

## **CARE SOUTH SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATEMENT**

Care South has published this statement in compliance with section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ('the Act').

We are fully supportive of all measures taken by the UK government to eradicate slavery and human trafficking.

We will publish an annual statement on this website to explain what we are doing to prevent slavery and human trafficking in any part of Care South's operations.

We will on an ongoing basis carry out risk assessments of both existing and new suppliers to identify those for whom it may be necessary to carry out due diligence procedures to ensure that such suppliers have also taken appropriate action to comply with their obligations under the Act. "Supplier" means any supplier of goods or services to Care South.

This due diligence will consist of making enquiries of any supplier in respect of matters covered by the Act and where appropriate seeking a signed confirmation of compliance with the Act from the supplier.

We are committed to the training and development of all staff to understand the meaning of slavery and human trafficking so that they are alert to identify possible abuse within the Company and externally (which will include home visits to service users of our domiciliary care operation).

Staff training will consist of a combination of e-learning, distance learning, classroom training and awareness campaigns so that staff gain a full understanding of the meaning of slavery and human trafficking and are aware of signs to look for. Staff will be trained on how to report on possible abuse through the Company's whistleblowing and safeguarding procedures. For new staff joining Care South this will form part of the induction and diversity training programme. Information will be included in the Personal Development Plan which is issued to all staff.

We will ensure that our robust recruitment processes include scrutiny to ensure that new staff joining Care South are not themselves under any form of duress equivalent to slavery or subject to any form of human trafficking.

Care South is committed to treating all staff fairly and in accordance with the law, including payment which is at least equal to the National Living Wage at any time. We promise a safe working environment for all staff. We will not condone any form of harassment, bullying, discrimination or unequal treatment. We will ensure that all staff are made aware of the opportunity during their employment with the Company to come forward and seek advice and support on a confidential basis if they become the subject of abuse under the Act. We will continue to promote to all staff the free Care South Employment Assistance Programme which provides free telephone advice by independent counsellors.

We will on an annual basis assess the effectiveness of measures we have taken to comply with the Act and report on this in future Statements. Where any measure taken is assessed as not effective, we will take remedial action.

Felicity Irwin DL (Chairman of the Board) and Susan Willoughby (Chief Executive) are jointly responsible for ensuring Care South's compliance with the Act.

This Statement has been approved by the Board of Directors of each of the companies within the Care South Group.