

**STOCKPORT COUNCIL MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT 2023/24:  
REVIEW AND REFRESH**

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**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 actions the council has already taken to ensure its supply chains are not linked to modern slavery, as well as further action it intends to take.
- 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. It included a range of actions for both Stockport Council and our procurement partner, STAR Procurement.
- 1.5 The third (2022/23) iteration of the Modern Slavery Statement was reviewed in spring/summer 2023. This report therefore briefly summarises the review process and presents the fourth iteration (2023/24) of the Stockport Council Modern Slavery Statement, to cover the period up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024, and seeks committee's approval to adopt that refreshed statement.

**2. REVIEW PROCESS**

- 2.1 The review took the form of a consultation with action owners (in the council and STAR Procurement) on progress with implementing the actions in the 2022/23 iteration of the statement and on any additional activity required.
- 2.2 The findings of the review were used to produce an updated version of the statement. As well as a summary of progress with actions in the 2022/23 Statement, it includes a new set of actions to be implemented by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

**3. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

There are no significant financial considerations or risks to the council adopting the Modern Slavery Statement.

**4. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

There are no significant legal considerations associated with adopting the Modern Slavery Statement. Equally, there are no significant legal consideration to **not** adopting the statement, as local authorities are not yet legally required to produce a Modern Slavery Statement.

## **5. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

There are no HR implications associated with adopting the Modern Slavery Statement.

## **6. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

There are no equalities implications associated with adopting the Modern Slavery Statement.

## **7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

There are no environmental implications associated with adopting the Modern Slavery Statement.

## **8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 Cabinet is asked to:

- Consider the draft updated statement (which accompanies this report), which will run to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Subject to any necessary amendments identified by Cabinet, agree that the statement is approved for publication.

### **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](mailto:alan.lawson@stockport.gov.uk)