

Modern Slavery Act 2019 Annual Transparency Statement

This statement is produced under the university's obligation to publish an annual 'Modern Slavery Act Transparency Statement' in accordance with the provisions of Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

King's College London has the stated corporate strategic Vision 'to make the world a better place'. As such, the university is committed to ensuring that mechanisms are in place to prevent business being undertaken with an organisation that has not adopted appropriate steps to ensure that human rights abuses are not taking place in any of its supply chains. Accordingly, all potential suppliers to the Institution are required to provide written assurance of their compliance with the provisions of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and other social legislation. King's terms and conditions of contract make it a requirement on those it does business with to provide assurance that workers in their organisation and in their supply chain are not subject to inhumane practices and that their welfare is properly protected.

The university comprises ten Professional Services Directorates and nine Faculties, these total upwards of 327 Departments¹, and there are numerous research groups within each faculty. As the Institution operates on a system of devolved budgets, control over the day-to-day spend of these groups is delegated through line management in accordance with the university's Financial Regulations and Procedures and Purchasing Policy. In academic year 2019-2020, the non-pay contractual expenditure of the university on goods, works and services was approx. £204 million with around 4,600 different suppliers. The nature of this expenditure falls predominantly within the following categories:

- Estates and Facilities - Capital Projects, Minor Works and Utilities
- Premises Services - Catering, Guarding and Cleaning Services
- ICT Equipment and Services - Computing, Communications and Audio Visual
- Laboratory Supplies - Research and Scientific Equipment and Consumables
- Research Services – Services related to drug trials
- Library Provisions - Books, e-journals and subscriptions
- Professional Resources – Consultancy, Recruitment and Legal Services
- Corporate Business Services - Travel and Accommodation
- Office Supplies - Stationery, Printing, Postage and Furniture

King's Strategic Vision 2029, describes our vision to make the world a better place, this strategic vision was launched in January 2017 takes us to our 200th anniversary in 2029 and builds upon our history of making a full contribution to society. We continue to focus on world-leading education, research and service and will have an increasingly proactive role to play in a more interconnected, complex world.

Socially responsible procurement policy: "The policy is intended to ensure that King's purchases third party goods and services in ways which are beneficial to society and King's local boroughs. It promotes responsible environmental, social and economic goals and meets the requirements of the Public Services (Social Value Act) 2012, the Equalities Act 2010, the Modern Slavery Act 2015, and other legal obligations." This policy started on 1 March 2019 and will run until March 2021.

The university takes a proportionate approach to procurement which allows for low value spend to be procured locally but requires that the Procurement Office is consulted for high value spend or where a grant funder requires a procedure to be followed which complies with legal requirements of the EU.

The university is vigilant in all areas of activity that may be open to the risk of slavery, trafficking and human rights abuses generally taking place but it enhances the questions asked in the selection and evaluation stages of procurements where risks are highest such as when purchasing personal protection products (including garments and gloves), electronics and medical or laboratory supplies.

All new suppliers are required to confirm compliance with provisions of the Modern Slavery Act and terms and conditions of contract specify the standards we require from contractors as regards the welfare of their staff and those in their supply chain.

The university has implemented a Socially Responsible Procurement Policy in order to better ensure that social benefits are gained and risks of damage to society are reduced when procuring third party contracts. Key milestones for 2020/21 include: the review of the Socially Responsible Procurement Policy; establishing a Responsible Procurement Advisory Group; and assessing the university against best practice standards.



Lord Geidt
Chair of King's College Council

This statement was approved by Council on 21 January 2021