

**TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**Item No 6**

**MEETING: 13 SEPTEMBER 2021**

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**SUBJECT: MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT 2021/22**

**JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE (THE CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY), THE FINANCE DIRECTOR AND THE PERSONNEL ADVISOR TO THE AUTHORITY**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to present the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority (TWFA) Modern Slavery Statement 2021/22 for Members' consideration and approval.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Modern Slavery Act came into force in 2015 and requires commercial companies with a turnover in excess of £36m to produce an annual statement. The Home Office has stated in its Summary of Commitments in relation to Modern Slavery its intention to extend the reporting requirements to include all public bodies. As a public body, it is good practice for TWFA to produce and publish a Modern Slavery Statement outlining the processes, procedures and actions in place to mitigate potential modern slavery risks.
- 2.2 This Statement is the Authority's first Modern Slavery Statement which sets out the actions and activities during 2021/22 to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

## **3 MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT**

- 3.1 The Statement is set out in Appendix A to this report and details the Authority's commitment to ensure it does not encourage or support slavery or human trafficking within the organisation's workforce, within its supply chains or as part of its service delivery activities.

## **4 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 There are no risks associated with publishing the Modern Slavery Statement. The statement demonstrates how potential risks are mitigated.

## **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This report has no direct financial implications

## **6 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no equality and fairness implications in respect of this report. The statement is in direct support of the principles of adhering to ethical standards in all activities highlighting arrangements to prevent and detect occurrences of human trafficking or slavery.

## **7 HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no health and safety implications in respect of this report.

## **8 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 The Authority is recommended to:
- a) Note the contents of the Modern Slavery Statement.
  - b) Approve the Modern Slavery Statement for Publication.

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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The under mentioned Background Papers refer to the subject matter of the above report:

- Modern Slavery Act 2015