

Modern Slavery Act Statement

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

Modern Slavery Act Statement

This Modern Slavery Statement is made pursuant to the Commonwealth *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (the Act) by Echuca Regional Health and relates to the financial year 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Mandatory Criteria One and Two

Identify the reporting entity and describe its structure, operations and supply chains:

Echuca Regional Health of 226 Service Street, Echuca, ABN 30 490 690 530, is a Public Health Service incorporated pursuant to the provisions of the Health Services Act 1988 (Vic).

Echuca Regional Health has a staff base of 977 and covering an area of 16,383 square kilometres between the Shire of Campaspe (4518 sq. km) and the Murray River Council (11,865 sq. km) is a 159 bed service that annually:

- 13,932 people were admitted to our hospital;
- 24,417 people attended our Emergency Department, including 3,929 ambulance arrivals to the Emergency Department;
- Delivers more than 450 babies;
- 3,960 operations are performed;
- Conducts almost 17,950 outpatient appointments

These services are complimented by a High Dependency Unit, Medical Ward, Surgical Ward, Obstetric Ward, Rehabilitation & Palliative Care Ward, Residential Aged Care, Cancer & Wellness Centre and 3 operating theatres.

Echuca Regional Health provides services in emergency, maternity, women's health, medical imaging, pathology, rehabilitation, community services, residential aged care, community dental, NDIS services, palliative care, cancer services and renal dialysis to the people of the Loddon Mallee region and Murray region.

There is one main campus at Echuca Regional Health, with many services extended to other regional settings including Rochester, Cohuna and Kyabram. Echuca Regional Health and the Victorian Government are committed to delivering high quality health-care to the community of Echuca/Moama and surrounds.

Echuca Regional Health's supply chain includes (but is not limited to) the products and services used to deliver healthcare services including medical equipment and consumables, personal protective equipment and ICT equipment. Echuca Regional Health's supply chain includes products and services provided by contractors including (but not limited to) consultants, support and maintenance services. Echuca Regional Health supports other external Hospitals with service support and also clinical and non-clinical consumables.

Echuca Regional Health utilises the contracts under the HealthShare Victoria (HSV) arrangement. HSV is a state-wide procurement organisation that partners with Victoria's 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. Echuca Regional Health 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 has over 800 individual contracts with 483 suppliers across 75 categories 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.healthsharevic.org.au/contracts-and-documents/contracts>.

Mandatory Criteria 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:

This is Echuca Regional Health's first statement, as its consolidated revenue for the FY2021/22 is over \$100 million.

Echuca Regional Health will plan and review processes and systems to look for opportunities to identify the risk of modern slavery practices.

This will include working closely with HSV to ensure that the actions we take are as effective as possible.

Mandatory Criteria 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:

This is Echuca Regional Health's first statement, but it recognises the importance of this activity and will endeavour to undertake these actions in the FY2022-23 reporting period. In the interim, Echuca Regional Health has engaged with HSV to understand the actions that HSV has undertaken to assess and address the modern slavery risks in Echuca Regional Health's supply chains.

Mandatory Criteria Five

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

Echuca Regional Health recognises the importance of this activity and will endeavour to introduce assessment mechanisms in the FY2022-23 reporting period. In the interim Echuca Regional Health has engaged with HSV to understand the effectiveness of the assessment they have conducted.

Mandatory Criteria Six

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

Echuca Regional Health does not own or control any other entities.

Mandatory Criteria 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 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 supports health services to conduct their own risk assessment, due diligence and remediation activities.

Echuca Regional Health will commence implementing the toolkit in the FY2022-23 reporting period.

Closing Statement

Echuca Regional Health recognises the importance of identifying and bringing modern slavery practices to an end and is committed to working with its supply chain to eliminate these practices.

This statement was approved by the Board of Echuca Regional Health on Thursday 8 December 2022.



Board Chair: Larna Tarrant
Date: 08.12.2022