South Tyneside Council Modern Slavery Statement

Introduction:

South Tyneside Council is committed to understanding and mitigating risks of slavery and
human trafficking in our corporate activities and supply chains. This statement, which covers
the financial year 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, sets out actions taken by the Council to
ensure there is no slavery within our services, businesses or supply chains.

Organisational Structure and Supply Chains:

This statement covers the activities of South Tyneside Council. This statement covers direct
employees of the Council and services delivered on behalf of the Council by third party
organisations, including our South Tyneside Homes arms
-length management organisation,
and in the supply chain.

Council strives to maintain the highest standards of employee conduct and ethical
behaviour and breaches are investigated.
 Speak out – Whistleblowing Policy: South Tyneside Council is committed to the highest
possible standards of openness, probity and accountability. Integrity is one of our core
values; this means we will do the right thing whatever the circumstances. The Council
encourage its employees, contractors and partners who may have concerns about any
aspect of the Council's work to come forward and voice those concerns.
 Equality and Diversity Policies: The Council has two Equality and Diversity Policies, one
for employees and one for residents in the South Tyneside Borough. Both outline the
Council's commitment to integrating equality of opportunity and respect for diversity
into all aspects of its activity. The overall aim i

 Living Wage: In 2015, following an Independent Wage Commission, South Tyneside
Council became the first Council in the North East to commit to paying all employees
the National Living Wage.
 Supplier Due Diligence: Our Supplier Selection Questionnaire, which forms part of all
appropriate procurements, includes confirmation that suppliers meet Modern Slavery
Act 2015 requirements:

The Selection Questionnaire also includes a section detailing human trafficking crimes
which constitute grounds for mandatory exclusion, and requires prospective suppliers
to make a declaration about any trafficking offences which they have been involved in.
The Procurement Team have engaged with partners to further strengthen risk

development, and will include planned actions across service areas, as well as key
performance indicators.

Responsibility:

Heads of services will be responsible for conducting risk assessments.