

Modern slavery statement

This statement is made as a result of the implementation of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (referred to below as the “Act”).

Section 54 of the Act (Transparency in Supply Chains) requires businesses with a turnover above £36 million to publish an annual slavery and human trafficking statement, setting out the steps it has taken (if any) to ensure that slavery and human trafficking has not taken place in its supply chain. The goal is to raise standards and stop modern slavery. Wilkins Kennedy LLP is fully committed to being a socially responsible business and to supporting the Act.

Structure and overview

Our principal activity is the provision of accountancy and related advisory services. Apart from one office in the Falkland Islands, all our offices are based in England and the majority of our business is conducted in the UK by our own employees.

We comply with relevant legislation pertaining to employees and workers, and are also regulated by professional bodies.

Risk assessment – direct supplies

Very few of our client services are provided by third parties, but where this does occur, they are predominantly delivered by trusted professional firms that are subject to UK employment regulations. Some work is outsourced to third parties in overseas territories, but where this happens, it is for the provision of professional services and the suppliers are evaluated to ensure that they are reputable firms.

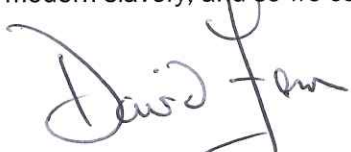
In our assessment, there is a very low risk of our direct suppliers being involved in slavery or human trafficking, therefore we have not currently identified a need to take action beyond our standard evaluation of suppliers.

Risk assessment – indirect supplies

We purchase goods and services for the operation of our business and premises. Most of these supplies are bought from companies that are subject to UK employment regulations, and so we consider there to be a low risk of our suppliers being involved in slavery or human trafficking.

Policies and education

- We comply with UK employment laws, which include regulations regarding proof of identity, the right-to-work in the UK, minimum wage and working hours.
- We also review employee pay and reward, and link this to market rates.
- We already conduct extensive staff training on the Bribery Act as well as data protection, money laundering and the proceeds of crime legislation. Although we believe that the risk of modern slavery within our own business and supply chain is relatively low, we see that as no excuse for complacency. We want our staff to be aware of modern slavery and mindful of it as they conduct their routine tasks, so will work towards education and increasing their awareness of both the extent of modern slavery and all our responsibilities under the Act.
- Should we find evidence that a supplier is in breach of the Act, we will endeavour to help them comply. However, should this not be successful, we will seek to replace that supplier with one that does comply with the Act.
- We believe that individuals with authority to appoint new suppliers need to be particularly aware of modern slavery, and so we commit to additional education and awareness building within this group.



David Fenn, Managing Partner