



**south bank**  
corporation

# MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT

## FY23 & FY24

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### **Acknowledgement to Country**

*We pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors of this land, their spirits and their legacy.*

*The foundations laid by these ancestors—our First Nations peoples—gives strength, inspiration and courage to current and future generations towards creating a better Queensland.*

*We walk together on our shared journey of reconciliation where all Queenslanders will be equal and the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and communities across Queensland are fully recognised, respected and valued by all.*

The table below provides a reference between this South Bank Corporation Modern Slavery Statement and the mandatory reporting criteria required under the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth):

MODERN SLAVERY ACT MANDATORY REPORTING CRITERIA	SECTION
1. Identify the reporting entity	1
2. Describe the reporting entity's structure, operations and supply chains of the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls	1
3. Describe the risks of modern slavery practices in the operations and supply chains of the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls	2
4. Describe the actions taken by the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls to assess and address these risks, including due diligence and remediation processes	3
5. Describe how the reporting entity assesses the effectiveness of these actions	4
6. Describe the process of consultation with any entities the reporting entity owns or controls (a joint statement must also describe consultation with the entity giving the statement)	5
7. Provide any other relevant information	N/A

## 1. Corporation Identity, Structure, Operations and Supply Chain

### Corporation Identity and Structure

This Modern Slavery Statement (**Statement**) is submitted by South Bank Corporation ABN 95 927 817 538 (the **Corporation**) a statutory authority established under the *South Bank Corporation Act 1989* (Qld) (the **Act**).

This Statement has been developed in compliance with the requirements of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth) (**MS Act**).

The Corporation was established in 1989 to manage and develop the South Bank Corporation area situated in South Bank, Brisbane, Queensland.

The Corporation operates as an integrated precinct manager and master-developer for the 42-hectare South Bank precinct which is visited by around 14 million people annually.

The Corporation's activities include the development and day-to-day management of the precinct's operations, maintenance, security, events and activations, and commercial assets including the retail tenancies, underground car park as well as renewal projects as they emerge. The Corporation also owns the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (**BCEC**), which is managed by ASM Global as agent for the Corporation.

### Objects and functions

The Corporation's **objects** are set out in s24 of the Act:

- (a) promote, facilitate, carry out and control the development, disposal and management of land and other property within the Corporation area;
- (b) achieve an appropriate balance between the Corporation's commercial and non-commercial functions;
- (c) ensure the Corporation area complements, rather than duplicates, other public use sites in the inner-city Brisbane area;
- (d) provide for a diverse range of recreational, cultural and educational pursuits for local, regional and international visitors;
- (e) accommodate public events and entertainment that benefit the general community; and
- (f) achieve excellence and innovation in the management of open space and park areas.

The Corporation's **functions** are set out in s25 of the Act:

- (a) to produce such plan or plans as may be necessary in relation to the corporation area in order to fulfil its objects;
- (b) to promote and undertake the development of land within the corporation area in accordance with the approved development plan;
- (c) to facilitate and control, with the council, the development of land within the corporation area in accordance with the approved development plan;
- (d) to efficiently manage, and dispose by lease, of land vested in or under the control of the corporation under the approved development plan so as to secure the maximum prudent financial benefit for the corporation;
- (e) to efficiently manage and dispose of other property vested in or under the control of the corporation so as to secure the maximum prudent financial benefit for the corporation;
- (f) to manage on an ongoing basis all land and other property vested in or under the



- control of the corporation so as to secure the maximum prudent financial benefit for the corporation;
- (g) to promote, organise and conduct tourist, educational, recreational, entertainment, cultural and commercial activities in the corporation area;
  - (h) to construct, establish, maintain, develop and operate tourist, educational, recreational, entertainment, cultural and commercial facilities within the corporation area;
  - (i) to achieve, by the adoption of best practice principles, excellence and innovation in the management of open space and park areas;
  - (j) to carry out works for the purpose of landscaping the corporation area.

## Governance

The governing body of the Corporation is its Board of Directors, which currently consists of nine members, led by the Chairperson.

Two Board members are appointed on the Brisbane City Council's (**BCC**) nomination and the remaining Board members and the Chairperson are appointed on the responsible Minister's nomination.

From 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, there was an interim South Bank Corporation Board comprising of two senior Queensland Government public servants and two Brisbane City Council nominees.

The current Board was appointed with effect from 1 January 2024.

The Board is supported by the Corporation Manager / Chief Executive Officer (who is appointed by the Governor-in-Council) and four executive general managers who respectively lead their functional business areas.

The Board is also supported by three relevant Board Committees, including the Audit & Risk Management Committee (**ARMC**) which recommends this Report for Board approval.

Furthermore, the Board and management have documented governance arrangements to support the efficient and responsible management of the Corporation in accordance with Queensland legislation and guidance. These arrangements are aimed at ensuring that the Corporation complies with not only its legal obligations but also its responsibilities to stakeholders and the broader community.

## South Bank Employing Office (**SBEO**)

Other than the Corporation Manager and Board Members, the Corporation does not employ its own employees but relies on a work performance arrangement with the South Bank Employing Office (**SBEO**), a separate statutory authority created under the Act for the purpose of providing employees to the Corporation.

The SBEO is indemnified for all liabilities by the Corporation and operates on a break-even basis, being reimbursed for all costs by the Corporation. It has no physical assets and does not meet the threshold for reporting under the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth).

The executive officer of SBEO is appointed by the Governor-in-Council and is the same person as the Corporation Manager.

*For the purposes of this Statement, references to employees of the Corporation will include references to employees of SBEO.*

## Transition

The Corporation underwent a significant period of change during 2023 and 2024, when it went from a largely outsourced operating model to a more active direct management operating model.

On 1 July 2013, the Corporation entered into a 10-year agreement with a subsidiary of the Brisbane City Council for the management, day-to day operations, maintenance, and promotion of South Bank Parklands. This included responsibilities for security and community events. The management of new developments within the precinct, the retail agreements and operation of the car park remained with the Corporation. This agreement expired on 31 July 2023, and full tenure and management of the precinct, including maintenance and activation returned to South Bank Corporation. The Corporation entered into new maintenance and other transitional arrangements with Brisbane City Council's subsidiary, City Parklands Services Pty Ltd, (**CPS**). Whilst the maintenance agreement continues the operational transition agreement ceased on 30 June 2024.

On 1 August 2023, several large contracts relating to the parklands operations and management were transferred to the Corporation, Prior to this date the Corporation was a party to these contracts under a tripartite arrangement.

The change in operating model necessitated wide ranging changes in staffing levels and expertise, systems upgrades, creating and updating of policies, processes and procedures. During FY24 and into FY25 the Corporation's employees (through SBEO) increased in number as set out below.

	<b>Employee numbers (excl CEO and Board)</b>	<b>Full time (incl temporary full-time employees)</b>	<b>Part Time</b>	<b>Casual</b>
30 June 2024	66	55	4	7
30 June 2023	42	33	3	6

Corporation / SBEO employment arrangements (ie. excluding the CEO and Board):

	<b>Certified Agreement</b>	<b>Non-Award</b>
30 June 2024	47	19
30 June 2023	30	12

## Operations

The operations of the Corporation encompass:

- venue hire for events, run by third parties, held in the parklands;
- producing and running events managed by the Corporation's events team
- off-street, undercover parking facilities;
- retail and commercial property leasing;
- operation of assets within the Parkland, including pools, man-made beach, children playground and aquativity areas
- maintenance of the parklands and precinct, including ground, building and asset



- maintenance; and
- the operations of BCEC (which operates as a Brisbane's major convention centre for events and conferences).

The Corporation's operations are entirely Australian, based in Brisbane, Queensland.

## Supply Chain

The Corporation works with a range of suppliers of goods and services across the business ranging in size and nature, across the following broad categories:

- security services;
- grounds and gardens maintenance providers;
- cleaning services;
- Operators of the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre;
- lifesaving services (for the on-site pools);
- maintenance supplies and chemicals;
- consultants;
- events contractors;
- construction companies; and
- IT and office supplies.

In the FY24 reporting period, the Corporation commenced a high-level assessment of the inherent risks of modern slavery within its supply chain. This included focusing on the largest contracts with direct suppliers in high-risk industries and which offer services critical to the day-to-day operations and management of the precinct and Corporation. All these large contracts were transferred to the Corporation on 1 August 2023.

The Corporation has an ongoing relationship with ASM Global, who manage the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, on behalf of the Corporation.

Given the significant transformation that the Corporation is undergoing, it plans to adopt a phased approach to assessing the adequacy of supplier controls and the residual risk reviews of the suppliers will be undertaken over the coming years.

## 2. Risks of Modern Slavery Practices

The risks of modern slavery practices that the Corporation may cause, contribute to or be directly linked to modern slavery in its operations or supply chain are set out below.

Modern slavery risks related to Corporation employees are low as a result of Queensland Government mandated recruitment processes, employment contracts and the employee bargaining agreement applicable to the majority of employees.

The risk that the Corporation may incentivise modern slavery in its operations via contractors is low as the Corporation is bound by the Queensland Government Procurement Policy, the Ethical Supplier Mandate, its Code of Conduct and its Conflict of Interest policy and procedures, all of which operate together to ensure that the Corporation's actions towards its supply chain and operations do not promote or incentivise modern slavery practices.

There is a risk that the Corporation may be directly linked to modern slavery practices through its operations or supply chain, through for example, activities of its suppliers.

The Corporation acknowledges that it has significant contracts in place with suppliers in the following high-risk industries:

- cleaning;
- security services; and
- hospitality.

At this stage of the Corporation's transition, the Corporation has not yet engaged with or undertaken an in-depth analysis of its suppliers in the categories set out above but intends to commence this in FY25.

### **3. Actions taken to Address Modern Slavery Risks**

As a statutory body the Corporation is required to abide by the provisions of the *Queensland Procurement Policy 2023* which amongst other things includes complying with the *Ethical Supplier Mandate (ESM)* and Ethical Supplier Threshold and reinforcing the Supplier Code of Conduct. Queensland statutory authorities are also bound to take into account the human rights effects of decisions under the *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld).

During FY23 / FY24 the Corporation commenced high-level review and planning activities for addressing modern slavery risks and reporting.

Given the significant and rapid change the Corporation was undergoing during the reporting period, the reviews were limited, but nonetheless the Corporation viewed understanding and combating modern slavery as one of its future priorities.

The Corporation will build a baseline from which it can compare and consistently improve on its progress year-on-year as it matures.

#### **FY23 & FY24 – actions taken**

- Initial high level planning activities on modern slavery risks.
- Commenced the recruitment of a dedicated Senior Risk and Compliance Manager
- Appointed a dedicated, skilled procurement officer.
- Appointment of dedicated facilities managers to manage the significant operational contracts
- Updated select supplier contract templates for Modern Slavery clauses per the *Queensland Procurement Policy*.
- Implemented the Qld Government Ethical Supplier Mandate.
- Commenced planning for the Statement and undertook a high-level informal risk analysis.
- Identified significant supplier contracts by value and industry.

#### **FY 25 – planned actions**

The Corporation intends to mature processes and develop additional controls to assist with the mitigation of the risk of modern slavery in the Corporation's operations and supply chains, including:

- Adopting a Board approved Modern Slavery Policy (the policy was approved by the Board in August 2024).
- Preparing contract management plans that include modern slavery compliance requirements for significant supply contracts based on financial value.
- Developing a formal Modern Slavery compliance plan.
- Embedding Modern Slavery due diligence.
- Continue updating of contracts as required.
- Raising awareness of modern slavery risks through modern slavery information



sessions.

- Engaging with significant suppliers in high-risk industries to understand the maturity of their risk controls and practices.
- Reviewing, and if required, improving its Human Rights Act decision making processes and procedures.

#### 4. Effectiveness of Actions

As the Corporation has recently reached the reporting threshold for reporting under the MS Act, and due to the significant transformation activities that the Corporation has undergone, its focus during the reporting period was to gain an improved understanding of its modern slavery risks exposure.

The Corporation is committed to ensuring that it has effective controls in place on an ongoing basis and plans to actively address these in future reporting periods as set out below.

The Corporation is committed to continuous improvement and achieving best practice principles for the size and nature of its business. A program to achieve this will be developed.

The Corporation intends to take the following steps to assess the effectiveness of its actions taken to reduce the risk of modern slavery:

- Undertake an annual review of the Modern Slavery Policy.
- Development and subsequent annual review of the Modern Slavery compliance plan.
- Review of whistleblowing and right to information (**RTI**) matters related to modern slavery for the Corporation
- Ongoing training and upskilling of relevant employees.

#### 5. Consultation

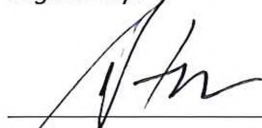
The Corporation has one controlled entity and its relationship with SBEO is described under section 1 above.

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#### Approval statement

South Bank Corporation's Modern Slavery Statement was approved by its Board of Directors on 26 November 2024. The Board has authorised the Chairperson to sign this Modern Slavery Statement on its behalf.

Signed by:



Susan Forrester, AM  
Chairperson

Date:

20/3/25