

# **Human Trafficking Statement**

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our Group's slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 March 2016.

# Introduction from Bill Bullen, Managing Director

We are committed to improving our practices to combat slavery and human trafficking. Utilita is committed to the highest level of ethical standards and sound governance arrangements. We prohibit all forms of slavery and human trafficking in our organisation and we expect our supply chains to do the same.

Bill Bullen Managing Director 23 September, 2016

# Organisational structure and supply chains

The principal activity of the group is the supply of energy. We specialise in supplying gas and electricity to pre-pay residential customers in GB. Utilita Group Limited is the parent company of the Utilita Group, which comprises the following active subsidiaries:

- · Utilita Energy Limited
- Winchester Meter Operations Ltd
- Winchester Gas Distribution Ltd

The group operates solely in GB, had over 380 employees and turnover of £270m at 31 March 2016. The vast majority of the group's supply chain is resourced from within the UK.

## Actions taken in year ended 31 March 2016

During the year the group has identified that it needs to take actions to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any of its supply chains, and in any part of its own business, however, at 31 March 2016 no formal action had taken place.

#### Further steps and actions taken since 1 April 2016

Anti-slavery and Whistleblowing Polices have been drafted and will be formally adopted in the near future. We have commenced a full review of our supply chains. Monitoring and training activities will be undertaken across the business and its supply chains.

## Our policies on slavery and human trafficking

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business. Our business is committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains. Formal policies for both Anti-slavery and Whistleblowing will be adopted in the near future.

## Due diligence processes for slavery and human trafficking

As part of our initiative to identify and mitigate risk we are planning to implement a formal Anti-slavery Policy which will codify our current processes and procedures. We will then have in place formal systems to:

- Identify and assess potential risk areas in our supply chains.
- Mitigate the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring in our supply chains.
- Monitor potential risk areas in our supply chains.
- Protect whistle blowers.

#### Supplier adherence to our values

We have zero tolerance to slavery and human trafficking. To ensure all those in our supply chain and contractors comply with our values we are putting in place a supply chain compliance programme.

Our effectiveness in combating slavery and human trafficking

We have informally reviewed the group and do not consider that there are any instances of slavery or human trafficking taking place within our business, however at 31 March 2016 we had not commenced the review of our supply chains.

# **Training**

To ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and our business, we require our procurement and HR staff to be aware of the occasions where modern slavery and human trafficking could take place. Formal training will be given in the near future.

M.D.E. Smith BA FCA
Finance Director and Company Secretary
Utilita Group Limited
23 September, 2016