

# Modern Slavery Statement of the Diocese of Westminster

## INTRODUCTION

Human trafficking and modern slavery are, in the words of Pope Francis, “grievous wounds in the flesh of humanity....In the flesh of Christ himself”.

This statement sets out the Diocese of Westminster’s actions to understand all potential modern slavery risks related to our work. We are absolutely committed to putting in place steps to prevent slavery or human trafficking occurring in our diocese or our supply chains. As founder members of the Santa Marta Group, the Diocese recognises our responsibility to tackle this most ancient yet modern of criminal activities. We undertake a significant amount of work in this area and further details and examples of the initiatives we undertake such as Caritas Bakhita House and our Caritas Social Enterprise Ideas Development hub can be found in our annual report and on our website.

## OUR POLICY

The Diocese has a responsibility to comply with all the principals of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and will undertake due diligence and actions to ensure it is satisfied that there is no evidence of any act of modern day slavery or human trafficking within the organisation, its suppliers, sub-contractors and other partners.

The senior management team has been provided with training to better understand slavery and human trafficking and is required to ensure that the supply chains under its control comply with the law. Procedures are in place to evaluate and verify the practices of any new or existing supplier, sub-contractor or partner. Presentations have been provided to wider staff groups, clergy and parishes on our commitment to combating Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking and the role that each of us can play in this work.

The Board of Trustees of the Diocese and senior management take responsibility for implementing this policy and its objectives and will provide the necessary resources to ensure that its practices are effective in ensuring that modern day slavery is not taking place.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees as part of the annual accounts procedures.

This statement has been approved by the Trustees of the Diocese, who will review and update it annually.



**Paolo Camoletto**  
**Secretary to the Trustees**

9 November 2018