



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Sports Commission**

# MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT



**SPORT  
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## FOREWORD

Modern slavery can occur in every sector and industry and, like many human rights violations, is often hidden in plain sight.

The Australian Government is taking a significant leadership role in combating modern slavery. There is no place for modern slavery in the Australian community or in any supply chains of Australian goods and services.

At the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) our position is clear - any form of modern slavery is unacceptable. While to date we have not identified any known modern slavery practices in our operations or supply chains, we recognise that eradicating modern slavery requires an ongoing dedication and acknowledgement that we all have a role to play.

The ASC is committed to ensuring that our procurements and purchases promote supply chains that are free from exploitation. Fundamental to achieving this ambition are our efforts to build closer relationships and work collaboratively with partners across our supply chains.

We will continue to raise awareness of this important issue across the sport sector and support the due diligence efforts of our sport industry peers through a range of strategies.

We are focused on building a solid foundation to address modern slavery risks and establish strategies to prevent slavery and human trafficking within our operation and supply chains.

With this firm commitment in place, I release the 2020-21 ASC Modern Slavery Statement.



**Josephine Sukkar**  
ASC Board Chair

## INTRODUCTION

This statement is made in accordance with section 13 of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* and covers the period 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

Modern slavery is a crime that deprives an individual's liberty and dignity for another's gain. The Australian Government estimates that there are approximately 1500 victims of modern slavery in Australia at any time. The United Nations estimates that at least 40 million people around the globe are in modern-day slavery. Those most at risk include women and children who may have little or no capacity to protect themselves.<sup>1</sup>

At the ASC, we have zero-tolerance for inaction in relation to modern slavery and human trafficking; and are fully committed to identifying and preventing these crimes from occurring in our operation and supply chains.

## OUR STRUCTURE

The ASC is a corporate Commonwealth entity within the Australian Government's Department of Health portfolio. It was established in 1985 and operates under the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* and is governed by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Minister for Sport. The Board determines the ASC's overall direction, decides on allocation of resources and policy for delegated decisions, and is accountable to the Minister for Sport.

The ASC is administered from Canberra at the AIS Bruce campus, and has offices located in Melbourne and Sydney. The AIS campus is a 65-hectare multipurpose facility with sporting, administration, commercial and residential functions. The AIS also operates the European Training Centre (ETC) in Varese, Italy and high performance sports training facilities at Pizze Park on the Gold Coast.

You can learn more about the ASC by going to [www.sportaus.gov.au](http://www.sportaus.gov.au)

## OUR OPERATIONS

The ASC's role is to increase participation in organised sport and ensure continued international sporting success through leadership, development of a cohesive and effective sports sector and provision of targeted financial support.

Sport Australia champions the value of sport, encourages and helps Australians from all backgrounds, ages and abilities to get involved in sport. We play an important role across the broader sport sector by supporting activities linked to sport and sport industry growth. Our work is delivered in conjunction with partners across the sport industry — sporting organisations, peak sports bodies, the Office for Sport and other Australian Government agencies.

Sport Australia has a central leadership role by building collaboration, alignment and effectiveness with a focus on participation, and industry capability. Participation is about getting more Australians moving more often through organised sport to increase physical and mental wellbeing. We work together with the sport industry to build capability across the broader sport sector and champion the role of grassroots and community sport in engaging all Australians.

The AIS is recognized as a world leader in enabling a united and collaborative high performance sports system that supports Australian athletes to consistently win medals at major international sporting events. The AIS prioritises athlete wellbeing and supports athletes to positively influence the Australian community to create national pride and inspiration.

The AIS works with the National Institute Network (NIN), National Sporting Organisations (NSOs), Australian Olympic Committee, Paralympics Australia, and Commonwealth Games Australia, to support our elite athletes through; high-performance and national programs, research and innovation, the AIS Campus (Canberra), and the European Training Centre in Italy.

## OUR SUPPLY CHAINS

The ASC has a standardised procurement approach and policy that covers both Sport Australia and the AIS. Contracts valued at or above the reporting threshold AUD\$100,000 (GST inclusive) are published on the ASC website biannually and tabled in Parliament as required under the Murray Motion.

The ASC adopts the Commonwealth Procurement Rules in principle, our contract templates are based on the Commonwealth Contracting Suite, and in undertaking procurement activities we establish a relationship of trust and integrity with all our suppliers. We have not been made aware of any allegations of slavery or human trafficking activities against any of our suppliers, but if we were, we would act immediately by reporting to the relevant authorities.

1. *Global Estimates of Modern Slavery*. The International Labour Organization. Geneva 2017.

The ASC's procurement framework is periodically reviewed and updated to ensure currency and that we continue to address any additional compliance requirements. Our supplier selection and on-boarding procedures includes a requirement to undertake due diligence of the selected supplier's reputation; and contracts reference the requirement for compliance with applicable laws and standards. Prior to entering into any contract, or executing a contract variation/extension, employees are required to ensure goods and/or services have been procured in accordance with the ASC's Procurement Policy. Once a contract has been executed and added to our contracts register, the Australian government Contract Management Guide provides guidance for employees responsible for managing contracts.

## RISK OF MODERN SLAVERY PRACTICES

It is unlikely that the ASC's current and immediate supply chains have risks which meet the threshold for serious exploitation as defined by the Modern Slavery Act (the Act). However, we recognise that slavery risks can be linked to particular indicators such as: geographical locations, some goods and certain industries or sectors.

## CURRENT ACTIONS TO ADDRESS MODERN SLAVERY RISKS

### Supplier due diligence

The ASC has a range of generic controls to ensure that, where possible, our suppliers do not increase or contribute to the risk of modern slavery. These controls include:

- Inclusion of standard Australian Government Terms and Conditions in ASC contracts
- Use of ASC contract terms and conditions that specify legislative compliance requirements
- Whole of government purchasing agreements, and
- Specific onsite contract management and monitoring of major contracts.

The ASC conducts due diligence on all new suppliers during on-boarding, including where applicable, requesting information about sub-suppliers. We have implemented modern slavery contract clauses developed by the Commonwealth Government, and where applicable require new suppliers to attest through signing of contracts that:

- They don't use any form of; forced, compulsory or slave labour
- They don't require employees to post a deposit or bond
- They don't require employees to surrender their passports or work permits as a condition of employment, and
- They have made reasonable efforts to ensure that there is no use of forced, compulsory or slave labour within their supply chains

Where a risk of modern slavery is identified, the ASC will continue to educate on any potential risks/impacts and possible controls.

## PLAN FOR FUTURE ACTION

### Working with our stakeholders

We will:

1. Continue to work with sport industry bodies to raise awareness of modern slavery within and across sporting communities; and support stakeholder attention to supply chain due diligence by providing access to Modern Slavery tools, information and resources.
2. Collaborate with the Australian Border Force and other Commonwealth Government entities in relation to a whole-of-government approaches to investigating supply chains for major government suppliers and guidance around government procurement panels.
3. Continue to review and update our procurement processes and policies to raise staff awareness and ensure that modern slavery issues are addressed.

4. Through application of the 'Department of Home Affairs Addressing Modern Slavery in Government Supply Chains Toolkit', we will undertake a process to ensure we understand how each of our major suppliers is addressing modern slavery risks, and we will continue to engage with them on this issue. We note that some of our existing contracts may be with supply firms that qualify as reporting entities under the Act. This approach will help us to understand and focus on those items we directly control or contribute to, as opposed to those items over which we have less control. In applying the risk screening tool and surveys, the ASC acknowledges that:
  - Visibility of the risks of modern slavery practices in our full downstream supply chains is limited
  - Modern slavery risks to the ASC will change over time as operational requirements change and our understanding of our supply chains improves, and
  - There is a risk that there may be links to modern slavery further down the supply chain that are outside of the ASC's visibility and control.
5. Where higher risks are identified in an approach to market, we will assess the effectiveness of our actions and controls to mitigate risks and, if required, take further actions.
6. To assist with identification of potential modern slavery risks, all appropriate ASC staff will complete the e-learning module 'Modern Slavery Training for Procurement Officers'. This training, produced by the Australian Government, will educate staff on:
  - What modern slavery is
  - What modern slavery looks like in Government supply chains
  - What the ASC can do to further address modern slavery risks, and
  - How to report concerns about modern slavery practices.

### Measuring how we are performing

The incorporation of specific processes to assess and address risks of modern slavery is being undertaken during 2021-22. To assess the effectiveness of these processes, we will:

1. Quantify the number of contracts meeting the reporting threshold,<sup>2</sup> that have completed an initial risk assessment.  
Note: an initial risk assessment process will be incorporated into all future approaches to market.
2. Quantify the number of occasions we have shared tools, advice, support and information resources with our stakeholders.
3. Quantify the number of staff undertaking procurement related activities, that have completed the 'Modern Slavery Training for Procurement Officers' e-learning module.

Statistics on compliance with these requirements will be provided in future Modern Slavery Statements.

This statement was approved by the ASC Board on 16 December 2021.



**Josephine Sukkar**  
ASC Board Chair

2. Currently set at AUD\$100,000 (GST inclusive) and published on the ASC website biannually and tabled in Parliament as required under the Murray Motion.



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