

LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY
MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATEMENT

(Financial Year ending 31st July 2025)

This statement has been published in accordance with Section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes Liverpool Hope University's slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31st July 2025.

Introduction

This statement sets out the steps the University has taken, or will be taking, to prevent Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in conducting our business and in our supply chains.

Our Organisation and Structure

Liverpool Hope University has a values-led approach to educational delivery and with a history extending more than 175 years, has developed a strong tradition of scholarship and research in key disciplines. The University has teaching and exchange partnerships with likeminded institutions in many countries to facilitate cooperation in delivering higher education and research. The University has two main teaching campuses; Hope Park in Childwall and the Creative Campus in the city centre. We have invested more than £60 million in buildings and equipment over the past eight years and are proud of our campuses. The University is comprised of four academic faculties and associated Professional Services departments and is a Company Limited by guarantee, Company number (Reg No. 03285547) and a Charity (Reg No. 1060579).

Sustainability

Liverpool Hope University is committed to enhancing the quality of its environment for its staff and students working and living at the University and the wider community; and aims to manage operations in an environmentally sustainable, economically feasible and socially responsible way.

Governance

The University Council is responsible for managing the business of the University. This includes determining our mission and policies as well as ensuring the financial sustainability of the institution. All plans for academic activities (via Senate), the financial statements, appointment of the Vice-Chancellor and members of the Executive Board, must be approved by the Council.

Further details about the University's structure, governance and policies can be found here:

<https://www.hope.ac.uk/aboutus/governance/>

With regards to Modern Slavery, we have two main risk areas: Our staff and students, and Supply chains

The University had an annual turnover of £56.855m in the financial year ending 31st July 2025, employed (on average) 644 staff FTE and had 5,301 matriculated students.

During 2024/25 we purchased circa £14.185m of goods, services and works through various supply chain arrangements. The University engaged with over 1,200 suppliers from 12 countries and territories (including the UK) and remain committed to making purchases in an ethically responsible manner.

In respect to our international teaching and exchange partnerships, the University carries out thorough due diligence in advance of any partnership being agreed.

Policies and processes relating to Slavery and Human Trafficking

The University's Strategic Plan is consistent with the aim of combating slavery and human trafficking. The Senior Management Team promotes social justice and respect for others, and is committed to linking institutional policies to the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy where appropriate.

An A-Z list of the main University policies, strategies and corporate documents can be found here:

[Policies and strategies](#)

The following policies and procedures align with the institutional commitment to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or activities: Research Ethics, Safeguarding, Whistleblowing, Sustainable Procurement, Sustainability Policy, Recruitment and Selection Policy.

The institutional Finance policies and procedures can be found here: [Finance Forms, Policies and Procedures](#)

Procurement

The University's Procurement Policy ensures suppliers who bid for opportunities are assessed against their compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015. Specific questions relating to the Modern Slavery Act are included in our procurement tender opportunities.

In addition, to ensure that financial control is maintained, the University operates financial regulations which apply to all University income and business, all staff, university departments and subsidiary companies.

Employment of staff

The Director of Governance and People Services has responsibility for policies and procedures relating to the recruitment and selection of staff. The University mitigates the risk of modern slavery or human trafficking occurring in the workforce, by ensuring that we have a set of employment related policies and procedures, and follow robust recruitment and selection

mechanisms which include the completion of eligibility to work in the UK checks and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for relevant roles.

The institutional recruitment and selection policy can be found here: [Recruitment and Selection Policy.pdf](#)

Where it is necessary to hire agency workers or contractors, staff are directed to specified, reliable agencies that have been vetted through the University's procurement procedures and meet the imposed selection criteria regarding their business and employment policies and practices.

The University is committed to ensuring that people are paid appropriately for the work that they undertake and applies the Voluntary Living Wage.

University supply chains

The University has a well-established procurement policy managed by the Procurement Manager. When entering into contracts, the University does so in accordance with its sustainable procurement policy and financial regulations.

The following supply chains have been identified as 'at risk' of exposure to modern slavery and human trafficking; estates, including construction and refurbishment; contracts for services, including catering and security staff; waste management services; IT supplies and consumables; lab supplies and consumables; clothing, uniforms; personal protective equipment and promotional items.

Procedures are in place to undertake due diligence on potential high-risk suppliers. For all new tendered contracts; suppliers are made aware that human trafficking and modern slavery may be a consideration for their business; they are required to confirm compliance with the annual reporting requirements of s54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, and encouraged to register and complete an action plan with the Net Positives Futures Supplier Engagement Tool. This tool partially addresses the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act and encourages suppliers to share details of potential impact arising from their business activities, including slavery and their supply chains.

The University is a member of the North Western Universities Purchasing Consortium (NWUPC) and The University Catering Organisation (TUCO), who are members of UK Universities Purchasing Consortia (UKUPC). Additionally, NWUPC and TUCO have published their own Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Transparency in Supply Chains) Statements.

The University uses a number of framework agreements for IT equipment and consumables. The purchasing consortia who own these frameworks take active steps to mitigate the risk of abuses occurring in supply chains. The consortium that manages the agreement we use for PCs and Laptops is a member of Electronic Watch, which is an independent organisation dedicated to protecting the rights of workers around the world involved in the supply of electronic items, working with public sector buyers to improve working conditions and practices.

Training and awareness raising

'Understanding Modern Slavery' e-learning module has been made available to key staff which aimed to help staff:

- Understand and recognise the types of Modern Slavery,
- Know the areas of high risk,
- Know what to do if staff suspect someone is a victim of slavery.

In August 2024, further information / guidance from UKUPC was shared with key personnel in Estates, Catering, IT, Health & Safety and People Services to refresh awareness and re-affirm the University's commitment to playing its part in eradicating Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking.

Next Steps

The University recognises that we have a responsibility to raise awareness of modern slavery by researching, teaching and engaging staff and students on this issue. The University will continue to implement measures as outlined in this statement to combat slavery and human trafficking and ensure there is no slavery and human trafficking in the University or its supply chain. This includes developing the process for ensuring all new suppliers, regardless of financial threshold, set up on our vendor database self-certify that they comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015. In addition, we will continue to provide training and awareness of the Act within the organisation, starting with induction and refresher training as appropriate.

Any concerns from suppliers, students, staff or third parties regarding Modern Slavery should be directed to the University's Procurement Manager. We commit to working with suppliers to address any issues identified and ensuring high ethical standards are maintained.

Approval and Signature

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and is reviewed annually. It was approved and signed by University Council.

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mrs J Beever', followed by a large checkmark.

Mrs J Beever

Chair of Council

19th November 2025