LSBU Modern Slavery Statement 2017

This statement has been published in accordance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015. It sets out the steps taken by London South Bank University (“LSBU”) during the year ending 31 July 2017 to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking in its business and supply chains.

London South Bank University is one of London’s largest and oldest universities. Since 1892, we’ve been providing vocationally-relevant, accredited and professionally recognised education. We’re a cosmopolitan university with over 18,000 students drawn from over 130 countries. We’ve been awarded Silver for teaching excellence under the Government’s Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and were the Times Higher Education’s Entrepreneurial University of the Year 2016.

At LSBU we are committed to running our business responsibly. We strive to maintain high ethical principles and to respect human rights. This extends to encouraging high standards in our supply chain. LSBU is committed to procuring goods and services and employing people without causing harm to others, and remains committed to supporting the UK Government’s National Action Plan, updated in May 2016 to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. In doing so, LSBU supports the Base Code of the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI).

Our Governance
The Sustainability Steering Group is responsible for the oversight, development and ongoing monitoring of the University environmental and sustainability policies and strategy, including Modern Slavery. It is led by the Deputy Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer and its membership includes representation from Professional Service Groups (including Procurement and Sustainability teams), students and academics. LSBU’s sustainability initiatives are developed through the 3C’s approach, covering Campus, Curriculum and Community.
Our Supply Chain
In 16/17 LSBU spent £60 million with 4,000 suppliers and their respective supply chains on a wide range of goods and services. Our high value supplier categories include Estates and building (including construction and maintenance), ICT hardware and software, temporary staff, cleaning, security, and catering, all of which LSBU deems as carrying material risk in terms of human rights.

As reported in our previous statement, a number of Modern Slavery initiatives are in place, including London Living Wage accreditation, our Environmental and Ethical Sustainability Policy, Speak-up/Whistleblowing Policy, our Code of Ethics and various sourcing due diligence processes.

In addition to the actions outlined in our previous statement, we have continued to make progress during 16/17, including the following key initiatives:

• Updated terms and conditions include Modern Slavery obligations and monitoring.
• Electronics Watch affiliate membership, providing access to independent monitoring and audits once our electronics contracts are aligned.
• Fairtrade University status achieved
• Increased involvement in collaborative initiatives addressing Modern Slavery, including representation on LUPC’s Responsible Procurement Advisory Group and LUPC’s cleaning tender working group. See LUPC’s Modern Slavery Statement for further details.
• Increased supply chain transparency capability through sustainability tool used across the sector, with ability to engage with all our suppliers on their Modern Slavery awareness and action plans
• Curriculum initiatives underway to further embed sustainability content within LSBU’s undergraduate and postgraduate courses (including Modern Slavery).

More information on our approach to Sustainability and Responsible Procurement can be found on our web pages.

The future
LSBU will continue to develop a better understanding of its supply chain and encourage greater transparency and responsibility towards people working within them. We will continue to review and work together to assess what steps need to be taken to prevent, monitor and mitigate the risks to human rights in our supply chains, with particular focus on high risk areas.

This statement was approved on behalf of LSBU’s Board of Governors on 31 January 2018 and will be reviewed annually.

Signed

Dave Phoenix
Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive
London South Bank University