

Introduction

Fortem cares about ensuring that its supply chain is free from modern slavery. We know that slavery, servitude, forced labour and human trafficking is a growing issue and that no sector or industry can consider itself immune or untainted.

Our business

We are a national property solutions provider operating in England and Wales. Our main services consist of repairs and maintenance, energy services, cyclical maintenance and project work. Our contracts range from specialist projects to strategic long term repairs and maintenance contracts. Our clients are predominantly local authorities and residential social landlords, although we operate in many other sectors too. We have a large directly employed trade workforce which means that the welfare of the majority of those who deliver our services is under our direct care.

Our supply chain

Our primary supply chain consists of building trade and construction sub-contract partners as well as materials vendors. Our sub-contracting ranges from highly skilled services to semi-skilled labour. We develop and maintain strong long term relationships with our supply chain and predominantly contract with small to medium sized businesses. We have risk assessed our supply chain, consultants and labour agencies. Our use of agency labour is tightly controlled centrally through a small panel of suppliers.

Policies

We publish our [Modern Slavery Policy](#) on our website, which sets out our zero tolerance approach to modern slavery and identifies related policies.

Contractual controls

We impose contractual controls on our supply chain, and require a director to sign to acknowledge compliance and commit to the principles of our Modern Slavery Policy. We use a range of measures to vet our supply chains, including ConstructionLine, Builders Profile and SSIP.

Training

We operate in an environment which already requires vigilance to safeguarding and security concerns. We have built on this through the Fortem 4Life Academy to deliver specific training on modern slavery, from our induction process through to toolbox talks, Academy programmes for our management and online training.

What we did in the year to 31 December 2018

This year saw the expansion of our Modern Slavery Working Group to 11 people from a varied cross section of Fortem meeting regularly to discuss initiatives.

A key focus and drive for the Modern Slavery Working Group this year has been raising awareness of the growing issue that is modern slavery and human trafficking. We recognise that we cannot tackle this problem alone, and that our supply chain partners have a large role to play in the fight for awareness.

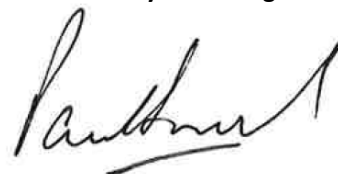
We have raised awareness with our supply chain partners by holding quarterly events, at which Modern Slavery has been an item on the agenda. We intend to continue to send regular updates and raise awareness by including updates in our regular newsletters issued to our supply chain through the forthcoming year.

Thursday 18th October 2018 marked Anti-Slavery Day. We used this date as a key opportunity to raise awareness within our business. This included an e-mail from our Managing Director to the entire business, a talk from our Commercial Director at our monthly central team’s meeting, a dedicated article and banner on our Intranet page, posters displayed throughout our sites and offices, and an engaging social media campaign.



We are formatting further training for our site teams, who we recognise as being at the forefront and most crucial members of the business in recognising any potential risks. We see them as our core ambassadors for highlighting any concerns in a consistent and safe way through the business’s internal processes.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the slavery and human trafficking statement of the companies listed below for the financial year ending 31 December 2018.



Signed:

This statement sets out the steps taken by Wimpole Equity Holdings Limited (07065104) and Fortem Solutions Limited (04638969) both of which fall within the scope of section 54(2) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (Transparency in Supply Chains) Regulations 2015. Although not subject to reporting requirements, the subsidiaries Fortem Energy Services Limited (02589171) and Fortem 4Life Limited (04720691) support and embrace the same approach.