York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust offers the following statement regarding its efforts to prevent slavery and human trafficking in its supply chain.

The Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 requires all organisations to set out the steps the organisation has taken during the financial year to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any of its supply chains, and in any part of its own business.

York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust provides a comprehensive range of acute hospital and specialist healthcare services for approximately 800,000 people living in and around York, North Yorkshire, North East Yorkshire and Ryedale - an area covering 3,400 square miles. The annual turnover is over £400 million. We manage nine hospital sites, 1,127 beds (including day-case beds) and have a workforce of over 8,000 staff working across our hospitals and in the community.

The Trust has internal policies and procedures in place that assess supplier risk in relation to the potential for modern slavery or human trafficking. The top 50% of suppliers nationally, affirm their own compliance with the modern slavery and human trafficking act within their own organisation, sub-contracting arrangements and supply chain. The Trust will write to its top suppliers requesting them to affirm their compliance with the legislation.

The department’s senior team are all Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) qualified and abide by the CIPs code of professional conduct. The trust intranet includes an ethical procurement module which is available to all members of staff. Procurement staff will be asked to complete the ethical procurement module as part of their appraisal. Plans are being developed around providing basic knowledge and understanding on modern slavery and human trafficking to all staff.

Modern Slavery is referenced in the Trust’s Safeguarding Adults Policy and features as a part of the safeguarding training following the changes in the Care Act to make it a form of abuse for both adults and children. The Safeguarding Adults Team are planning to provide some snapshot information to staff which will feature scenarios around ‘what to do if’ that will be made available on the Trust website during the year. The Safeguarding Teams are aware of the risks especially when giving advice so that they can alert staff to the possibilities of modern slavery and human trafficking.

The Trust has evaluated the principle risks related to slavery and human trafficking and identify them as:

- Reputational
- Lack of assurances from suppliers
- Lack of anti–slavery clauses in contracts
- Training staff to maintain the trust’s position around anti-slavery and human trafficking.
Aim

The aim of this statement is to demonstrate the Trust follows good practice and all reasonable steps are taken to prevent slavery and human trafficking.

All members of staff have a personal responsibility for the successful prevention of slavery and human trafficking with the procurement department taking responsibility lead for overall compliance.

The Board of Directors has considered and approved this statement and will continue to support the requirements of the legislation.

Date: 29 March 2017

Susan Symington
Chair

Patrick Crowley
Chief Executive