

# Manchester Metropolitan University

## Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement (2019)

**This statement is made in accordance with section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31st July 2019.**

This is our fifth annual statement under the Act and provides an overview of our continual development in this area.

Manchester Metropolitan University is one of the largest campus-based universities in the UK with a total student population of over 38,000 and around 4,000 staff and an annual turnover of £336.1m for 2018/19.

Our campus is designed around the student experience and is based in the heart of Manchester, the UK's most popular student city. The University is arranged into five Faculties providing specialist learning and teaching, 13 Research Centres addressing the challenges facing society and improving people's lives, and Professional Services providing a wide range of services and support to students and academic staff.

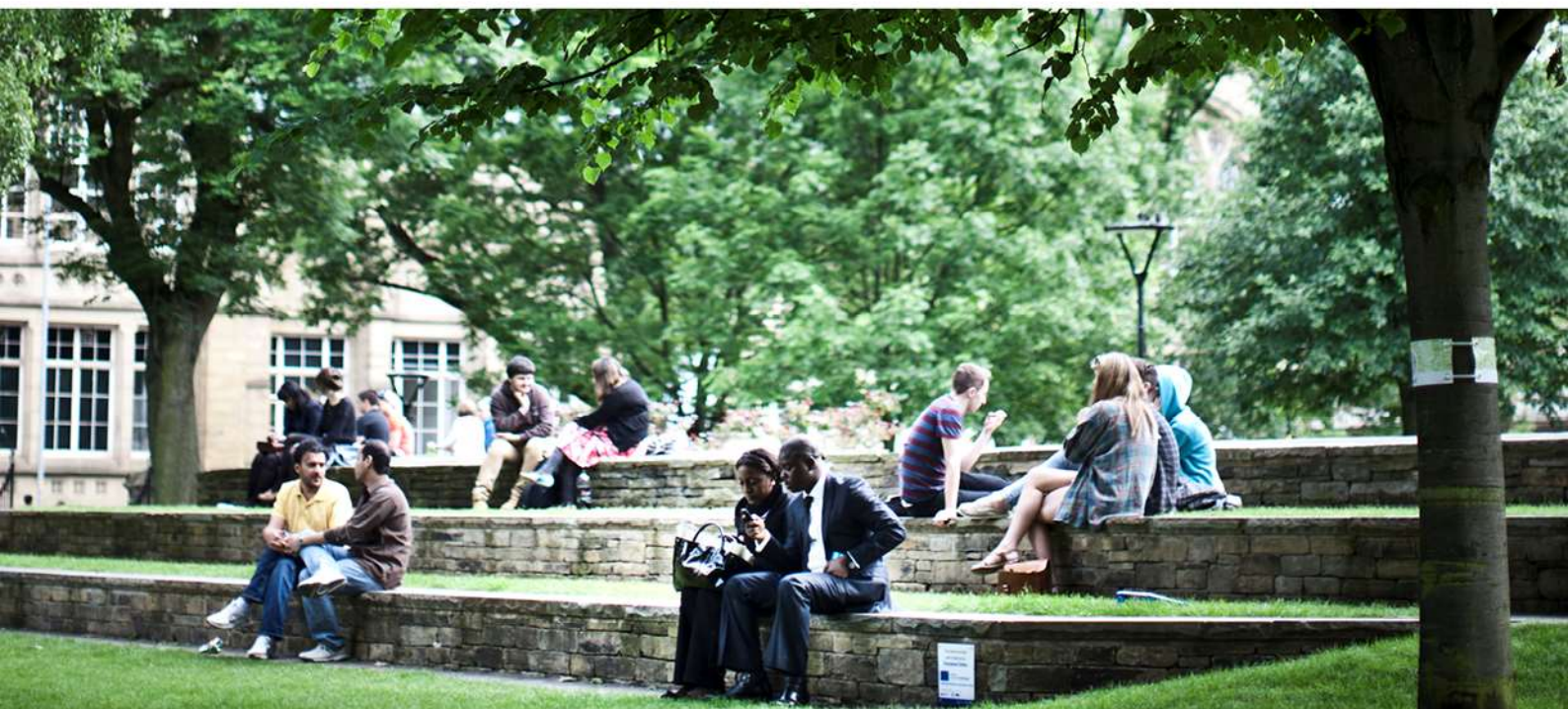
More information about us and our activities is available here: [www.mmu.ac.uk](http://www.mmu.ac.uk)

### Supply Chains

Our Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy demonstrates our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure modern slavery is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains or in any part of the University's business.

The University has over 5,000 suppliers of works, goods and services, from local Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to large multi-national companies.

Our Procurement Strategy and tender procedures clearly identify the standards we expect all of our suppliers to commit to and evidence as part of the supplier selection process, as well as how we as buyers are committed to working with our suppliers to ensure that there is no modern slavery within our supply chains.



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## Supply Chains (continued)

In order to ensure these principles are adhered to throughout the supply chain, successful suppliers are expected to develop a Sustainability Action Plan utilising our Supplier Engagement Tool available at: <https://supplierengagementthe.net-positive.org/>

## Policies

The University provides clear direction on its approach to modern slavery in our business and supply chains, through our Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy.

We have also incorporated the Modern Slavery Act 2015 into our procurement procedures and into our Sustainable and Ethical Procurement Policy.

## Training and Awareness

Training is a way of developing awareness and understanding of modern slavery and human trafficking amongst staff members.

To support this training the University has adopted a higher education focused training module which enables a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and our organisation.

The use of this training module, initially targeted at key personnel in the University's supply chain, is being introduced to wider groups of staff and comprises of information on modern slavery, and how to spot it, University obligations and the need for this Annual Statement and appropriate actions.

In October 2019 the University promoted the National Anti-Slavery day through a range of news articles, social media, email banners and intranet campaigns, raising awareness of the national event and promoting the use of an online training module open to all members of staff.





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## Risk Assessment

The University recognises the risk that modern slavery increases, the further down a supply chain extends and have identified three distinct levels:

- our own operations and workforce
- our direct suppliers
- suppliers to our suppliers

### Our own operations and workforce

In respect of the University's own operations, its recruitment processes are robust with regard to staff appointments and in particular to internships to ensure that those taking part in internships are adequately remunerated and treated within the terms of the Modern Slavery Act.

With regard to the employment of staff, the University has a number of key HR policies which are relevant to the Modern Slavery Act. These include; Public Interest Disclosure (Whistle Blowing), Dignity at Work and our Equality and Diversity policy.

### Our direct suppliers

The University directly purchases works, goods and services from a wide range of suppliers across a number of categories and is committed to acquiring these in a responsible manner.

Within our procurement processes suppliers are required to demonstrate commitment to the Modern Slavery Act and highlight any areas of potential risk that requires action.

In assessing its supply chain the University assesses the nature of supplies and their likelihood of risk in relation to modern slavery

Key risks include; agency staff, construction and IT equipment.

- Agency Staff

The University uses an external agency for catering staff, procured through The University Catering Organisation (TUCO) which includes a commitment to the Modern Slavery Act.

- Construction

When undertaking the procurement of building works, potential contractors are asked specific questions during the tender process to ensure compliance with the Modern Slavery Act.

- IT

The University has renewed its membership of Electronics Watch, an independent monitoring organisation that assists public sector buyers to meet their responsibility to protect the human rights of electronics workers in their global supply chains.

### Suppliers to our suppliers

Our suppliers have supply chains of their own and we will ensure that as part of the procurement process, our suppliers are asked to evidence how they risk assess their own supply chains and take appropriate actions where risks exist.

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## Future Plans

Each year we reassess the effectiveness of the actions we have taken in the previous year to highlight modern slavery or human trafficking and use this assessment to develop our plans for the future. In 2020 the University will:

- continue to identify modern slavery risks within our supply chains and act to remove these, with the support of our suppliers.
- use these action plans to inform contract managers of any specific modern slavery concerns highlighted as part of the tender process and address them appropriately.
- continue to develop our policies in line with good practice and procedures.
- continue to promote the Modern Slavery Act and training module in 2020, promoting and monitoring its uptake.
- develop our approach to consolidating its agency supply chain, which will include appropriate risk assessments and commitment to the Modern Slavery Act.
- further develop the commitment of contractors to risk assessing their supply chains during the course of their contracts.
- embed this commitment to risk assessing supply chains through the introduction of a new Vendor Management process in 2020.
- Develop our understanding of the risks of modern slavery within our International Partnerships.

Manchester Metropolitan University

Date: 29.11.2019

Approved by the University's Board of Governors

Date: 29.11.2019

