

AUTHORITY REPORT: MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT**1. Confidential Report:**

1.1 No.

Executive Summary

Purpose of Report – To present Members with ELWA’s draft Modern Slavery Statement 2022 for approval.

Position – The Modern Slavery Act 2015 addresses concerns about exploitation of people and workers. As a public authority the Act does not directly apply to the Authority, but it does apply to ELWA Limited as our Contractor and Renewi as the Operator of the IWMS PFI Contract.

Recommendation – It is recommended that Members note the updated position on the Authority’s adherence to the Modern Slavery Act and approve the draft Modern Slavery Statement 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Government introduced a provision in the Modern Slavery Act 2015 which requires all large businesses (with a turnover of £35m or more) to produce a statement setting out the steps they have taken to ensure there is no modern slavery in their own business and their supply chains. If an organisation has taken no steps to do this, their statement should say so. The measure is designed to create a level playing field between relevant businesses that act responsibly, and those that need to change their policies and practices.
- 2.2 Following the approval by Renewi and ELWA Ltd of their Modern Slavery Statements (MSS) the Authority approved its own MSS at the Annual General Meeting in June 2019. Since this date Renewi, as the Operator, has undertaken a range of activities to combat Modern Slavery, the most recent of which are set out in Appendix A. Renewi has focused on strengthening the approach to the prevention of Modern Slavery within its business and supply chains, particularly in the areas of greatest risk.
- 2.3 While it is yet to be official government policy to compel public authorities to issue their own Modern Slavery Statements, many local authorities are doing just that, and if they own companies they will already be doing so for good governance and to demonstrate commitment to supporting equalities and human rights for which they have a duty to observe.
- 2.4 The Modern Slavery Statement at Appendix A is to replace the Authority’s 2021 statement.

3. Relevant officers:

Andrew Lappage, Managing Director / e-mail:
andrew.lappage@eastlondonwaste.gov.uk; and

Neil Greenhalgh, Head of Waste & Support Services / email:
neil.greenhalgh@eastlondonwaste.gov.uk.

4. Appendices attached:

4.1 Appendix A – Draft ELWA Modern Slavery Statement, November 2022

5. Background Papers:

03 December 2021, Modern Slavery Statement, Report and Minute 7.

6. Legal Considerations:

6.1 It is a legal requirement that the Authority’s contractor and operator as companies subject to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 annually review their corporate Modern Slavery Statements.

7. Financial considerations:

7.1 None currently.

8. Performance management considerations:

8.1 The key performance consideration will be monitoring the current operation and ensuring the strategic direction of ELWA incorporates within its future waste strategy sound and agile governance arrangements that take account of the risk of modern slavery in the supply chain.

9. Risk management considerations:

9.1 The steps outlined in this report will improve ethical governance.

10. Equalities considerations:

10.1 Equality impact will be that the Authority is setting a lead of ethical governance which will promote fairness and equality of treatment.

11. Follow-up reports:

11.1 The Modern Slavery Statement and review of the steps taken to ensure that the Authority prevents modern slavery affecting the function of the Authority will be reported to Members annually.

12. Websites and links for further information:

12.1 www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk

13. Reviewed by Management Board:

13.1 14 November 2022.

14. Confidentiality:

14.1 Not applicable.