

Modern Slavery Statement

1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

Introduction

This statement is made in accordance with the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (the Act) which requires qualifying entities to report on the risks and mitigating actions of Modern Slavery within the organisation against seven mandatory criteria.

The Act requires reporting entities to provide an annual Modern Slavery statement for each reporting period, this statement has been prepared for the reporting period FY2020-21.

Identify the reporting entity

Mildura Base Public Hospital ABN 73 543 496 421

Describe the structure, operations and supply chains of the reporting entity

Mildura Base Public Hospital is a Public Health Service operating under the Health Services Act 1988 (Vic). Mildura Base Public Hospital transitioned back to being a government mandated health service on 15 September 2020 (previously a subsidiary of Ramsay Health Care) and currently employs more than 1000 staff.

Mildura Base Public Hospital is a 172 bed (level 1) tertiary teaching hospital providing services to the community of Mildura and the Northern Mallee region in Emergency Care, Maternity, Intensive Care, General Medicine and Surgery, Oncology, Dialysis, Mental Health (inpatient and community services), Ambulatory Services, Pathology, Medical Imaging, Pharmacy and Allied Health Services.

Mildura Base Public Hospital is the major public referral health service for the Northern Mallee sub-region of the Loddon Mallee region of Victoria, the Far West region of New South Wales and the Riverland area of South Australia, servicing over 60,000 people in these regions.

Mildura Base Public Hospital holds a corporate agreement with Bendigo Health to provide Procurement direction and support.

Our supply chain includes products and services used to deliver medical consumables and equipment, the supply chain is also utilised in the purchasing of items and equipment for ICT, maintenance, food and cleaning services, with all purchasing accessed from Health Share Victoria (HSV) state wide contracts where available.

Pharmacy items are purchased using HSV collective contracts.

Health Share Victoria is a state-wide procurement organisation that partners with Victorian Public Health services and suppliers to deliver best value goods and services.

Describe the risks of Modern Slavery practices in the operations and supply chains of the reporting entity, and the entities that the reporting entity owns or controls

Due to the impact of Covid-19 and the transition of management in September 2020, Mildura Base Public Hospital is currently in the first reporting period and has not conducted a formal risk assessment of its operations and supply chain.

The risk assessment will form part of the Modern Slavery Framework to be undertaken for the next reporting period.

Mildura Base Public Hospital has engaged with Health Share Victoria to assist in identifying and understanding any potential risks in our supply chain, this work will also be done in collaboration with Bendigo Health in accordance to the corporate agreement.

All employees are employed under the relevant EBA.

Mildura Base Hospital is at low risk of Modern Slavery practices in our direct operations, by utilising HSV contracts where possible, however we understand that due to the diversity of items procured through our supply chains there is a risk of exposure to such practices, these risks most commonly occur in the sourcing of raw materials and production of health care goods.

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

Modern Slavery Framework will be developed to provide governance for the elements of policy, complaints procedures, Risk registers, Risk assessment, supplier questionnaire and contract considerations. Mildura Base Public Hospital acknowledges that while the Modern Slavery Framework is to be formally developed certain elements of the framework are implemented through contract management and procurement direction from Bendigo Health, HSV compliance and internal policy.

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

Due to the constraints of Covid-19 and the transition to Public management, the impacts this has had on resources has been difficult to develop and implement the Modern Slavery Framework.

With an understanding of the requirements to comply with the act and Mildura Base Public Hospitals responsibilities in identifying and eliminating all modern slavery risks in recruitment, procurement, contract management and supply chains, this reporting period has allowed for education and understanding of Modern Slavery and the tools required to mitigate the risk to MBPH and its supply chain.

Health Share Victoria has established a modern slavery program of work and appointed a Modern Slavery Risk Manager to assist and support Victorian Health Services to understand their requirements, identify and address Modern Slavery risks in their procurement and supply chains.

The framework developed during the reporting period will identify any risks which can be documented and addressed with support from Health Share Victoria, allowing for a detailed report of any identified risks and actions for the next reporting period.

There are currently no known risks at the time of writing this statement and as such there can be no effectiveness of controlling actions.

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

Mildura Base Public Hospital does not own or control any other entity

Any other relevant information

Health Share Victoria has developed a toolkit to assist health services implement the elements of a Modern Slavery framework to meet the requirement of the Act. This will assist in the development of policies, risk assessment, risk registers, supplier and supply chain compliance, fact sheet and also guide education to staff across the organisation who are involved in any aspect of potential risk or exposure to Modern Slavery.

Mildura Base Public Hospital recognises the importance of implementing a robust Modern Slavery Framework and is committed to continually improve our approach, assessment and awareness to eradicate Modern Slavery in our contract, procurement and supply chains.

This statement was approved by the principal governing body of Mildura Base Public Hospital on 24th November 2021.



Mary Rydberg
Board Chair
Mildura Base Public Hospital