

Slavery and human trafficking statement

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 2017.

The British Medical Association (BMA) is committed to integrity, high ethical and moral standards and professionalism. In line with these values the BMA has a zero-tolerance approach to slavery and human trafficking. Slavery and human trafficking often have serious health consequences for its victims who consequently come into contact with the healthcare services – our members therefore play a vital role in spotting and supporting victims.

The BMA campaigned extensively on [ethical trade](#) within the NHS, and from this position, also lobbied extensively for 'Transparency in Supply Chains' to be incorporated. It has also been working with the Home Office Modern Slavery Unit and is dedicated to continuing the improvement of its practices so as to prevent acts of modern slavery and human trafficking from occurring within the organisation and its supply chains and impose the same high standards on its suppliers.

Organisation structure

The BMA is the trade union and professional body for doctors in the UK. As a trade union, it serves its members' in a number of ways including with regard to employment issues, training, lobbying and providing its members with legal and financial services. The BMA has around 159,000 members. The BMA's annual turnover for 2017 was £55.4 million. The BMA operates predominantly in the UK but also has an office situated in Brussels. For more information about the BMA please click here: bma.org.uk/

The BMA Group is comprised of a number of subsidiaries, namely:

- **BMA Law** – this is an independent law firm established by the BMA, offering expert, cost effective legal advice operating on a not-for-profit basis;
- **BMJ Publishing Group Ltd (BMJ)** – this is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the BMA involved in seeking to advance healthcare by sharing knowledge and expertise, and also assists doctors in finding employment. BMJ has offices/ subsidiaries in the US, India and China;
- **BMA Investments Ltd** – this is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the BMA holds investment on behalf of the BMA;



Our supply chains

We work with a wide range of suppliers, primarily from the UK. Our supply chains include: professional services and advisors, office support services (stationery, cleaning, IT equipment and software), catering and hospitality.

We do not consider that we operate in high risk sectors or locations because of the nature and UK base of the majority of our supply partners.

As part of our initiative to identify and mitigate risk we will:

- ask all potential or new suppliers to provide information about modern slavery, their approach and compliance with this legislation, following which we categorise and weight risk and take due consideration in our decision making prior to any contract award.
- ensure that all new contractual documentation includes an obligation on suppliers to comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (and all other relevant modern slavery legislation) and, where we can, we also ask the supplier to pass this obligation down the contractual chain to its suppliers.

We also ensure that all of our suppliers that have staff working on our sites are contractually obligated to pay, as a minimum, the national living wage.

Our policy on slavery and human trafficking

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business. We commit to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains. We do not use or accept forced, bonded or involuntary prison labour or child labour. Looking forward, the BMA has created a specific “BMA Anti-Slavery Policy” document which includes practical guidance on identifying and reporting modern slavery that we are making available to all employees.

Training

We invest in educating our staff and members to recognise the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our business and supply chains. Through our policies, employees and members are encouraged to identify and report any potential breaches of the organisation’s anti-slavery and human trafficking policy. Employees and members are taught the benefits of stringent measures to tackle slavery and human trafficking, as well as the consequences of failing to eradicate slavery and human trafficking from our business and supply chains. Our Procurement has already engaged in specific CIPS training on ‘Ethical Procurement & Supply, going forward, we aim to provide dedicated training to the human resources team.’. We aim to roll out media training to raise awareness of slavery, including identifying the signs, to all employees within the organisation. Our members are also encouraged to pass on their knowledge and awareness to other healthcare workers such as nurses.

Belinda Phipps, Chief Executive
British Medical Association