

# Modern slavery statement

The 2024 statement from  
the British Red Cross

This is a summary of the full 2024 Modern Slavery Statement from the British Red Cross. For further information about all our efforts to address the risk of modern slavery in our supply chains, [please read the full statement.](#)

At the British Red Cross, we are committed to preventing modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains. Our vision, as set out in our continuous improvement plan, is to eradicate the risk of modern slavery completely in any part of our operations. Our Strategy 2030 commits us to restoring safety and dignity for people who are displaced, focusing on the most urgent cases of need. As part of achieving this, we continue to deliver enhanced direct support to people who have been trafficked or subjected to modern day slavery.

Building on our statements from previous years, this summary highlights the steps we have taken in 2024 to reduce the likelihood of exploitation, trafficking and other forms of modern slavery from our supply chains and in our organisation.

# Our progress in 2024

Here is some of the headway we made on tackling modern slavery in our supply chains in 2024. For more information, please read our full Modern Slavery Statement 2024.

## Governance

We kept working to ensure our staff and volunteers understand and comply with our British Red Cross Code of Conduct. The code confirms that we will not tolerate exploitation, including sexual exploitation, abuse or violence. In 2024, 98.5% of our staff and 90.5% of our volunteers completed the Code of Conduct training.

## Suppliers and partners

By embedding modern slavery risk management into our procurement processes, we reinforced our commitment to ethical sourcing and responsible supply chain oversight. We added a modern-slavery questionnaire to our system for supplier registration and tendering, enhancing transparency and early risk assessment. We reduced the number of suppliers by 8% in 2024 and implemented a new e-procurement system for better oversight and due diligence. Awareness of modern slavery risks has increased, with 100% completion of our e-module among critical teams, and we have promoted internal reporting tools to staff and volunteers.

## Safeguarding

We are expanding our safeguarding representatives' networks, including a new focus on retail operations. We developed a youth-led safeguarding policy, updated procedures and guidance. Additionally, we revised mandatory safeguarding training and introduced two specialised international courses: an e-module and a three-day in-person course.

## Training

We continue to offer a range of anti-trafficking training products to staff and volunteers. Our introductory e-module was updated and now includes new case studies applicable to a wider range of services. Trafficking considerations were also integrated into other training, including the young refugees e-module and updated safeguarding trainings. We also designed and delivered a variety of bitesize learning sessions for different operational teams.

## Anti-Trafficking programmes and responses

Our Anti-Trafficking service continued to collaborate with front-line colleagues providing advice to our crisis and emergency response teams across the UK who responded to 17 incidents and supported 101 service users. We also recorded 147 instances of advice provided to professionals via phone line and email. As part of our efforts to foster peer learning and collaboration within the Movement, we facilitated an online session with the Red Cross EU Office and IFRC to discuss how human trafficking is reflected in two key documents, the Migration Strategy and the Protection Resolution.

## Using our voice

We submitted a report to the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, more commonly known as GRETA - the monitoring mechanism on human trafficking established by the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings in Article 36. We also provided operational insights for the British Red Cross submission to the Home Affairs Committee Asylum Accommodation Inquiry.

# Next steps

**We will continue to build on these strands of our work. We have identified the following key priorities for 2025.**

- Continue to develop and improve oversight of our procurement processes to identify and mitigate the risk of modern slavery in our supply chains. This includes identifying higher risk suppliers, and developing key performance indicators to track and monitor our progress.
- Continue to consolidate suppliers where possible and require new suppliers to sign up to our Supplier Code of Conduct through our e-procurement platform and the 'new supplier creation' process.
- Launch and promote revised trafficking awareness training across the organisation. We will also review training products and ensure they continue to align with the learning needs of frontline caseworkers and staff who may identify modern slavery risks connected with our supply chain.

- Continue to monitor and promote the global e-module 'Understanding and responding to trafficking in persons' in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.
- Build on our work with the IFRC to develop a Movement-wide approach to procurement.
- Work with our colleagues at the British Red Cross and across the wider Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to investigate where we could enhance our due diligence procedures.

## Where we are

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The British Red Cross Society, incorporated by Royal Charter 1908, is a charity registered in England and Wales (220949), Scotland (SC037738), Isle of Man (0752) and Jersey (430).