



Met Office

Commercial and Procurement

Modern Slavery Statement



Met Office Modern Slavery Statement

Chief Executives Introduction

1. The Met Office are an Executive Agency of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Our purpose is to work at the forefront of weather and climate science for protection, prosperity and well-being.
2. The Met Office is committed to the highest level of ethical standards and sound governance arrangements and sets high standards of impartiality, integrity and objectivity in relation to the stewardship of public funds and the management of its activities.
3. Met Office adopts zero tolerance to modern slavery and human trafficking and all forms of corruption and bribery directly and indirectly associated with these criminal acts.
4. We fully support the government's objectives to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking.
5. We call upon all organisations we engage with to influence their supply chains by improving transparency and accountability; and together we can help the government eradicate the injustice and brutality of modern slavery and human trafficking.

Penny Endersby
Chief Executive

Introduction

As part of BEIS, the Met Office recognises that it has a responsibility to take a robust approach to slavery and human trafficking.

The Met office is committed to preventing slavery and human trafficking in its commercial and procurement activities, and to ensuring that its supply chains are free from slavery and human trafficking.

This statement relates to actions and activities to date and those planned up to 2021.

Organisational structure and supply chains

The Met Office predominantly pays for goods and services in the UK, however many of our grant funded activities are contracted through other Government Organisations including other Met Services and Science and Research Institutes through the WISER (Weather & Climate Information Services for Africa) and WCSSP (Weather & Climate Science for Service Partnership) programmes as well as other bespoke Weather related International Development work.

The Met Office currently operates in the main in the following countries:

- United Kingdom
- China
- South Africa
- Brazil
- Tanzania
- SE Asia

Met Office Estate and Supply Chain

Our purpose is to work at the forefront of weather and climate science for protection, prosperity and well-being.

In doing so the Met Office has a direct relationship with many suppliers and a two or three tier down relationship with suppliers of direct and indirect materials, goods, services and labour.

As a result, Met Office are fully committed to robust contract conditions, compliance checks and audits where appropriate.

The ultimate responsibility to manage the process of respecting human rights and the covenants within the Modern Slavery Act are imposed onto our supply chain through various mechanisms.

- As part of the Procurement & Commercial Lifecycle Process Risks are mapped at an early stage of building any requirement.
- All new Suppliers are asked to complete a Modern Slavery due diligence process before they become a supplier to the Met Office.

- Due diligence forms part of the Met Office accreditation process, these documents set out the standards of not only HSE and Quality but also include, Sustainability, Ethics and Social Value including the use of labour and adherence to relevant country legal requirements. We have a number of Procurement and Commercial policies and processes to assist with this due diligence through all relevant procurements.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Compliance

- Contracts are reviewed to ensure that the supplier should ensure as much as possible that Slavery and Trafficking are not taking place in their own sub supply chain. ODA compliance is at the forefront of all calls for competition and subsequent contract delivery as this is implicit in the funding eligibility requirements of the supply chains for DFID and BEIS grant funded work.

Relevant Policies

The Met Office operates the following policies to support its approach to the identification of modern slavery risks and steps to be taken to prevent slavery and human trafficking in its operations.

- Employee code of conduct - makes clear to employees the actions and behaviour expected of them when representing the organisation. The Company strives to maintain the highest standards of employee conduct and ethical behaviour when operating abroad and managing its supply chain.
- SME Business and Ethical Policy – makes clear to our suppliers and our stakeholders the importance of ensuring ethical matters are incorporated into the end to end procurement process including compliance to the Modern Slavery Act.
- Transparency Policy – makes sure that we are being proportionate and transparent in our approach to delivering goods, works and services to the business
- In addition, the Met Office also follows the Civil Service Code of Conduct

Plans 2018 to 2021

Training and Compliance

- The Met Office Commercial and Procurement team will conduct face to face training for the team to emphasise the importance of acting with integrity and in line with our own internal policies these link to various accreditations including CIPS accreditation, ISO14001 and ISO9001.
- Modern Slavery Act to be incorporated into training and induction sessions for the Commercial and Procurement team and into induction sessions for new employees.
- Commercial and Procurement team will review and refine its activities on an

ongoing basis to promote the importance and adherence to the Modern Slavery Act and work with BEIS to deliver this

Further Information

Below is a list of useful links to resources, guides and information the Met Office strongly encourages all of its suppliers to refer to ensure they are fully informed about the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/stopping-modern-slavery-in-business-video>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-industry-factsheets>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/support-for-victims-of-human-trafficking>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transparency-in-supply-chains-a-practical-guide>

Modern Slavery Helpline on Tel: 08000 121 700 or online at:

www.modernslaveryhelpline.org. The Helpline provides information and advice about modern slavery, a 24 hour telephone reporting line and an online reporting function through the website.