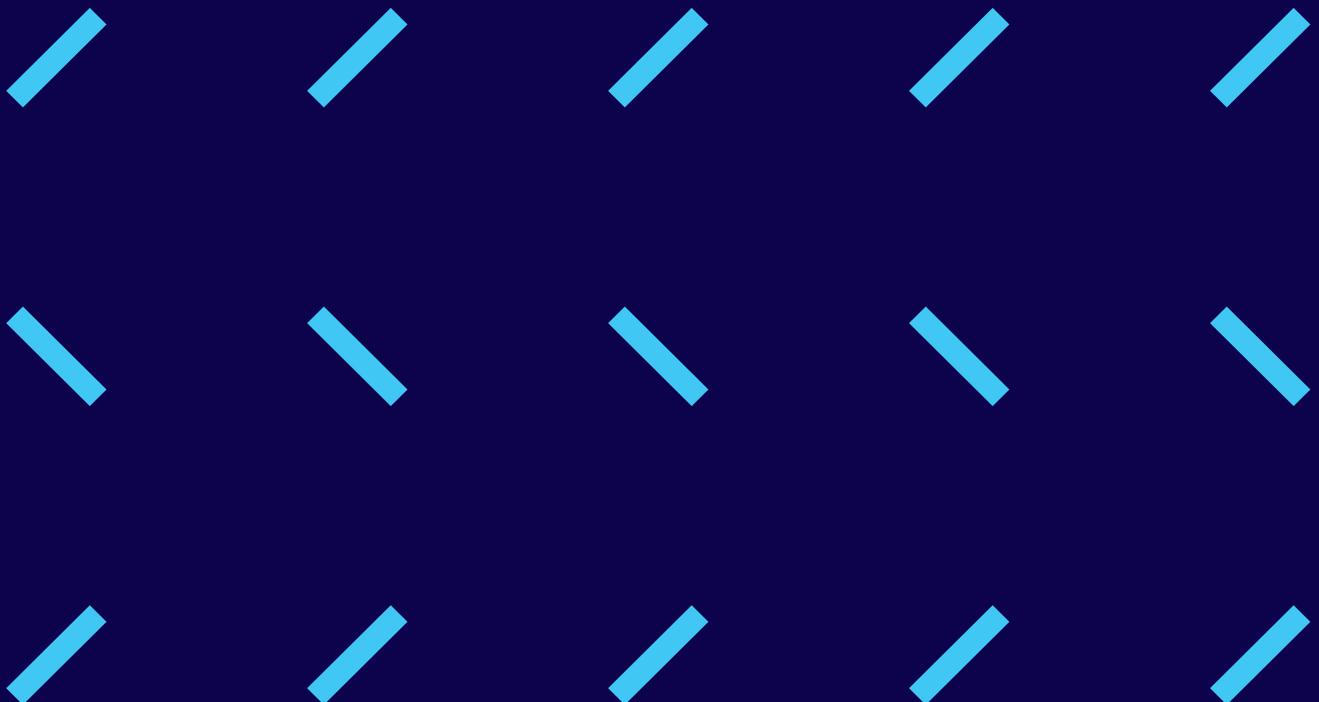

MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT

INTRODUCTION

As the University of Opportunity and Success and a pre-eminent Victorian educational institution, Victoria University acknowledges that it plays an important role in combating modern slavery. One of the University's core values is 'to always be ethical'. The University is committed to respecting human rights, acting ethically in our dealings with partners and suppliers, and taking real action to address any modern slavery risks within the University's direct control.

This statement is made pursuant to the Commonwealth *Modern Slavery Act 2018*, by Victoria University with regards to the 2020 calendar year.



ABOUT US

Victoria University (VU) is a body corporate and politic in accordance with the *Victoria University Act 2010* (Vic).

VU (ABN 83 776 954 731) has, for more than 100 years offered accessible education to students in Melbourne’s west and beyond. Victoria University has campuses across Melbourne’s CBD and western suburbs, with our flagship campus located in Footscray. International students can also choose to study at VU Sydney. VU has a subsidiary company, VU Online Pty Ltd (ABN 17 623 496 186), which is responsible for VU’s wholly online course offerings.

Ranked in the top 2% of universities and with 28 research disciplines ranked at or above world standard in the latest Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) assessments, VU offers world-class academic opportunities.

As a dual-sector university hosting a VET School, VU offers a complete pathway from high school, into TAFE, undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications, with multiple entry and exit points.

VU is also the only university in Australia to have a college specifically dedicated to guiding students as they make the well-recognised difficult transition to university, allowing them to gain the skills, motivation and confidence to excel beyond first year. The “First Year College” delivering courses in a unique “Block Model” format has been recognised as revolutionary and has resulted in increased student satisfaction and retention.

VU'S MORAL PURPOSE: VISION AND MISSION

VU has a moral purpose to transform the lives of any student from any background and to transform our communities, in partnership with VU students and communities. VU vision and mission capture this intent.

Vision

As the University of Opportunity and Success, VU will be open and excellent, creating exceptional value for any student from any background and uplifting the communities in which VU operates.

Mission

VU will achieve this vision in the following ways.

Education

Providing high quality, engaging, career-based tertiary education at all levels of vocational and higher education with flexible entry and exit points, appropriate pathways, engaging and rigorous curriculum and contemporary delivery; while maintaining rigorous standards and ensuring that all students are supported to meet those standards.

Research & Engagement

Undertaking high quality and innovative applied and translational research which results in healthier, smarter and sustainable communities in the west of Melbourne and beyond, and connecting deeply with industry and the community, in turn enhancing the quality of teaching and learning.

VU Values

The VU Values are:

- ◆ always welcoming;
- ◆ always ethical;
- ◆ always shaping the future; and
- ◆ always together.

They form the acronym 'WEST'. So, VU is 'always west' and this is symbolic of place. The west of Melbourne is the heart of VU, but of course we serve communities across Australia and overseas.

WORKFORCE AND SUPPLY CHAIN

Overview of VU's workforce

VU employ over 3000 staff across its workforce, in both academic and professional roles. The majority of these employees are located in Australia, with a small number located off shore.

VU employees are required to comply with all internal policies and procedures, which require them to act lawfully, ethically and with integrity. VU have in place a Staff Complaints Resolution Policy which ensures that anyone who has concerns about any application or misapplication of a University policy, has a means of raising their concerns confidentially, including any suspicions of modern slavery.

Overview of VU's Supply chain

As a large educational institute, VU sources a wide range of goods and services.

In 2020 VU had around 2000 paid suppliers in the procurement system. Approximately 10% of the suppliers engaged in 2020 had expenditure from VU of greater than \$100,000. Close to 50% of VU's total spend was with the top 200 suppliers, all of which, bar one, have head offices based in Australia.

Just under 50% of all purchases involved a single invoice (one-off purchases) and approximately 22% were for purchases less than \$1000.

What we buy

VU purchase a wide array of goods and services, including:

- ◆ marketing and advertising
- ◆ IT services and software
- ◆ construction and building services
- ◆ security and maintenance
- ◆ consultancy services
- ◆ electronics
- ◆ call centre services
- ◆ laboratory equipment and consumables
- ◆ office supplies and promotional merchandise
- ◆ educational resources
- ◆ telecommunications and utilities
- ◆ fleet and motor vehicles.

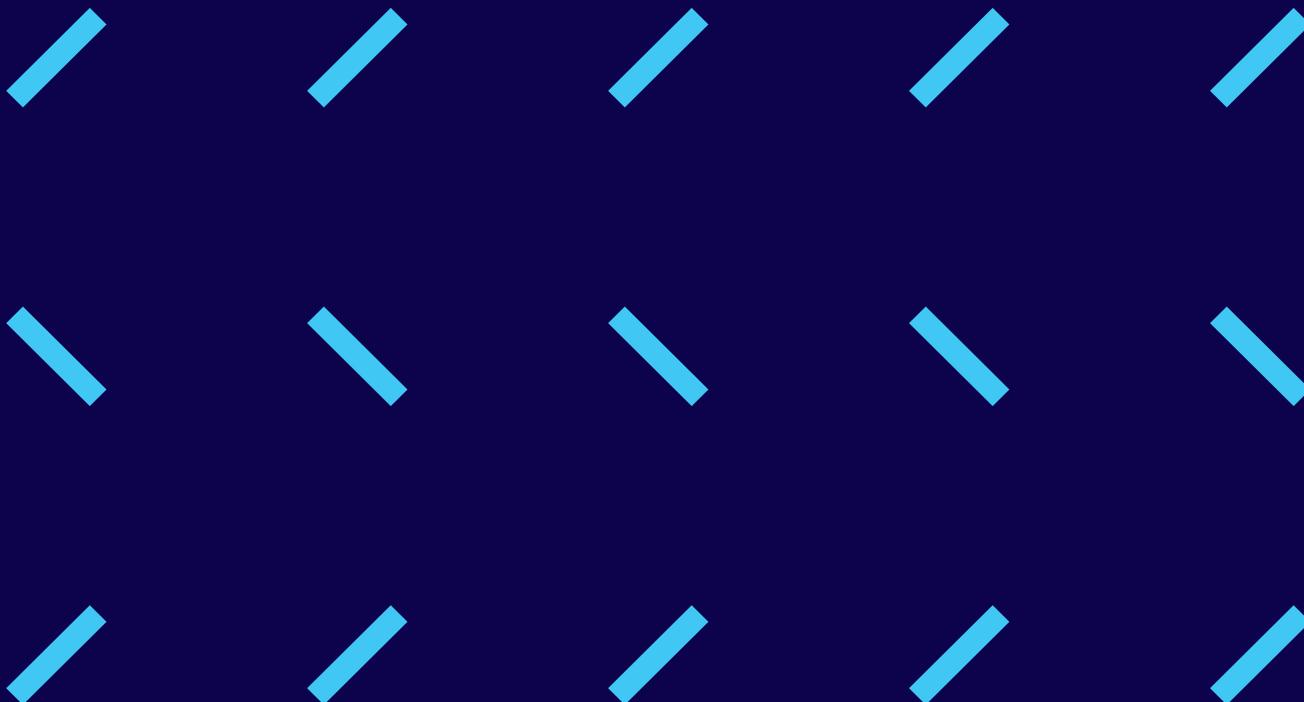
RISKS IDENTIFIED IN VU'S OPERATIONS AND SUPPLY CHAIN

VU has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which has resulted in reduced capacity to undertake a full review of all operations and supply chain, and a halt of on-site supplier visits. However, in addressing modern slavery risk VU has assessed its significant suppliers, and identified the following high-risk modern slavery categories in respect of purchases:

- ◆ computer hardware
- ◆ mobile phones
- ◆ clothing (promotional merchandise and uniforms)
- ◆ office products.

Staffing

VU is confident that its staffing model does not create or result in any modern slavery risks.



ACTIONS TAKEN

The following actions have been taken to date by VU in addressing modern slavery risk:

Legal and governance

A working group has been formed and has met regularly to identify modern slavery risks across VU, and identify actions that can be taken to minimise these risks.

Modern slavery clauses have been drafted and are being inserted into all VU standard agreements and tender documentation.

A Modern Slavery Prevention Policy has been endorsed by the VU Council's Compliance Audit and Risk Committee, ready for approval, publication and socialisation.

Training

Key members of the Procurement and Legal teams have completed third-party training modules in modern slavery risks.

Current Due Diligence

Strategic suppliers are currently assessed on their compliance with Corporate Social Responsibility including modern slavery, and their membership in ethical trade associations such as SEDEX is well regarded and encouraged.

Preferred Supplier Model

VU currently has 108 preferred suppliers used across Marketing, ITS, Retail, Facilities and Corporate business areas. These suppliers meet the University's compliance criteria. The intention is to move to a model where VU have even more preferred suppliers that can be utilised by all departments of the University.

AUPN

VU is a member of the Australian Universities Procurement Network (AUPN) which currently has 38 member institutions working together to improve excellence in procurement practice and in the skills of procurement professionals in the higher education sector.

Given the level of complexity in the university sector supply chains, the AUPN have sourced on behalf of the member universities a third party supply chain mapping tool. The tool will enable the universities to analyse all suppliers, determine their supply chain category, and modern slavery risk. VU will engage this supplier to complete the analysis by Q4 2021.

PLANNED ACTIONS

The following actions will be taken by VU within the next 12 months in addressing modern slavery risk:

- ◆ Further development of procedures and guidelines to sit under the VU Modern Slavery Prevention Policy.
- ◆ Modern slavery risk training for all key procurement staff as well as senior university leadership.
- ◆ Review and analysis of suppliers using the third party supply chain mapping tool.
- ◆ Amend the current Procurement Policy to further reflect the risks and mirror the VU stance on modern slavery.
- ◆ Embed reviews of modern slavery due diligence in to existing business and risk management procedures.



EFFECTIVENESS OF ACTIONS

VU considers that the actions it has taken to date in addressing modern slavery risk demonstrate its commitment to the prevention of modern slavery, but acknowledges that there is more work to be done. Further actions (as initially outlined above) will be important to continue to minimise risks of exploitation in our operations and supply chains.

Consultation and additional information

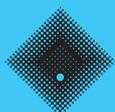
VU Online have been consulted, and have identified no modern slavery risks in their operations or supply chain.

The Victoria University Modern Slavery Statement is endorsed by the Victoria University Council and signed by Professor Adam Shoemaker, Vice Chancellor.



Professor Adam Shoemaker,
Vice Chancellor of Victoria University





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