



# Anti-slavery and human trafficking statement

## Introduction from the Chief Executive

Blue Cross is committed to improving our practices to combat slavery and human trafficking. This statement sets out the steps that Blue Cross and its wholly owned subsidiary companies, are taking to try and ensure modern slavery is not taking place in our business or supply chains and is made pursuant to Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. We strive to act ethically and with integrity in all of our business dealings and relationships to minimise the risk that modern slavery is taking place anywhere in our own business or in any of our supply chains. We shall also ensure our approach and stance is clear with our partner organisations. This statement covers Blue Cross and its two wholly owned subsidiaries, Blue Cross Trading Company Ltd and Blue Cross (D& B) Company Ltd

## Organisation's structure

We are a charity dedicated to helping sick, injured and homeless pets, abandoned or unwanted, ill or injured pets. Thousands of pets turn to us for help every year.

We are governed by a Board of Trustees who volunteer their time to help direct our work. They oversee our Directors who manage our 768 staff and 4,470 volunteers across the whole charity. We have two wholly owned trading subsidiary undertakings.

## Our policies on anti-slavery and human trafficking

We are committed to working towards ensuring that there is the lowest possible risk of modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or in any part of our business. We are developing a comprehensive Anti-slavery and Human Trafficking Policy which will reflect our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all of our business relationships. We will look to develop, implement and enforce effective systems and controls to minimise the risk that slavery and human trafficking is taking place anywhere in Blue Cross or our supply chains.

We will look to treat any breach of our Anti-slavery and Human Trafficking Policy very seriously. For example, any employee who breaches the policy will face appropriate disciplinary action.

## Supplier adherence to our values and ethics

We are developing a Supplier Code of Practice and we will be contacting our highest value suppliers and those suppliers we feel operate in the highest risk markets to ensure that they are aware of this and have understood our requirements of them.

We will consider whether membership of Sedex, the membership scheme that helps companies understand, assess and improve supplier working practices could be useful to

### Blue Cross

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Blue Cross is a company limited by guarantee (Registered in England No. 363197) which has its registered office at Shilton Road, Burford, Oxfordshire OX18 4PF  
Registered charity no: 224392 (England and Wales), SC040154 (Scotland)



us. The Sedex platform allows companies to obtain insight into the supply chains of their goods and service providers and view independent audit information.

### **Blue Cross' continued commitment**

We recognise the importance of maintaining constant vigilance to identify and address any issues associated with slavery and human trafficking in Blue Cross and throughout our supply chains. We are committed to continuing to enhance our capacity to identify, prevent and mitigate any actual or potential risks in these areas. This includes communications through various channels to staff and also the ability to report concerns through our Whistleblowing process.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54 (Part 6) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes Blue Cross' slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. It has been approved by the Board of Trustees and is signed by Sally de la Bedoyere, the charity's Chief Executive.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Sally de la Bedoyere', written over a dotted line.

Sally de la Bedoyere  
Chief Executive, Blue Cross  
21/06/2018

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