

<b>CABINET</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No. 8</b>
<b>27 February 2017</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital	
Contact Officer(s):	Kim Sawyer, Director of Governance	☎ 452361

## MODERN SLAVERY ACT

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> Kim Sawyer, Director of Governance	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
It is recommended that Cabinet approve the draft Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement for signature and publication by the Director of Governance.	

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Cabinet following a referral from CMT on 18 January 2017.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to consider and approve the draft Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement in order to meet the Council's statutory obligations under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ("MSA").
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.4: *To promote the Council's corporate and key strategies and Peterborough's Community Strategy and approve strategies and cross-cutting programmes not included within the Council's major policy and budget framework.*

### 3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	<b>N/A</b>
---	-----------	---	------------

### 4. OVERVIEW

#### Background

- 4.1 'Modern slavery' is the term used to encapsulate the two offences in the MSA: slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour; and human trafficking.
- 4.2 Section 54 applies to commercial organisations which:
- Supply goods or services; and
  - Have a total turnover of £36m a year or more.
- 4.3 Where the threshold is met, an organisation is required to prepare and publish (on its website with a prominent link via the homepage), a '*Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement*' stating the steps it has taken during that financial year to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any part of its own business or any of its supply chains or issue a statement that it has taken no such steps.

- 4.4 As Peterborough City Council's financial year ends on/after 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, the requirement is for the Statement to be published annually in respect of financial years ending on or after that date and as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

#### **Progress to date**

- 4.5 A draft Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement has been prepared for publication and is attached at Appendix A of this Report.
- 4.6 This year's draft Statement, being the first of its nature is designed to affirm Peterborough City Council's commitment to combatting the offences identified in the MSA and to make various commitments in terms of the actions that will be taken in order to achieve this and to meet our wider obligations.
- 4.7 Under the Act, further statements will need to be published year on year, demonstrating how the Council has built on the plans outlined in this first statement and how compliance is evolving.
- 4.8 The actions identified in the draft Statement demonstrate the Council's ongoing commitment and compliance and these will be overseen by the Director of Governance who will be supported by a working group of key officers from Legal and procurement teams.

### **5. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES**

- 5.1 The draft Statement sets out how the Council will help to tackle modern slavery in its supply chains. This includes actions such as updating policies and contractual templates, seeking warranties of compliance from our service providers and ongoing monitoring of compliance and effectiveness against key performance indicators.

### **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The draft Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement fulfils the Council's statutory obligations under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and Cabinet is therefore recommended to approve the strategy.

### **7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 7.1 Not to approve the draft Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement. This option is not recommended as the council will not be able to meet its statutory requirements.

### **8. IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The draft Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement aims to ensure compliance with the statutory requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

### **9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

- 9.1 None.

### **10. APPENDICES**

- 10.1 Appendix A - Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement 2016/17