

Prepared by:	Stuart Metcalf	Issue date:	January 2020
Reviewed by:	Peter MacKellar	Version:	Final

## 1 Introduction

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes both SLR Global Limited's and SLR Consulting Limited's slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 December 2019. It sets out the steps taken by both companies during the financial year to prevent slavery and human trafficking from taking place in any part of its business, including its supply chain, and the ways it has sought to minimise the risks of any association with practices which undermine the principles of safety and dignity for its customers, employees and business partners.

## 2 About SLR / Organisation Structure

The SLR Group is an independent, environmental and strategic advisory consultancy with a reputation for providing high quality tailored services to its clients.

SLR Global Limited is the parent company of the SLR Group. SLR Consulting Limited is SLR's UK operating subsidiary, which employs approximately 400 staff across 22 offices located in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. In the context of this statement, reference to SLR refers to both SLR Global Limited and SLR Consulting Limited.

More information on the SLR Group can be found by visiting our website at <https://slrconsulting.com>

## 3 Relevant Philosophies and Principles

SLR is proud of the ethical standards it has developed over many years and believes that these standards are consistent with the underlying principles of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

SLR adopts and operates a 'one team' culture that fosters and encourages openness whereby all individuals can feel safe to discuss their opinions, views and/or concerns without fear of reprisal, subsequent discrimination or disadvantage. We believe this approach helps us to maintain a culture built on trust and openness under which the aiding, abetting, counselling or procurement of forced labour and human trafficking would not be tolerated under any circumstances.

As a provider of professional consultancy services, SLR does not have a particularly long or complex supply chain; our main suppliers are providers of niche consultancy services, drilling and laboratory testing services, office supplies, IT services and equipment and facilities management services. The majority of our supply chain is based in the UK, and the occasions on which we employ suppliers from high risk countries are minimal. SLR realises that slavery and human trafficking can occur in many forms such as forced labour, child labour, domestic servitude, sex trafficking and workplace abuse, but due to the specific nature of our business, we believe that there is a low risk of these sorts of practices occurring in our business and supply chain. Nevertheless, we are committed to preventing these practices from occurring within both our business and our supply chain. This risk is further mitigated by SLR's culture (see above) and our policies, as outlined below.

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## 4 Relevant Policies

SLR has developed a suite of policies which sets out how our activities are undertaken to deliver on our commitment to operate in a manner which is ethical and equitable to all our stakeholders, including ensuring compliance with the Modern Slavery Act. These include the following:

- Modern Slavery Policy** – commits the SLR Group to conducting its business at all times in a manner which complies with relevant legislation (including the Modern Slavery Act 2015), is ethical and is equitable to all of its interested parties, including all parts of its supply chain. It also commits the group to take steps to ensure all its supply chain members can demonstrate a commitment to operating in accordance with the principles of this policy.
- Business Conduct Policy** – Adoption and acceptance of this policy is mandatory for all SLR staff. The policy states that SLR will not engage in business with any contractors/sub-contractors, sub-consultants, suppliers or agents who are not able to demonstrate a similar commitment to that of SLR in operating in a fair, honest and equitable manner.
- HR Policy and Employee Code of Conduct** - makes clear to employees the high standards of conduct and ethical behaviour expected of them when representing SLR.
- Whistleblowing Policy** - encourages all SLR staff to report any concerns related to the direct activities of the organisation or of its supply chain. This includes any circumstances that may give rise to any unethical practices or behaviours, including enhanced risk of slavery or human trafficking. SLR's whistleblowing procedure is designed to make it easy for workers to make disclosures, confidentially and without fear of reprisal.
- HR Policy and Recruitment** - SLR either recruits individuals directly or uses a list of pre-approved agencies with whom it has a written contract, and who share SLR's professional and ethical approach to recruitment. SLR seeks to verify the practices of each of these agencies before a contract is agreed whether it is of a permanent or temporary nature. This includes seeking contractual assurances that the agency ensures its candidates are paid at least the applicable national minimum wage in the country in which they are engaged.
- Supplier Approval Procedures** – all potential suppliers are required to complete questionnaires before being included on SLR's approved suppliers list. These questionnaires incorporate a requirement for all suppliers to comply with their own or SLR's Business Conduct Policy, National Minimum Wage Regulations and the Modern Slavery Act 2015. Where appropriate, copies of policies are sought from suppliers so they can be reviewed for compliance with SLR's requirements. In addition, our standard sub contractor engagement contracts require suppliers to commit to complying with the principles of our Business Conduct Policy.
- Living Wage** – 97.3% of SLR's UK employees are paid above the Living Wage (which is above the government determined minimum wage) which shows a commitment to avoiding labour exploitation within our own business.

All policies and procedures of SLR are assessed at least annually and periodically updated against best practice.

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## 5 Due Diligence/Managing Risk

SLR manages its potential ongoing risk through appropriate core business processes including project management and procurement processes which are embedded in to our Quality Management System which is externally certified to ISO9001:2015. All procurement must be from approved suppliers and supplier performance is regularly monitored and audited if necessary. SLR does not wish to be associated with any organisation that either has or is found to be involved with either human trafficking or modern slavery. If we were to find evidence that one of our suppliers had failed to comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, we would require the relevant supplier to remedy such non-compliance and would consider terminating our relationship should we see no substantial improvement in the way their business was conducted.

## 6 Training

Given our view that SLR's exposure to modern slavery risk continues to be very limited, we consider our existing due diligence and other processes to be sufficient and appropriate to manage this level of risk. However, should circumstances arise which we consider may be particularly high risk, appropriate training will be developed and targeted at relevant staff members. This approach will be reviewed periodically by senior management.

## 7 Board Approval

This statement has been approved by the board of directors of both SLR Global Limited and SLR Consulting Limited, who will review and update it on an annual basis.



**Peter MacKellar**  
Group Support Services Director  
SLR Global Ltd  
January 2020

Next review: Jan 2021