

The Children's Society Modern Slavery Transparency Statement 2017/2018

The Children's Society is a national charity committed to improving the lives of thousands of children and young people every year. All too often, these are children who may be at risk of harm, may not have the resources they need to thrive and may be experiencing mental ill health or poor emotional wellbeing. In spite of this, we know that with the right support, a challenging childhood does not have to limit a child's future. Therefore, we work to address the multiple disadvantages that children and their families face.

In 2017/18 we worked directly with over 11,000 children and young people through our projects and reached a further 13,492 children and young people through our awareness raising work.

As an example of raising awareness and funding for work tackling modern slavery – the Bishop of London's 2019 Lent Appeal across churches in London was aimed at supporting a range of charities including The Children's Society's Rise Project in London working with boys and young men who have been victims of trafficking.

Our commitment to tackling modern slavery

Modern Slavery is the term commonly used to refer to illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain. Sadly, far from being a horror confined to history, slavery and exploitation is an absolute reality of the world today. Child and adult victims of modern slavery will often find themselves trapped in situations of domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, forced marriage, forced criminality, and forced labour. Groups facing poverty, persecution and marginalisation are even more likely to experience these abuses.

The Children's Society's commitment to tackling modern slavery goes well beyond a statutory obligation to report. It is directly rooted in our commitment to human rights and to our practice and policy work with children and young people who are trafficked and exploited both within the UK and from abroad, whether they are British, settled or have any other status or nationality.

The Children's Society is committed to ensuring the organisation and its supply chains are free of slavery. The Children's Society acknowledges its responsibility to comply with all principles of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (the "Act"). This statement is made pursuant to section 54 of the Act. It constitutes The Children's Society's slavery and human trafficking statement and policy statement for the financial year ended 31 March 2018. It covers the activities of The Children's Society and its wholly owned subsidiaries: The Children's Society (Trading) Limited and The Children's Society (Services) Limited.

At The Children's Society, we tackle modern slavery in three core ways:

1. **We support children and families**– through our services we work with victims and potential victims of trafficking, exploitation and abuse and through our advocacy work we campaign for continual improvement in policy and legislation to tackle all forms of modern day slavery

our policies and procedures such as procurement, whistleblowing and recruitment are critical underpinnings of a robust, safe and ethical response.

Through the effective administration and implementation of a range of policies, The Children's Society very substantially mitigates the risk of unwittingly breaching the provisions of the Modern Slavery Act. These policies are updated, reviewed and approved by the governing Board of Trustees on a periodic basis.


The Trustee Board has reviewed a number of organisational policies in relation to the Modern Slavery statement. In addition to the commitment made in the statement above, the prevention of Modern Slavery is also referenced through our Safeguarding and Whistleblowing policies.


A copy of this policy statement, a full copy of the Act and a simplified overview is accessible to all employees electronically on The Children's Society Intranet. If any staff are concerned that modern slavery or human trafficking is taking place in our organisation or supply chains they should raise their concerns to the Director of Finance and Corporate Services or through the Whistleblowing policy.

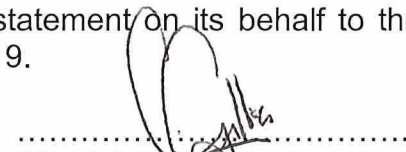
This policy statement will be reviewed annually and published accordingly by The Children's Society on its website.

Approval

This policy statement has been approved by the Trustees of The Children's Society and the Boards of Directors of The Children's Society (Services) Limited and The Children's Society (Trading) Limited and signed on their behalf. The Board of Trustees of The Children's Society delegated approval of this statement on its behalf to the relevant signatories at its board meeting on 24 July 2019.


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Nick Roseveare
Interim Chief Executive
Officer
The Children's Society


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Elizabeth Walker
Director
The Children's Society
(Trading) Limited


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Alasdair Gillies
Director
The Children's Society
(Services) Limited