Royston Town Council Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement Approved by Full Council 16th January 2023

Minute number: 290/23 Review date: January 2026



Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement:

This statement sets out Royston Town Council's actions to understand the potential modern slavery risks related to its activities and to put steps in place to attempt to eliminate acts of modern slavery and human trafficking within its operations.

Council Policies:

Royston Town Council has a range of policies and processes which reflect its commitment to acting ethically and with integrity. The following policies should help to prevent slavery and human trafficking in all of the council's operations:

- Code of Conduct
- Whistleblowing
- Complaints procedure
- Equality and Diversity
- Safeguarding
- Training
- Dignity at Work

Recruitment:

Our recruitment processes include procedures in place for the vetting of new employees. Checks are undertaken to confirm identities and qualifications. Salaries are also paid into a personal bank account.

Suppliers:

Local suppliers are used where possible and other suppliers are carefully chosen using recommendation from other councils including District and County Council who have robust vetting procedures for their supply chains.

Agency workers:

The Council will use only reputable, local employment agencies to source labour. It will verify the practices of any new agency it is using before accepting workers from that agency.

Reporting modern slavery or exploitation:

- In an emergency, call 999
- In a non-emergency, call 101 (request the modern slavery unit)

If you have a suspicion or concern, but are unsure whether to act on it, call the 24/7 charity-run <u>Modern Slavery Helpline</u> anonymously on 08000 121 700 or <u>report online</u>. With access to interpreters in 200 languages, expert advisers can provide free and confidential advice and support.

Exploiters and traffickers are dangerous criminals, therefore it is vital that you do not attempt to act on suspicions, as you may put yourself or the victims at risk.

Review: January 2026, or earlier if legislation dictates.