

Introduction

The Museum is a world-class visitor attraction and leading science research centre. We aim to challenge how people think about the natural world – its past, present and future. We use our unique collections and unrivalled expertise to tackle the biggest challenges facing the world today. We care for more than 80 million specimens spanning billions of years, we occupy three sites in London and Tring, Hertfordshire, and welcome more than five million visitors annually.

This Statement is designed to satisfy the requirements of Section 54 of the [Modern Slavery Act 2015](#), by informing our visitors, partners, suppliers, staff and the public about the Museum's policy with respect to modern slavery, human trafficking, forced and bonded labour and labour rights violations in its supply chains and the steps taken to identify, prevent and mitigate the risks. This is the Museum's second annual statement to be published under the Act.

In our 2016-17 Statement, we set out what we were already doing to address the risk of human rights abuses in our supply chains and what we plan to do in the future.

Our organisation

Managing the Museum's non-retail supply chains is the direct responsibility of the Procurement Manager, who reports to the Director of Finance and Corporate Services and thence to the Museum Director and the Board of Trustees.

Supply chains of goods for resale are the responsibility of the Head of Retail, who reports to the Head of Commercial and Visitor Experience and thence through the Director of Engagement to the Museum Director and the Board of Trustees.

During 2017-18, the Museum spent in excess of £44m on goods, services and works, from an annual turnover of £85m.

Our policies in relation to slavery and human trafficking

The Museum is committed to conducting its affairs and to procuring goods, services and works without causing harm to others. Ethics are an essential part of decision-making and practice in the Museum. The Museum's Ethics Policy sets out the key ethical principles and commitments that govern the Museum and staff in its three main roles – as a museum, as a public body and as a scientific institution.

Our objective is to achieve best value and professional standards in the procurement of all goods, services and works and our Procurement Policy and central

procurement function ensures propriety, transparency and compliance with the Museum’s legal obligations and ethical standards.

The Museum supports the UK Government’s [National Action Plan](#), updated in May 2016, to implement the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#).

Our spend categories and those that present risks of human rights abuses

The Museum’s principal spend categories are:

- Laboratory equipment, services and consumables;
- Library resources;
- Construction and ‘hard’ facilities management services, e.g. building maintenance;
- ‘Soft’ facilities management services (cleaning, portering, catering and security services);
- Information technology equipment, software and services;
- Exhibition design and construction services;
- Marketing and publishing services;
- Goods for resale in our retail outlets;
- Temporary labour (e.g. front-of-house and retail services);
- Energy;
- Collections furniture; and
- Professional services.

As was planned in our last Statement, the Museum completed a risk assessment exercise to identify ‘high-risk’ spend categories. The principal categories which the Museum deems as carrying higher risks of human rights abuses are as follows:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Source Countries</i>
Garments	Bangladesh, China
Electronic equipment	East Asia, China, India, Eastern Europe, Mexico
Cleaning services	United Kingdom
Catering services	United Kingdom
Security services	United Kingdom
Temporary labour	United Kingdom

Our supply chain due diligence and its effectiveness

In line with developing good practice in public procurement, the Museum will be following a risk-based approach to supply chain due diligence. We will do this by adopting a tailored approach to mitigating the risk of human rights abuses in each ‘high-risk’ spend category listed above.

Collaborating with other organisations: Membership of LUPC

The Museum has long been a member of London Universities Purchasing Consortium (LUPC), a professional, collaborative buying organisation with a progressive reputation for responsible procurement, aimed at securing best possible value for the acquisition of goods and services without causing harm to others. The Museum also benefits from supply arrangements managed by the Crown Commercial Service.

Helping eradicate abuses in electronics supply chains: Affiliation to Electronics Watch

In April 2018, the Museum became affiliated to [Electronics Watch](#) through an arrangement with LUPC. Electronics Watch is a non-profit, collaborative organisation monitoring global electronics supply chains for human rights abuses. The Museum has firm plans to include supplier due diligence and monitoring clauses in its forthcoming contracts for digital workplace solutions spanning some 1,000 devices. This will give the Museum contractual rights to enter into dialogue with suppliers on those issues and collaborate with them to establish due diligence and mitigation strategies to address human rights risks.

Working to improve working conditions in garments supply chains: Membership of Sedex

In 2019, the Museum is joining Sedex, home to one of the world's largest collaborative platforms for sharing responsible sourcing data on supply chains. It is used by companies, particularly those in the garments industry, to manage their performance around labour rights, health & safety, the environment and business ethics.

To begin with, we will introduce this risk mitigation to help promote good working conditions in apparel supply chains for workers manufacturing:

- apparel worn by our front-of-house and retail staff;
- uniform worn by our contractors' cleaning, portering, catering and security staff working in the Museum;
- garments on retail sale in the Museum; and
- garments manufactured for sale by our brand licensees.

Training and capacity building

The Museum seeks to improve itself and others by facilitating training for Museum staff and partners. In 2019, the Museum plans to provide training for the Executive Board and relevant senior staff about the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking and about what action should be taken to protect victims.

The Museum is represented on the [Steering Committee](#) of [International Learning Lab on Public Procurement and Human Rights](#) as a practitioner of public sector procurement.

Our Goals for 2018-19

The Museum reconfirms its commitment to better understanding its supply chains and working towards greater transparency and responsibility towards people working on them.

We will continue to work with our partners and suppliers to undertake supply chain due diligence and mitigate the risks to human rights in our supply chains. As the Museum acquires knowledge and develops capability across all high-risk spend categories, the intention is to codify and communicate for wider use in public service those due diligence processes that are found to be the most successful.

In the year ahead, we will pursue five key goals for 2018-19:

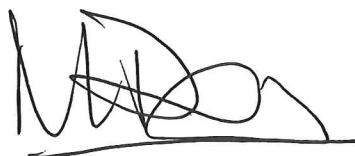
- Incorporate Electronics Watch clauses into forthcoming large-scale IT procurements to enable us to work with suppliers to promote respect for human rights in our electronics supply chains;
- Join Sedex, an online database exchange for sharing factory social audits to help mitigate the risk of human rights abuses among suppliers of garments for resale and uniforms to the Museum and its contractors;
- Work with cleaning, catering, security and temporary agency staff contractors to introduce measures to mitigate the risk of human trafficking, forced and bonded labour;
- Provide training for the Executive Board and relevant senior staff about the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking and about what action should be taken to protect victims; and
- Complete a risk and opportunity assessment to identify other contracts and areas of spend, such as construction, where there may be a high risk of poor working conditions or human rights abuses.

This Statement has been approved and published by the Board of Trustees and will continue to be reviewed at least once annually.



The Lord Green of Hurstpierpoint
for the Board of Trustees

19 February 2019



Sir Michael Dixon
Museum Director

19 February 2019