

LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

CABINET - 6 DECEMBER 2018

REFERENCE FROM COUNCIL – 29 NOVEMBER 2018

MODERN SLAVERY MOTION

At the meeting of Council held on 29 November 2018, following Council's agreement to a Procedural Motion and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.6.1, the Motion 4 on Modern Slavery was not referred to the Executive but was instead debated at Council.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.7.1, if a Motion is marked on the Summons as to stand referred to the Executive under Rule 15.6 then where Council decides to disapply the referral and allow the matter to be debated, the Council can make no decision on the matter but can make a recommendation or pass comments to the Executive. The Motion was as follows:

(iv) Motion in the names of Councillor Jeff Anderson and Councillor Adam Swersky

"Modern Slavery Motion

Modern slavery continues to be a significant problem in Harrow. In 2013 there is evidence that as many as 42 children were trafficked to the borough providing large revenue streams for criminal gangs. Harrow Council has been proactive in its investigations into not only child trafficking but modern slavery as a whole. This scourge affects all those who are vulnerable and it is for this reason that we have chosen to implement the following resolutions:

Harrow Council requests it's Cabinet to:

1. Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply.
2. Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
3. Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.
4. Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.
5. Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
6. Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy

which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.

7. Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
8. Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.
9. Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
10. Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually."

RESOLVED (Unanimously): That Cabinet be requested to receive and consider the Motion set out at (iv) above.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Background documents:

1. Motion submitted to the Council meeting – 29 November 2018.

Contact:

Alison Atherton, Senior Professional - Democratic Services

Direct Dial: 020 8424 1266

Email: alison.atherton@harrow.gov.uk