

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET		
SUBJECT:	SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT		
DATE OF DECISION:	20 th April 2021		
REPORT OF:	COUNCILLOR SHIELDS CABINET MEMBER FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Culture, Communities and Homes	
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Author:	Title	Stronger Communities Manager	
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
Not Applicable			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>Responsibility for Southampton City Council’s operational and strategic response to tackling Modern Slavery and Trafficking was placed within the Stronger Communities Service in 2021. This is consistent with activity that sits within the Safe City Partnership and has strong connections with addressing issues related to; hate crime; missing, exploited and trafficked activity, the Prevent Duties placed upon the authority and critically supporting vulnerable adults within our communities.</p>			
<p>A Modern Slavery Charter was approved by Cabinet on 18th December 2018, that sets out our values and practices, with regards to procurement and contracting. However, an outstanding action has been the publication of a charter which was delegated to the Stronger Communities Team, initiated in April 2020.</p>			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	To adopt the Modern-Day Slavery statement attached at Appendix 1.	
	(ii)	To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Culture, Communities and Homes to review and update the statement.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	The adoption and publication of a Modern Slavery statement is considered best practice and is in line with actions taken by other authorities and partnerships to voice their support to tackling this issue.		
2.	Southampton City Council is committed to supporting a ‘Fairer’ society, one that does not exploit groups within its communities or its supply chain. The publication of this statement supports these values and corporate ambitions		

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
3.	Not to publish a statement – there is no legal requirement for Local Authorities to publish a statement, however, it is generally considered good practice to do so and this alternative is not recommended.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
4.	The statement has been developed following discussion and consultation with a variety of teams across Southampton City Council to ensure that it reflects and meets the requirement of the whole authority. This includes; Legal services, Human Resources, Children’s Services, Adults Services, Housing and the Contracts and Procurement team.
5.	In January 2021, as part of a review of strategic partnerships. Agreement was reached with the Southampton Safeguarding Adults Board, that this board would lead on Modern Slavery issues locally. A working group, with representatives from a range of operational and partner agencies has been created to lead on this work and will report to both the SSAB and Safe City Partnership as required.
6.	The working-group will act as a review group for the statement and issues that might arise from the statement’s application. The working group has also supported the development of the statement.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
7.	Not applicable
<u>Property/Other</u>	
8.	Not applicable
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
9.	Modern Slavery Act 2015 and Localism Act 2011
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
10.	The content of the statement, including reference to internal procurement processes, has been reviewed by the relevant teams and agreed as an appropriate form of text that describes legal responsibilities and reflects the Council’s duties under the Equalities Act 2010, Crime & Disorder Act 1998 and the primary legislation referred to above.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
11.	A decision to not adopt the statement would mean Southampton City Council is not aligned to the majority of local authorities who do publish a statement which are reviewed annually.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
12.	The Modern Slavery Act 2015 includes a provision for large businesses to publish a statement on their websites and if not able to do so to have a written form available on request.

13.	It is good practice for LA's to publish a statement, which most now have, including neighbouring authorities in Portsmouth and Hampshire who are also part of the wider Hampshire Modern Slavery Partnership of which Southampton City Council is an active member.
14.	This should be reviewed annually and available on request.
KEY DECISION?	Yes
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Southampton Modern Slavery Statement
2.	Charter Against Modern Slavery Cabinet Report (2018)

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	No
Other Background Documents	
Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None