
Modern slavery statement 2025-26

Introduction

This statement is made pursuant to section 54 of the [Modern Slavery Act 2015](#). Local Space is committed to acting ethically and with integrity and transparency in all professional and commercial dealings.

We are dedicated to implementing and enforcing robust systems, processes, and controls designed to safeguard against any form of modern slavery, human trafficking, or severe labour exploitation taking place within our internal organisation or across our wider supply chain.

Our structure

Local Space is a charitable registered society (29840R) and registered provider of social housing (LH4454). We do not have any group structures or subsidiaries.

Our core charitable objects are carried out for the explicit benefit of the community and include:

- The business of providing, managing, and developing high-quality social housing.
- Providing essential housing assistance, associated facilities, amenities, and support services for poor people, or for the relief of aged, disabled, or chronically sick individuals.
- Any other charitable object aligned with a registered society acting as a provider of social housing under the regulator.

Our operational income is derived sustainably from the renting and leasing of residential and commercial properties.

Internal workforce protections

We ensure that the foundation of our internal operations minimises any vulnerability to exploitation which include:

- **Direct employment** - all core staff members are directly employed by Local Space and are not placed in employment statuses or categories generally considered vulnerable to modern slavery.
- **Fair compensation** - Local Space is a proud advocate of fair pay, ensuring all directly employed staff earn at least the Living Wage Foundation rate.
- **Pre-employment gatekeeping** - comprehensive and rigorous pre-employment and right-to-work checks are mandatory prior to the commencement of any internal role.
- **Mandatory training** - all staff members who maintain direct contact with our residents undergo mandatory safeguarding, child protection, and vulnerable adult protection training. This curriculum explicitly covers how to identify signs of modern slavery and the precise statutory pathways for reporting concerns.

- **Whistleblowing & safety** - we operate a robust whistleblowing policy and secure data controls that encourage staff to safely and anonymously report any operational or supply chain anxieties, with a clear protocol to escalate safeguarding incidents directly to social services or law enforcement

Local Space supply chain risk & procurement governance

Local Space relies on a diverse network of supply chain partners to deliver property maintenance, void works, IT systems, and corporate services across our operations. We recognise that our primary exposure to modern slavery risks sits within third-party supply chains, particularly within labour-intensive sectors, construction activities, and multi-tier subcontracting arrangements.

Our procurement policy establishes clear compliance expectations for all procurement activity. Where appropriate, we utilise pre-qualified procurement frameworks, which include supplier selection and due diligence processes that take account of relevant social value requirements and may include consideration of modern slavery risks.

For procurements conducted outside of frameworks, we undertake tendering activity in alignment with the principles of the [Procurement Act 2023](#) and associated statutory guidance, applying a proportionate and risk-based approach to supplier selection, evaluation, and award decisions.

We are strengthening our contract management approach to ensure that relevant suppliers are subject to appropriate ongoing monitoring and engagement, including proportionate reporting requirements and compliance checks aligned to contract risk profile.

Relevant staff receive training to support the identification, assessment, and mitigation of modern slavery risks throughout the procurement lifecycle, including tendering, contract award, and contract management stages.

Modern slavery risk controls are applied on a proportionate, risk-based basis, reflecting the nature, scale, and complexity of individual contracts and supply chains.

Policies

Local Space staff have access via our Office 365 facility to a range of policies and procedures designed to promote ethical conduct, safeguard residents and staff, and mitigate the risk of modern slavery. These include, but are not limited to:

- Recruitment and selection policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Whistleblowing policy
- Procurement policy
- Probity policy
- Code of conduct/employee code of conduct

- Anti-bribery and corruption policy
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policy
- Data protection policy

Through these policies and the measures outlined below, we work to prevent modern slavery from occurring within Local Space and throughout our supply chains:

- All staff who have direct contact with residents undertake mandatory safeguarding training, which includes awareness of modern slavery.
- Staff are aware of how to report any concerns and are encouraged to do so. Safeguarding concerns, including suspected cases of modern slavery, are reported to social services or, where appropriate, the police
- We are actively auditing our Master Contract Register to ensure all active arrangements are fully documented. We are also updating our standard contract templates to explicitly incorporate environmental, social value, and anti-human trafficking clauses, with these requirements being actively reviewed as part of regular supplier contract meetings.
- We carry out pre-employment checks for all workers, including directly appointed staff and those recruited through agencies or contractors.

Future activities

Local Space is reviewing its internal policies and procedures, and in the next financial year intends to introduce the following initiatives:

- We will share this statement with staff to raise awareness of the [Modern Slavery Act 2013](#) and reporting responsibilities and what action to take if they have concerns.
- Local Space will centralise and audit its Master Contract Register to ensure 100% visibility over our active contracts and procurement routes, supporting improved governance and assurance.
- Strengthen contractor management arrangements by introducing periodic contract and supplier reviews, including assessment of financial resilience, delivery capacity, and subcontractor oversight within higher-risk contracts. Introduce our contract management policy/procedure. Ensure all relevant suppliers are required to comply with the Local Space procurement policy and code of conduct, including modern slavery and ethical sourcing requirements where applicable.
- In 2026-27, appoint a dedicated Procurement Officer to enhance procurement governance and contract management capability. Following this appointment, Local Space will develop a structured supplier performance and compliance reporting framework to provide Senior Management Team oversight of key supplier risks and performance metrics.

Approval

This statement will be reviewed annually and is approved by the Local Space Board for any substantial changes and otherwise by our Senior Management Team, which has responsibility for ensuring its implementation.

Signed by:



Josie Parsons
CEO