

Care & Alliance Ltd

Modern Slavery Statement

This document is **dated 22/06/2023** and will be updated annually.

This statement sets out the steps that Care & Alliance Ltd has taken and is continuing to take to ensure that modern slavery or human trafficking is not taking place within our business or supply chain.

Modern slavery encompasses slavery, servitude, human trafficking and forced labour. Care & Alliance Ltd has a zero- tolerance approach to any form of modern slavery and human trafficking. We are committed to acting ethically and with integrity and transparency in all business dealings and to putting effective systems and controls in place to safeguard against any form of modern slavery taking place within the business or our supply chains.

Care & Alliance Ltd provides home care and supported living services to a number of people who reside in the West Midlands area, we have between 10-20 staff at these locations and work alongside Birmingham Local authority's and CQC, (Care Quality Commission)

Care & Alliance Ltd implements its business strategy in an ethically, socially and environmentally responsible manner. We fully acknowledge our responsibility to respect human rights as set out in the International Bill of Human Rights. The IBHR informs all of our policies related to the rights and freedoms of every individual who works for us, either as a direct employee, agency worker or indirectly through our supply chain. We are also committed to implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights throughout our operations. Respect for the dignity of the individual – and the importance of each individual's human rights – form the basis of the behaviors we expect in every workplace nationally.

We will not accept any form of discrimination, harassment or bullying and we require all of our managers to implement policies designed to increase equality of opportunity and inclusion for all employees including agency workers. We have also developed and implemented policies and processes which are intended to extend these commitments through our supply chain.

Policies

We have several internal policies to ensure that we are conducting business ethically and transparently. These include:

- **Human Rights policy and our Ethics Policy** where we confirm that we will not tolerate or condone the abuse of human rights within any part of our business or supply chains and will take seriously any allegations that human rights are not properly respected.
- **Whistleblowing Policy**, aimed principally at our employees but also available to others working in our supply chains, encourages staff to report any wrongdoing which extends to human rights violations like Modern Slavery. All reports will be fully investigated and appropriate remedial actions are taken and we will work closely with social care and health providers ensuring that our policies and procedures dovetail with local procedures and best practice
- **A robust recruitment policy**, including conducting eligibility to work in the UK checks for all employees to safeguard.
- **Employee Code of Conduct** consistent with any professional codes of conduct

Direct Communication

The Company encourages members of the public or people not employed by us to write, in confidence, to raise any concern, issue or suspicion of modern slavery in any part of our business.

Suppliers

Modern slavery is a crime and a violation of fundamental human rights. It takes various forms, such as slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour, and human trafficking, all of which include the deprivation of a person's liberty by another in order to exploit them for personal or commercial gain.

Care & Alliance Ltd has a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery within the business and supply chains and we are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our dealings and relationships. We will implement and enforce effective systems and controls to ensure that modern slavery is not taking place anywhere in Care & Alliance Ltd or within any third parties (agencies) that we are associated with.

All staff will be made aware of the issues surrounding slavery and human trafficking, whilst

being encouraged and supported to report any concerns to Care & Alliance Ltd management. Care & Alliance Ltd will also support any staff that may be subject to slavery or human trafficking.

Where modern slavery or human trafficking is identified, Care & Alliance Ltd will share information with the Birmingham local authority Safeguarding Team to safeguard the individual from harm and with the objective of preventing future situations arising, to promote the elimination of routes and sources of slavery or human trafficking.

All line managers are responsible for ensuring that those reporting directly to them comply with the provisions of this policy in the day-to-day performance of their roles.

All employees who suspect any members of the workplace of being victim of modern slavery must notify their line manager.

Care & Alliance Ltd will take steps to ensure that sufficient communication and employee awareness training is undertaken with regards to Modern Slavery.

All employees will be made aware of PM11 - Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure at Care & Alliance Ltd. The purpose of this policy and associated procedure is to enable Care & Alliance Ltd to thoroughly investigate allegations of any wrongdoing raised by employees within Care & Alliance Ltd without fear of reprisal.

Care & Alliance Ltd will use this policy to underpin and inform any statement on slavery and human trafficking that we may be required to produce to meet the requirements of Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA).

We conduct due diligence on all suppliers before allowing them to become a preferred supplier. We include an online search to ensure that particular organisations have never been convicted of offences relating to modern slavery and we include our modern slavery policy as part of our contract with all suppliers. Suppliers are required to confirm that no part of their business operations contradicts this policy. As part of our contract with suppliers, they confirm to us that:

1. They have taken steps to eradicate modern slavery within their business
2. They hold their suppliers to account over modern slavery
3. For UK based suppliers, they pay their employees at least the national minimum wage/national living wage (as appropriate) and to ensure that within their supply chains, where UK based suppliers have overseas supply chains, that their employees' pay is consistent with their national minimum wage requirements, working conditions are safe and fair, there is no child labour and working hours are not excessive

4. We may terminate the contract at any time should any instances of modern slavery come to light

Risk Assessments

Our supply chains include procurement of staff, consumables, facilities maintenance, utilities and waste management [add further areas]. We have conducted a risk assessment and will ensure that we will take further steps to ensure that we support the eradication of modern slavery, that staff understand how to recognise modern slavery and the appropriate safeguarding reporting processes are followed should there be concerns within our supply chains, with customers or suppliers.

Performance indicators

We will know the effectiveness of the steps that we are taking to ensure that slavery is not taking place within our business or supply chain if:

- No reports are received from employees, the public, or law enforcement agencies or local safeguarding teams to indicate that modern slavery practices have been identified.

Safeguards

We aim to encourage openness and will support anyone who raises genuine concerns in good faith under this policy, even if they turn out to be mistaken. We are committed to ensuring that no one suffers any detrimental treatment as a result of reporting in good faith their suspicion that modern slavery of whatever form is or may be taking place in any part of our business. Detrimental treatment includes dismissal, disciplinary action, threats or other unfavourable treatment connected with raising a concern. Care & Alliance Ltd will accept and take seriously concerns communicated anonymously. However, retention of anonymity does render investigations and makes validation more difficult and can make the process less effective. Individuals are therefore encouraged to put their names to allegations. Any claims or allegations made which are found to be malicious or vexatious will result in disciplinary action being taken against the individual.

Responsibility for this Statement

The ultimate responsibility for the prevention of modern slavery rests with the *[insert who at Senior Management level has responsibility]* for ensuring that this policy and its implementation complies with our legal and ethical obligations. Managers at all levels are responsible for ensuring that those reporting to them understand and comply with this policy and are given adequate and regular training on it and the issue of modern slavery.

Assessment of effectiveness in preventing Modern Slavery

We understand that modern slavery risk is not static and will continue our approach to mitigating this risk. We will assess the risk via our internal auditing processes.

This statement is made according to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the modern slavery and human trafficking statement of Care & Alliance Ltd for the financial year ending 2023 Mrs Sharon Biddle of Care & Alliance Ltd has approved this statement.

Approval for this statement

This statement was

approved by the

Registered Manager /

Nominated Individual

and also the Directors

of the business.

Date

Mrs Sharon Biddle

Date

Mr. Mrs Sanghera