

Modern Slavery Act 2015

Slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour

- (1) A person commits an offence if—
 - (a) the person holds another person in slavery or servitude and the circumstances are such that the person knows or ought to know that the other person is held in slavery or servitude, or
 - (b) the person requires another person to perform forced or compulsory labour and the circumstances are such that the person knows or ought to know that the other person is being required to perform forced or compulsory labour.
- (2) In subsection [\(1\)](#) the references to holding a person in slavery or servitude or requiring a person to perform forced or compulsory labour are to be construed in accordance with Article 4 of the Human Rights Convention.
- (3) In determining whether a person is being held in slavery or servitude or required to perform forced or compulsory labour, regard may be had to all the circumstances.
- (4) For example, regard may be had—
 - (a) to any of the person's personal circumstances (such as the person being a child, the person's family relationships, and any mental or physical illness) which may make the person more vulnerable than other persons;
 - (b) to any work or services provided by the person, including work or services provided in circumstances which constitute exploitation within section 3(3) to (6).
- (5) The consent of a person (whether an adult or a child) to any of the acts alleged to constitute holding the person in slavery or servitude, or requiring the person to perform forced or compulsory labour, does not preclude a determination that the person is being held in slavery or servitude, or required to perform forced or compulsory labour.

Statutory guidance

Slavery and human trafficking in supply chains: guidance for businesses

Government guidance for organisations on how to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in their business or supply chains.

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[Home Office](#)

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Documents

HTML



[Transparency in supply chains: a practical guide](#)

HTML

Transparency in Supply Chains etc.
A practical guide



Information published under section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015

[Transparency in supply chains: a practical guide](#)

PDF, 1.73MB, 46 pages

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Details

Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 requires certain organisations to develop a slavery and human trafficking statement each year. The slavery and human trafficking statement should set out what steps organisations have taken to ensure modern slavery is not taking place in their business or supply chains.

This document provides guidance on:

- who is required to publish a statement
- how to write a slavery and human trafficking statement
- how to approve and publish the statement

Additional resources

You can find additional guidance below, that you may find helpful as you address the modern slavery risks in your business' operations and supply chains.

[Core Coalition Short Guides on Modern Slavery Reporting](#)

[Ethical Trading Initiative Base Code Guidance: Modern Slavery](#)

[Walk Free Foundation Tackling Modern Slavery in Supply Chains Guide 1.0](#)

[Respect International Resource Centre](#)



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You can find more useful resources in annex G of the guidance document above.

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