

MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT 2020

Background

This statement has been prepared pursuant to the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth)* setting out the actions taken by the Anglican Church Southern Queensland (ABN 32 025 287 736), its Commissions, parishes and other church institutions to address modern slavery and human trafficking risks within its institutions and supply chains for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Corporate Entity

The Anglican Church Southern Queensland (ACSQ) is a business name of the Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane, which is a corporation constituted under *the Anglican Church of Australia Act 1895 (Qld)*.

Mission

The six marks of the ACSQ Mission are as follows:

1. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
2. To respond to human need by loving service
3. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
4. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth
5. To worship and celebrate the Grace of God
6. To live as one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

Through this mission, ACSQ maintains the Anglican faith and mission activities across an area of more than half a million square kilometres, from Bundaberg in Central Queensland to Coolangatta on the New South Wales border and west to the borders with South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Organisational Structure

ACSQ, through its governance structures, manages the following activities and services, within its mission area:

- a) 133 Parishes
- b) 14 ACSQ administered schools
- c) 19 Early Learning and Outside School Hours Care Centres
- d) Anglicare Southern Queensland, including:
 - i. 8 Residential Aged Care Facilities
 - ii. 4 Retirement Villages
 - iii. Community care services
 - iv. Social welfare services
- e) St John's College UQ
- f) St Francis Theological College

Potential Supply Chain Risks

ACSQ recognise that being in the community care, aged care, schools and childcare industries, it is exposed to risks relating to the potential violation of human rights in areas including modern slavery and human trafficking.

Certain areas of its business have been identified as being of higher modern slavery risk to the organisation. These areas of concern include risks in the procurement of textiles, medical supplies, ICT equipment and through cleaning contracts.

Actions Taken to Address Risks

Governance

ACSQ has adopted a modern slavery policy, committing all parts of ACSQ to identify and reduce modern slavery risks across supply chains. This policy has been fully endorsed by Diocesan Council, the Commissions, parishes, other church institutions and senior management of ACSQ.

Supplier Obligations

ACSQ requires that its suppliers identify and reduce modern slavery risks within their own supply chains. This is a contractual term within Diocesan contracts.

Several of the larger ACSQ operations have established supplier codes of conduct, detailing ACSQ expectations with regards to the identification and reduction of modern slavery risks.

Procurement processes have been reviewed and updated to include modern slavery considerations in the awarding of contracts.

The modern slavery statements and policies of ACSQ high-risk suppliers have been reviewed, with more detailed reviews occurring where risks were still considered high after this initial review.

Grievance and Feedback Mechanisms

ACSQ has a Whistle-blower Policy and procedure, which encourages individuals to report any suspected wrongdoing by staff, office holders, clergy, contractors, volunteers and suppliers of ACSQ. This includes reporting any suspected modern slavery risk.

Future Planned Actions

ACSQ is committed to strengthening its understanding of human rights issues as they apply to its business operations and in particular ACSQ supply chains and to reducing modern slavery risks. Some of these planned activities include:

- a) Continuing to monitor and assess its supply chain risks.
- b) Reviewing controls and processes in place across ACSQ to improve systems focussed on reducing modern slavery risks.
- c) Continuing to work with its suppliers with regards to these risks and improve systems to reduce these risks.

Consultations

ACSQ has consulted with its subsidiary entities with regards to the activities they are undertaking to reduce the modern slavery risks within their supply chains. The activities undertaken by these entities are in line with overall activities undertaken by ACSQ and have been incorporated into this statement.

This Modern Slavery Statement was approved by Diocesan Council in their role as the principal governing body of the Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane on 27 May 2021:



Tim Reid
General Manager
On behalf of Diocesan Council