

Modern Slavery Statement 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

Wimmera Health Care Group Modern Slavery Statement

This Modern Slavery Statement is made pursuant to the Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 (the Act) by Wimmera Health Care Group and relates to the financial year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Mandatory Criteria 1 & 2: Identify the reporting entity and describe its structure, operations and supply chains.

Wimmera Health Care Group is a Victorian Public Health Agency operating under the Health Act of Victoria. We are based in the Wimmera sub-region of the Grampians, 310km west of Melbourne and is close proximity to the Grampians National Park.

With an operating budget over \$100 million, Wimmera Health Care Group is a leading rural health service providing allied, acute, subacute, primary and residential care in the Grampians region of Victoria. Employing more than 1000 team members, we are the subregional, acute referral hospital for the Wimmera Region and provide a wide range of specialist services. WHCG provides a comprehensive range of services including acute, sub-acute, maternity, urgent care, women's health, medical imaging, palliative care, oncology services, renal dialysis, residential aged care, allied health, community health and oral health.

Our campuses in Horsham and Dimboola service an area of 61,000 square kilometres and a population of approximately 54,000 people.

The majority of Wimmera Health Care Groups operating cost is absorbed by workforce (70%), the remaining supplies including drug cost is acquired under Health Purchasing Victoria, state-wide contract.

Wimmera Health Care Group is the reporting entity for all purposes of the Act, having met the reporting threshold in the reporting period.

HealthShare Victoria (HSV) is a state-wide procurement organisation that partners with Victorian public health services to procure best-value goods and services. HSV works in partnership with public health services to understand their requirements, facilitate large-scale collective tenders and manage common-use contracts on behalf of the state. Wimmera Health Care Group purchases the goods and services it needs from the suppliers who are party to HSV collective agreements. As such, it is recognised that HSV has a significant role in health service supply chains.

HSV works with approximately 449 tier-one suppliers and is responsible for more than 65 contracts with a spend value of over \$1.16 billion.

HSV contracts cover a broad range of services, equipment and supplies across a number of categories including ventilators, beds, mattresses, patient trolleys, treatment chairs, hypodermic needles and syringes, gloves, pharmaceutical products, IV fluids, agency labour, catering supplies, laundry and linen services and non-emergency patient transport. A full list of HSV's sourcing categories can be found at <https://www.HSV.org.au/contracts-and-documents/contracts>.

HSV acknowledges the impact that COVID-19 has had on global supply chains, particularly in light of the significant increase in demand for personal protective equipment. HSV will undertake activities to investigate whether supply chains were restructured as a result of the significant procurement challenges faced during the pandemic.

Mandatory Criterion Three: Describe the risks of modern slavery practices in the operations and supply chains of the reporting entity and any entities the reporting entity owns or controls:

Due to the significant impact of Covid-19, Wimmera Health Care Group has been unable to undertake a formal risk assessment of its operations and supply chains. Wimmera Health Care Group will endeavour to conduct a risk assessment for the 2021-2022 reporting period.

Wimmera Health Care Group is at a low risk of modern slavery practices within the organisation's direct operations due to all employees being employed under the relevant Enterprise Business Agreement. No known risks have been identified at the time of writing this Statement.

Wimmera Health Care Group recognises that the extensive nature of our global supply chains may expose us to modern slavery risks. Given HSV's significant role in Wimmera Health Care Groups supply chains, HSV has helped identify the general risks of modern slavery that may be present.

Wimmera Health Care Group understands that its supply chains may be impacted by modern slavery practices, due to the diversity of products and services sourced by HSV and the associated geographic locations, industries and regulatory systems further down those supply chains. Some of the general risk areas present in Wimmera Health Care Groups supply chain include:

- Labour and manufacturing in overseas facilities for medical consumables and equipment and ICT equipment;
- Labour and manufacturing in overseas facilities for textiles including uniforms;
- Labour for the cleaning industry.

HSV conducted a risk assessment on behalf of Wimmera Health Care Group in the form of a HSV Modern Slavery Supplier Questionnaire. The Questionnaire was rolled out to all 79 suppliers on 3 May 2021 with a completion request date of 30 June 2021 to coincide with the conclusion of the second reporting period under the Act.

There were 69 respondents and 10 non-respondents, providing an overall response rate of 87%. Of the 69 respondents 0 were rated Very High, 11 were rated High, 48 were rated Medium and 10 rated Low.

The focus of our third reporting period under the Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth) is to undertake supplier risk assessments within HSV Collective Purchasing Agreements. Wimmera Health Care Group intends to work collaboratively with HSV to identify mitigation efforts to combat modern slavery risks, and foster collaboration between Wimmera health Care Group and suppliers to seek to address these risks

Mandatory Criterion Four: Describe the actions taken by the reporting entity and any entities that the reporting entity owns or controls to assess and address these risks, including due diligence and remediation processes:

Wimmera Health Care Group has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in reduced capacity to undertake actions to assess and address modern slavery risks in our operations and supply chains. Wimmera Health Care Group recognises the importance of this activity and in conjunction with HSV, will endeavour to undertake these actions in the FY2021-22 reporting period. In the interim, Wimmera Health Care Group will engage with HSV to understand the actions that HSV has undertaken to assess and address the modern slavery risks in Wimmera Health Care Groups supply chains.

Wimmera Health Care Group has begun to implement modern slavery clauses and schedules into relevant policies, contracts and procurement activities to assist in the assessment and reporting of each suppliers modern slavery risks.

Mandatory Criterion Five: Describe how the reporting entity assesses the effectiveness of actions being taken to assess and address modern slavery risks:

Wimmera Health Care Group has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in reduced capacity to implement mechanisms to assess the effectiveness of actions taken to address our modern slavery risks. Wimmera Health Care Group recognises the importance of this activity and will endeavour to introduce assessment mechanisms in the FY2021-22 reporting period. In the interim, Wimmera Health Care Group will engage with HSV to understand the effectiveness of the assessments they have conducted.

Mandatory Criterion Six: Describe the process of consultation with any entities the reporting entity owns or controls

Not applicable – Wimmera Health Care Group does not own or control any other entities as applicable under the Act.

Mandatory Criterion Seven: Any other relevant information

In order to support the implementation of the Act within health services, HSV has developed a toolkit to assist with meeting the requirements under the Act. The toolkit contains:

- A modern slavery plan to support the implementation of the governance structures, policies, processes and risk registers needed to underpin a successful modern slavery framework;
 - Advice on implementing a modern slavery policy;
 - A modern slavery risk register to capture and address the key modern slavery risks that a health service might cause, contribute or be directly linked to;
 - A modern slavery risk assessment tool, including advice on modern slavery risk assessments, supplier questionnaires for Information to Supply (ITS) due diligence and incumbent suppliers and advice on how to interpret questionnaire results;
 - A modern slavery fact sheet to facilitate staff training; and
 - Supplier contract considerations, including the addition of modern slavery clauses in contracts.
- The rollout and implementation of the toolkit will support health services to conduct their own risk assessment, due diligence and remediation activities.

Grampians Health intends to implement the toolkit in the coming statement period.

Closing Statement

Wimmera Health Care Group has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in reduced capacity to implement the planned strategies in this reporting period. Notwithstanding, we have aligned our Procurement policies with the Modern Slavery Act and recognise the importance of identifying and bringing modern slavery practices to an end.

From 1st November 2021, Wimmera Health Care Group has amalgamated to become Grampians Health and is committed to working with its supply chain to eliminate these practices.

This statement was endorsed by the Leadership Team of Grampians Health (Wimmera) on 14th December 2021.

Modern Slavery Statement

Financial Year 2020 - 2021

Final Statement

Introduction

The Australian Government introduced the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth) (the **Act**) which requires certain entities to report on the risks of modern slavery in their operations and supply chains and actions to address those risks. The Act commenced operation on 1 January 2019. The Act requires reporting entities subject to the Act, to produce an annual modern slavery statement. This statement is prepared for Financial Year 2020 – 2021.

Identify the reporting entity

Wimmera Health Care Group ABN 21 203 855 611

Please be advised that on the 1st November 2021 with the approval of the Victorian Government Wimmera Health Care Group ABN 21 203 855 611 has amalgamated with Edenhope and District Memorial Hospital, Stawell Regional Health and Ballarat Health Services, to become Grampians Health ABN 39 089 584 391

All future Statements relating to Wimmera Health Care Group will be submitted by the new entity.

This Modern Slavery Statement is made in accordance with section 14 of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth) and represents the Wimmera Health Care Group's Statement for the Financial Year 2020 - 2021.

Approved December 2021 by the Board of Management of Grampians Health



Mr Bill Brown
Board Chair
Grampians Health