

Modern slavery and human trafficking statement

This statement is provided on behalf of Age UK Oldham and its subsidiary company and is made pursuant to section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ('the Act'). It constitutes Age UK Oldham's statement for the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

Age UK Oldham considers Modern slavery and human trafficking extremely serious crimes, which involve grave violations of human rights that are contrary to the ethical standards and values we hold dear. As a charity we have a zero-tolerance approach to such abuses.

We are committed to preventing modern slavery in our organisation and ensuring that our supply chain is as equally free of both modern slavery and human trafficking (within the reasonable bounds of our influence and control to ensure compliance with the Act by our supply chain and / or assure ourselves of their compliance).

Our organisation

Age UK Oldham is a local autonomous charity registered in England and is a Brand partner of the national Age UK charity. Our constitution states that:

'The objective of the organisation shall be to promote the relief of elderly people in any manner which now or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable'.

Age UK Oldham has an operational trading subsidiary which generates income to fund the charity's work.

Age UK Oldham and its subsidiary employs around 100 staff and benefits from the support of 200 volunteers across our services.

Our recruitment and people management processes are designed to ensure that all prospective employees are legally entitled to work in the UK and to safeguard employees from any abuse or coercion. The vast majority of our staff are employed directly by Age UK Oldham and are not of an employment status generally considered to be vulnerable to modern slavery in this country.

We also ensure that our staff involved in procurement activity are aware of and follow the modern slavery procurement guidance that is issued by the government.

Policies

Our relevant policies are:

1. Age UK Oldham's Critical Supplier policy and procedure requires that suppliers are formally approved by Age UK Oldham and that they can only provide goods and services after confirming compliance with all applicable regulations and legislation, including the Modern Slavery Act.
2. Age UK Oldham's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures acknowledges modern slavery as a form of abuse and, where there is a concern about a child (under 18 years) or an adult (18 or over) who needs care and support, this Policy takes effect.

3. Age UK Oldham's Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure asks staff to confidentially report concerns including modern slavery or human trafficking.

Age UK Oldham aims to work with only those suppliers that demonstrate high levels of commitment to monitoring and reducing the risk of modern slavery and human trafficking taking place within their organisations or supply chains. As a pre-condition to supplying Age UK Oldham, suppliers must confirm their compliance with the Act. If a supplier fails to provide the information requested or meet Age UK Oldham's expectations, Age UK Oldham will take appropriate action, which may include not entering into a relationship or terminating the relationship.

Progress in 2022/2023

In the 2022/23 financial year Age UK has taken steps to provide additional assurance of our supply chain's compliance with the Act:

- Age UK Oldham continued to monitor all new suppliers to confirm compliance with the Act.
- Age UK Oldham developed its contract database to enable a review of existing suppliers.

Plans for 2023/2024

In the 2023/24 financial year Age UK Oldham plans to take further steps to improve:

- staff awareness and understanding of modern slavery and human trafficking by introducing mandatory training.

This statement is made pursuant to Part 6, section 54 of the Act and constitutes Age UK's anti-slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 March 2023 and has been approved by the Age UK Oldham Board of Trustees on behalf of Age UK Oldham and its charitable and trading subsidiaries.

Yvonne Lee

Chief Executive, Age UK Oldham

11th September 2023