



# Methods Advisory Modern Slavery Act 2015 Policy





# Introduction from the Managing Director of Methods Advisory Limited

We are committed to improving our practices to combat slavery and human trafficking. Methods Advisory Limited takes its obligations under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 very seriously and has a robust working practise to comply with its obligations. This Policy documents sets out those practises and gives insight into the supply chain and business processes of the company.

**Any concerns from any member of Methods Advisory staff regarding a likely risk of, or actual, breach of our policy or the Legislation must be raised to the Managing Director at the earliest opportunity.**

## Organisation's Structure and Business

Methods Advisory Limited is a public services transformation company and part of the wider Methods group of companies, established in 1990, with extensive experience across the whole of the UK. Methods Advisory helps all sizes and types of public services organisation build **sustainable organisational capability** across a range of business change, with an approach focused on **maximising the value of information** and **utilising digital assets and services** to underpin **business optimisation**. Our practice is focused into four broad competency areas: organisational optimisation, investment and procurement, strategic delivery partnerships and technology transformation.



**ORGANISATIONAL  
OPTIMISATION**



**INVESTMENT  
& PROCUREMENT**



**TECHNOLOGY  
TRANSFORMATION**



**STRATEGIC DELIVERY  
PARTNERSHIPS**

We offer a different approach to professional services. Our team comprises recognised industry experts who are specialists in the design and delivery of flexible, cheaper, and citizen-led public services for a digital age. Our delivery model comprises employed staff, selected associates and partner firms (most of which are SMEs) to collectively deliver our products and services. This business 'ecosystem' approach means we always have capacity and capability at all times, regardless of how busy we are, including access to highly specialised resources when clients need them.

Our engagement model is highly flexible, from providing specialist advice, through 'turnkey' delivery of change, to assuring your own processes, governance and realising benefits. We have a proven track record spanning over two decades, and we are particularly recognised for our **pragmatic innovation**: transformational 'step change' but change your organisation can actually achieve, afford and sustain.

We are an independent organisation, ensuring that we are always fair and impartial in client side activities, and we provide pragmatic advice. For any assignment we aim to reduce risk, create simple enabling structures, and use evidence-based tools and approaches. Because Methods Advisory is technology and vendor neutral, our reviews and assessments are completely objective, driven by business requirements and carried out within the unique organisational context and operating model design, i.e. people, process and technology.

## Our Supply Chain

Methods Advisory has a long history of working with partner organisations and associates and our business operating model relies on an integrated and seamless service to clients, regardless of which mix of resources is delivering the service.

At any one time, we will have circa 40 Partner Organisations (most of whom are SMEs) and circa 100 Associates as part of our supply chain working alongside our employed Methods staff in delivering our services.

Our supply chain is underpinned by a rigorous contractual process which means that every Partner has either a Partner Agreement or a Framework Consultancy Agreement in place. Both of these documents have distinct obligations to comply with our Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy. Each Partner assures that they will comply with this policy. Furthermore, we have rights of audit to enable us to ensure the policy is being enforced. Each of our Associates has an Associate Contract which contains a copy of this policy. We also have rights of audit for Associates.

Our Partners and Associates are carefully selected and each of them is allocated to a Methods Advisory member of staff to maintain effective communication and assess their business performance on our work.

## Processes and Accreditation

As an experienced and mature service provider, all of our services are underpinned by robust ISO9001:2008 certified processes and a variety of industry accreditations. These currently include:



All of our accreditations are built into an internal Quality Management System which defines the control systems and quality procedures used throughout the company to ensure that we provide an excellent quality service. It is audited internally throughout the year and externally on an annual basis by ISOQAR.

## Our Policies on Slavery and Human Trafficking

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chain or in any part of our business. Our Anti-slavery Policy reflects our commitment 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 within our supply chain.

## Due Diligence processes for Slavery and Human Trafficking

As part of our initiative to identify and mitigate risk we have in place systems to:

- Identify and assess potential risk areas in our supply chain;
- Mitigate or resolve any identified risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring in our supply chain;
- Monitor potential risk areas in our supply chain; and
- Protect whistle blowers.

This is managed through the relationships between Methods Advisory staff and their allocated Partners and Associates.

## Supplier Adherence to our Values and Ethics

We have zero tolerance to slavery and human trafficking. To ensure all those in our supply chain and contractors comply with our values we have rights of audit built in to our Partner and Associate Contracts.

We have a dedicated compliance support team, which consists of involvement from the following departments:

- Legal.
- Finance, Audit and compliance.
- Human resources.
- Procurement.
- Sales.

## Training

To ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and our business, we provide training to our staff. We also require our Partners to provide training to their staff and suppliers and providers in their respective supply chain.

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 30th April 2017.



**SIGNATURE**

**ANDREW HARTSHORN**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**METHODS ADVISORY LIMITED**

**Date: 17th February 2017**



# Shaping Public Services for the Digital Age

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