



## Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement

Cornwall Council and its Group Companies in scope of this legislation, CORMAC Solutions Ltd, CORMAC Contracting Ltd (including any joint venture arrangements e.g. VIA East Midlands) and Cornwall Housing Ltd, support the implementation of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The Act consolidates slavery and trafficking offences, introduces tougher penalties and sentencing rules and provides more support for victims.

Cornwall Council has a Responsible Procurement Policy which aims to encourage fair pay and working conditions in our supply chain and eliminate modern slavery and human trafficking. This policy is available on Cornwall Council's website [Responsible Procurement Policy](#).

Cornwall Council is part of the Safer Cornwall Partnership working with Devon and Cornwall Police and other agencies and also with Partners across the South West Peninsula to develop a collaborative approach to tackling the issue of modern slavery.

Modern slavery includes:

- Forced labour; Victims are forced to work against their will, often working very long hours for little or no pay in dire conditions under verbal or physical threats of violence.
- Debt bondage; Victims are forced to work to pay off debts that realistically they never will be able to.
- Sexual exploitation; Victims are forced to perform non-consensual or abusive sexual acts against their will, such as prostitution, escort work and pornography. Adults are coerced often under the threat of force, or another penalty.
- Criminal exploitation; Often controlled and maltreated, victims are forced into crimes such as cannabis cultivation or pick pocketing against their will.
- Domestic servitude; Victims are forced to carry out housework and domestic chores in private households with little or no pay, restricted movement, very limited or no free time and minimal privacy often sleeping where they work.



Cornwall Council expects its wholly owned group of Companies, joint venture partnerships, contractors, suppliers and its staff falling in scope of this legislation to be aware of and comply with the requirements of the Act. To support this, the Council will implement communication and education programmes which will highlight the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act, high risk areas in Cornwall and referral mechanisms.

Cornwall Council and its wholly owned group of Companies are working together to consider the impact of the Act's requirements and the actions it will take beyond communication and education programmes to ensure there is no Modern Slavery in its business or in its supply chain.

Cornwall Council believes that because it has a large number of suppliers and is an influential purchaser in Cornwall it is appropriate that it publishes a statement that is transparent about the actions it will be taking. That statement will be added to Cornwall Council's and group of Companies' websites as soon as it is available.

Signed by:

**Kate Kennally**

**Chief Executive**

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Further guidance is available on the [Safer Cornwall Website](#)