



Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy

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This document is to be reviewed annually by an authorised person in line with company quality procedures.

Revision History


Next planned review date
23 June 2025

Version	Date	Revision Author	Summary of Changes
2	22.08.2019	Amanda Volante	Update to include - This policy is applied to all aspects of the delivery of ESF projects
3	01/09/19	Nick Yoxall	Annual Review and Format Update
4	07.11.2019	Amanda Volante	Amendment to Document Reference
5	4/11/2020	Darren O'Neill	Update to document owner and review date
6	7/6/2021	Darren O'Neill	Reviewed
7	22/06/2022	Katy Baker	Annual Review – renamed to 'Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy'
8	22/06/2023	C Storer	Annual Review
9	24/06/2024	Katy Baker	Annual Review – revision to 4. RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLICY; inclusion of new sub-sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Our commitment to the principles of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 4.2 Our supply chain 4.3 Embedding the principles

Distribution

Name	Title
All Employees	Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy
All Relevant Stakeholders	Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy

Approval

Name	Position	Signature	Date
Catherine Storer	Executive Director		24.06.2024

Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. SCOPE	4
3. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	4
4. RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLICY	4
4.1 Our commitment to the principles of the Modern Slavery Act 2015	5
4.2 Our supply chain	5
4.3 Embedding the principles	5
5. COMPLIANCE WITH THIS POLICY	6
6. COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS OF THIS POLICY	6
7. BREACHES OF THIS POLICY	6

1. INTRODUCTION

Modern slavery is a crime and a violation of fundamental human rights. It takes various forms, such as slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking, all of which have in common the deprivation of a person's liberty by another in order to exploit them for personal or commercial gain.

Essential Site Skills has a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery and we are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure modern slavery is not taking place anywhere in our own business.

Essential Site Skills is also committed to ensuring there is transparency in our own business and that of others and in our approach to tackling modern slavery, consistent with our disclosure obligations under the Modern Slavery Act 2015. We expect the same high standards from all of our staff, employers, learners, suppliers and other business partners. As part of our contract processes, we will include specific prohibitions against the use of forced, compulsory or trafficked labour, or anyone held in slavery or servitude, whether adults or children, and we expect that our suppliers will hold their own suppliers to the same high standards.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all persons working for Essential Site Skills or on our behalf in any capacity, including employees at all levels, directors, officers, agency workers, volunteers, agents, contractors, external consultants, third-party representatives and business partners. This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment, Essential Site Skills may amend it at any time.

3. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy interacts with the following workplace policies and procedures which can be found on the Company Server. Staff are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the policies detailed below. If you have any queries about this policy, please contact the HR Manager.

- Whistleblowing policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Prevent Policy

4. RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLICY

The Board of Directors have overall responsibility for ensuring this policy with the senior management team; and managers have day to day responsibility to ensure compliance with our legal and ethical obligation The HR Manager has primary and day-to-day responsibility for implementing this policy, monitoring its use and effectiveness, dealing with any queries about it, and auditing internal control systems and procedures to ensure they are effective in countering modern slavery.

Management at all levels are responsible for ensuring those reporting to them understand and comply with this policy and are given adequate and regular training.

Here are the steps that Essential Site Skills have taken and continues to take to understand and minimise the potential risk of modern slavery in its business and supply chains.

This statement is published in line with section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

4.1 Our commitment to the principles of the Modern Slavery Act 2015

Essential Site Skills is committed to the principles of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and the abolition of modern slavery and human trafficking.

As an equal opportunities employer, we're committed to creating and ensuring a non-discriminatory and respectful working environment for our staff. We want all our staff to feel confident that they can expose wrongdoing without any risk to themselves.

Our recruitment and people management processes are designed to ensure that all prospective employees are legally entitled to work in the UK and to safeguard employees from any abuse or coercion.

We do not enter into business with any organisation, in the UK or abroad, which knowingly supports or is found to be involved in slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour.

4.2 Our supply chain

Due to the nature of our business, we assess ourselves to have a low risk of modern slavery in our business and supply chains.

Our supply chains are limited, and we procure goods and services from a restricted range of UK and overseas suppliers, mainly through approved UK government frameworks.

4.3 Embedding the principles

We will continue to embed the principles through:

- providing awareness training to staff on the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and informing them of the appropriate action to take if they suspect a case of slavery or human trafficking
- ensuring staff involved in procurement activity are aware of and follow modern slavery procurement guidance on GOV.UK
- ensuring that consideration of the modern slavery risks and prevention are added to Essential Site Skills policy review process as an employer and procurer of goods and services
- making sure Essential Site Skills procurement strategies and contract terms and conditions include references to modern slavery and human trafficking
- continuing to take action to embed a zero-tolerance policy towards modern slavery

- ensuring that staff involved in buying or procurement and the recruitment and deployment of workers receive training on modern slavery and ethical employment practices

5. COMPLIANCE WITH THIS POLICY

You must ensure that you read, understand and comply with this policy.

The prevention, detection and reporting of modern slavery in any part of our business is the responsibility of all those working for us.

You are required to avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, a breach of this policy. You must notify your manager or the Managing Director as soon as possible if you believe or suspect that a conflict with this policy has occurred or may occur in the future.

You are encouraged to raise concerns about any issue or suspicion of modern slavery in any parts of our business at the earliest possible stage. If you believe or suspect a breach of this policy has occurred or that it may occur, you must notify your manager or the Managing Director, or you may report it in accordance with our Whistleblowing Policy as soon as possible.

If you are unsure about whether a particular act, the treatment of workers more generally, or their working conditions within any tier of our business constitutes any of the various forms of modern slavery, raise it with your manager or the Managing Director. We aim to encourage openness and will support anyone who raises genuine concerns in good faith under this policy, even if they turn out to be mistaken.

Essential Site Skills is committed to ensuring no one suffers any detrimental treatment as a result of reporting in good faith their suspicion that modern slavery of whatever form is or may be taking place in any part of our own business or in any of our supply chains. Detrimental treatment includes dismissal, disciplinary action, threats or other unfavourable treatment connected with raising a concern. If you believe that you have suffered any such treatment, you should inform your manager immediately. If the matter is not remedied, and you are an employee, you should raise it formally using the Grievance Procedure which can be found on the Company Server.

6. COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS OF THIS POLICY

Our zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery must be communicated to all involved in Essential Site Skills business to include suppliers, contractors and partners at the outset of our business relationship with them and reinforced as appropriate thereafter.

7. BREACHES OF THIS POLICY

Any employee who breaches this policy will face disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal for misconduct or gross misconduct. Essential Site Skills may terminate our relationship with other individuals and organisations working on our behalf if they breach this policy.