Pontrilas Group Limited

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement

Introduction

This statement is made pursuant to section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. It constitutes Pontrilas Group's slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ended 31 July 2022 and sets out the Group's actions to understand all potential modern slavery risks related to its business and to put in place safeguards that are aimed at ensuring there is no slavery or human trafficking in its own business or its supply chains.

Our organisation and supply chains

This statement covers the activities of Pontrilas Group's wholly-owned subsidiaries, Pontrilas Sawmills Limited, Pontrilas Packaging Limited, Pontrilas Merchants Limited and Pontrilas Harvesting Limited.

The Pontrilas Group's principal activities are in sawmilling, supply of timber, the manufacture and supply of packaging materials and the supply of timber and related DIY products at our builders' merchants.

As all of our staff are directly employed and are not in any category which is generally seen to be vulnerable to modern slavery consequently our focus is to ensure there are policies and procedures in place for our contractors and suppliers.

The sawmill source their timber products from sustainable sources in accordance with their certified chain of custody scheme Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certificate number INT-COC-002422 and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) number CATG-PEFC-540.

The sawmill purchases directly from the state (Forestry Commission England and Natural Resources Wales) and from a number of forestry management and harvesting companies operating within the state forests or in privately owned forests. The goods are then distributed to the other companies within the group and to a wide range of national, regional and local merchants and manufacturers.

The Group is committed to continuously improving its practices to identify and eliminate any slavery and human trafficking in its business and supply chains, and to acting ethically and with integrity in all its business relationships.

Policies

In keeping with our commitment to act with integrity in all our business dealings, many of our existing policies are relevant to ensure that there is no slavery or human trafficking in any part of our business or our supply chains. These policies are communicated to all parties and where required, training is given to improve our personnel's understanding of modern slavery.

In the next twelve months we will continue to review our policy relating to modern slavery and human trafficking and where necessary make any alterations thereto.

Risk Assessment / Due diligence

We consider that the greatest level of risk of modern slavery and human trafficking is in our supply chain where we undertake due diligence when considering taking on new suppliers and continue to regularly review our existing suppliers.

In order to assess the risk of modern slavery, we use the following processes:

- Identify and assess potential risk areas when considering taking on new suppliers and regularly review our existing supply chains.

- Review the potential for risk at regular intervals, including the possibility of re-auditing a supplier or conducting spot checks.

- Protect whistle blowers.

After due consideration, we have not identified any significant risks of modern slavery, forced labour, or human trafficking in our supply chain. However, we continue to be alert to the potential for problems.

Training

During the year, we have continued to provide advice and guidance to those personnel who have direct responsibility of our supply chains.

Looking forward

Over the course of the next financial year we will continue to enhance our procedures to help us identify, prevent and mitigate any risks of modern slavery or human trafficking in relation to all areas of our business operations.

Board Approval

This statement has been approved by the Company's Board of Directors, who will review and update it annually.

EB Hilton
Finance Director
29.03.22