

Modern Slavery Policy and Procedure

Introduction

The Modern Slavery Act (2015) was introduced to tackle the serious and brutal crime of slavery. Modern slavery is a form of organised crime in which victims are exploited as commodities. Victims come from all walks of life and geographical location. They are often unwilling to come forward to law enforcement or public protection agencies; commercial organisations need to take a proactive role in ensuring that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place within their businesses or related supply chains.

Scope

This policy applies to all persons working for Thomson Environmental Consultants (Thomson Environmental Consultants Limited, Thomson Unicomarine Limited and Thomson Habitats Limited) or on their behalf in any capacity. This includes employees at all levels, directors, officers, agency workers, seconded workers, volunteers, interns, agents, contractors, external consultants, third-party representatives and business partners.

Policy Statement

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

We have a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery and are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure modern slavery is not taking place anywhere in our own business or in any of our supply chains.

Due to the current turnover threshold set by the Act, none of the Thomson companies are required to submit an annual disclosure statement. We will ensure that there is transparency in our own business and in our approach to tackling modern slavery throughout our supply chains. We expect the same high standards from all of our contractors, suppliers and other business partners, and as part of our contracting processes, we include specific prohibitions against the use of forced, compulsory or trafficked labour, or anyone held in slavery or servitude, whether adults or children, and we expect that our suppliers will hold their own suppliers to the same high standards.

Communication and Awareness of this Policy

Training on this policy, and on the risk our business faces from modern slavery in its supply chains, forms part of the induction process for all individuals who work for us, and regular training will be provided as necessary. Our zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery must be communicated to all suppliers, contractors and business partners at the outset of our business relationship with them and reinforced as appropriate thereafter.

Responsibility for this Policy

The board of directors has overall responsibility for ensuring this policy complies with our legal and ethical obligations, and that all those under our control comply with it.

The HSQE manager has day-to-day responsibility for implementing this policy, monitoring its use and effectiveness, dealing with any queries about it, and auditing internal control systems and procedures to ensure they are effective in countering modern slavery. The HSQE Manager is responsible for providing training regarding the policy via the Thomson Elearning System (TES). Thomson Management at all levels are responsible for ensuring those reporting to them complete the initial training and subsequent refreshers in the required timescales.

Compliance with this Policy

You must ensure that you read, understand and comply with this policy. The prevention, detection and reporting of modern slavery in any part of our business or supply chains is the responsibility of all those working for us or under our control.

You are required to avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, a breach of this policy. You are encouraged to raise concerns about any issue or suspicion of modern slavery in any parts of our business or supply chains of any supplier tier at the earliest possible stage. If you believe or suspect a breach of this policy has occurred or that it may occur you must notify your manager or report it in accordance with our Confidential Reporting Policy as soon as possible.

If you are unsure about whether a particular act, the treatment of workers more generally, or their working conditions within any tier of our supply chains constitutes any of the various forms of modern slavery, raise it with your manager, HR or the HSQE Manager. 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 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 own business or in any of our supply chains. Detrimental treatment includes dismissal, disciplinary action, victimisation, threats or other unfavourable treatment connected with raising a concern. If you believe that you have suffered any such treatment, you should inform HR immediately. If the matter is not remedied, and you are an employee, you should raise it formally using our Grievance Procedure.

Any employee who breaches this policy will face disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal for misconduct or gross misconduct.

We may terminate our relationship with other individuals and organisations working on our behalf if they breach this policy.

Policy Governance:

Owner: Cheryl Greenfield-Sabourn
Next Review Date: 01/04/2025
Revision: 10.0