

## **University of Central Lancashire**

### **Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement**

#### **Introduction**

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the University's modern slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 July 2017.

The statement sets out the actions the University of Central Lancashire has taken to combat modern slavery in its supply chains and across its business.

#### **About the University**

The University of Central Lancashire's core business is teaching and research; it has a full and part time student population of about 35,000 in a wide range of subject areas and comprises 4 Faculties and 18 academic Schools supported by Professional Services. We employ around 1450 full and part time Academic staff and just over 1500 Professional Services staff.

The University has an annual turnover of £212 million of which £66 million is spent on goods and services to support the running of the University with a further £12 million on average on its capital program. The University is supported by a centralised purchasing function.

UCLan Business Services Limited is a wholly owned trading subsidiary of the University and is subject in its procurement dealings to the same vetting processes in place for the University, as set out below.

#### **Our Supply Chains**

##### **Employment of Staff**

The University mitigates the risk of modern slavery occurring in its workforce by ensuring that directly employed staff are recruited by following robust HR recruitment policies. There is a whistleblowing policy in place for members of staff to raise any concerns about wrongdoing by the University.

Staff employed on a temporary staff via agencies are only recruited through established sources who can provide assurance, via the procurement procedures referred to below, that they comply fully with the requirements of legislation relating to the rights and welfare of their candidates and employees.

The Executive Director of Human Resources has responsibility for Policies and Procedures pertaining to Employment of staff.

##### **Procurement**

The Purchasing team led by the Director of Procurement Services is responsible for managing the University's supply chains and all Procurement Policies and Procedures. Procurement covers works, goods and services.

The University's assessment at this time is that the principal areas which carry material risks of modern slavery and human trafficking are office supplies, laboratory consumables, IT and some estates services.

### **Policies on slavery and human trafficking**

The University is committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business.

### **Due diligence processes for slavery and human trafficking**

As part of the University's initiative to identify and mitigate risk we have in place, along with consortia partners whose purchasing frameworks we use, 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
- Protect whistle-blowers.

These measures are embedded into the University's policies and procedures and we also ensure that measures have been taken in any public sector frameworks or public sector contracts that we are entitled to use to supply the University.

The University is a member of the North West Universities Purchasing Consortium (NWUPC), which is itself is a member of Procurement England Ltd (**PEL**) and UK Universities Procurement Consortia (UKUPC), bodies dedicated to improving both the quality of procurement and the level of collaborative procurement across the **HE** sector. Together these consortia have published a shared Sustainability Policy to which all members, including the University, are committed. This policy sets out the steps that must be taken in major contract procurement processes that are conducted for consortium members, to help to ensure that slavery and human trafficking are not occurring in the supply chain. Currently the University spends almost 39% (monetary value) through consortia frameworks.

In order to meet our obligations under the act we are utilising an on-line assessment tool that allows us to engage directly with our suppliers to identify their awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking. We have contacted a number of suppliers to ask about impacts arising from their business activities, including slavery within their supply chains, and providing an opportunity for them to tell us how they are addressing these issues.

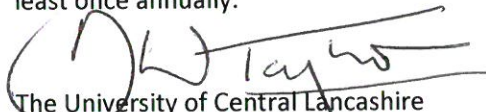
### **Supplier adherence to our values**

The University has zero tolerance to slavery and human trafficking. Any supplier or potential supplier who does not adhere to our values is suspended or removed from the University's supplier list and will not be considered for future supply to the University unless they are able to demonstrate full adherence with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act and the University's own policies and procedures.

### **What we are going to do in the Future**

As part of this reporting exercise and in the coming years, the University expresses its commitment to work towards greater transparency towards the people working on the University's supply chains.

This statement has been approved by the University's Senior Executive Team and will be reviewed at least once annually.

  
The University of Central Lancashire  
January 2018