that the statement proceed to Cabinet for approval for publication in January 2021.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Alan Lawson on or by email on alan.lawson@stockport.gov.uk