

## Arden & GEM Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2022

**NHS Arden & GEM CSU (Arden & GEM) fully supports the Government’s objectives to eradicate Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking and recognises the significant role the NHS has to play in both combatting it and supporting victims.**

This includes being strongly committed to ensuring our supply chains and business activities are free from ethical and labour standards abuses. As part of the NHS Net Zero commitment outlined in the 2020 “Delivering a ‘Net Zero’ National Health Service” report, we have published the NHS Supplier Roadmap. As part of the roadmap, a Sustainable Supplier Assessment will be available in 2023 to enable suppliers to benchmark their progress against the Roadmap. Suppliers will perform an annual self-assessment, which will also include Modern Slavery requirements. Requirements of suppliers include, but are not limited to, publication of an ethical sourcing policy, completion of a supply chain risk assessment and Modern Slavery audits in supply chain hotspots identified through risk assessments.

The NHS standard contracts which NHS England publishes, govern how Arden & GEM engages with its suppliers and require compliance with relevant legislation, including the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The 2022 updates to these contracts strengthen our position on Modern Slavery, extending requirements and the option to terminate for breaches of social and labour laws.

We also have a number of complementary internal policies that support our commitment to eradicating Modern Slavery, such as:

- Freedom to Speak up Whistleblowing Policy
- Managing Safeguarding Allegations Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Procurement Policy

Our Modern Slavery Policy aligns directly with NHS England’s Modern Slavery Policy, and we assign any concerns for further investigation and offer support to individuals that have suffered any detriment as a result of whistleblowing.