



Modern slavery statement

This statement is made in accordance with section 54 (Part 6) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Introduction from the Chief Executive

The Advocacy Project has a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery, and we strive to act ethically and with integrity to make sure it is not taking place anywhere in our own organisation or in any of our supply chains. We make sure our approach and stance is clear with our partner organisations. We recognise and take seriously our responsibility to follow all principles of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Structure

We're an independent charity providing advocacy, user involvement, personal health budget and Healthwatch services. We've been supporting people to be heard in decisions about their health, care, and wellbeing for over 20 years. The Advocacy Project's Board of Trustees oversees our organisation at a strategic level. Our safeguarding lead reviews our approach to following all aspects of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and reports regularly to the Board.

Approach

We're committed to making sure there's no modern slavery or human trafficking in our organisation or supply chains. Our approach to anti-slavery and human trafficking reflects our commitment to always acting ethically and with integrity. We implement and enforce effective systems and controls to make sure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in The Advocacy Project or our supply chains. We'll treat any breach of our approach to anti-slavery and human trafficking very seriously. For example, any employee who breaches our legal standing will face disciplinary action, which may result in dismissal for misconduct or gross misconduct. We regularly review and update all relevant policies and have processes in place to check their effectiveness.

Suppliers and sub-contractors

We use a limited range of suppliers to support our services. We are committed to making sure they share in our high standards and that our major suppliers are compliant with the annual reporting requirements in section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act. Our sub-contractors must follow relevant sections of our safeguarding, health and safety, and living wage policies. If any of our suppliers or subcontractors don't meet these standards, we'll review or stop our relationship with them. We regularly assess the effectiveness of all actions, to make sure they meet our objectives, and to decide whether further steps are needed.

Continued commitment

We recognise the importance of keeping constant vigilance in The Advocacy Project and throughout our supply chains to find and address any issues associated with slavery and human trafficking. We're committed to continuing to enhance our ability to find and mitigate or prevent any actual or potential risks in these areas. This includes communications through various channels with our internal teams, a relentless focus on safeguarding and the ability to report concerns through our whistleblowing process.