ALLIED MILLING & BAKING MODERN SLAVERY ACT STATEMENT

Allied Milling and Baking acknowledges the provisions of the Modern Slavery Act September 2018 and commits to complying with its obligations to ensure transparency within its business and its suppliers of goods and services.

ABOUT THE GROUP

Allied Milling and Baking mills grain from the UK and overseas at 3 UK mills from which it produces bread and bakery products in 9 bakeries across the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland; baked goods are distributed to customers across the UK via our own logistics network, which comprises 7 depots and 5 Third Party run Depots. We employ circa 4000 people directly and also use regular agency labour within the business.

Allied Milling and Baking has appointed a multidisciplinary team chaired by a board member to oversee compliance to MSA and the Associated British Foods (ABF) Code of Conduct within our own sites and supply chain.

WITHIN OUR BUSINESS

Allied Milling and Baking have an HR policy on Preventing Hidden Labour Exploitation and have started to, and will continue to, provide key HR, manufacturing and supply chain management personnel with training on slavery and human trafficking. We continue to raise awareness throughout the business adopting the Stronger Together programme across our sites through induction, poster campaigns, team briefings and shortly will commence roll out of an e-learning training module on Modern Slavery Awareness to all our staff.

Allied Milling and Baking have set up a robust process for reporting slavery and human trafficking through our confidential whistleblowing hotline which is an established and trusted channel for employees to report issues in our business.

We acknowledge that one of our key risk areas is usage of temporary labour within our supply chain and we are working with our providers so that they understand our expectations of them in taking the required proactive steps to tackling hidden labour exploitation. We actively audit our agencies who supply us with temporary labour against legislative compliance, including compliance with the Modern Slavery Act and conduct agency worker interviews as part of our audit process.

WITHIN OUR SUPPLY CHAIN

We consider that the greatest risk of slavery and human trafficking is in our supply chain where we undertake procurement activities. Allied Milling and Baking works with its sister companies in the ABF Grocery division to monitor ethical practices within the supply chain.

Allied Milling and Baking has a long history of assessing suppliers, primarily by audit, for food safety purposes and its key staff have now also been trained to the SA 8000 standard to enable them to identify ethical challenges.

Our corporate expectations are defined in ABF’s Code of Conduct, which is included in both Terms and Conditions and Technical Supplier Code (regularly reviewed and refreshed); these documents are supplied to all new suppliers, who are required to confirm their adherence as a precondition for supply. Registration and completion of the SEDEX Questionnaire is a requirement.

Allied Milling and Baking’s key product ranges are flours, bread products and morning goods, inclusions are typically limited to dried fruits and seeds. Materials from plant origin are typically grown, harvested and processed on a highly automated industrial scale; packaging and food chemicals are manufactured utilising manufacturing plants with a high degree of automation. As a result within these supply chain the need for unskilled or high volumes of labour is low.

Allied Milling and Baking has processes in place to map supply chains. Supply chain mapping of key materials is undertaken in conjunction with 1st tier suppliers, and then where possible visiting 2nd and 3rd tier suppliers to confirm the validity of the supply chain map generated.

Key raw materials for Allied Milling and Baking have been identified as grain, flour, yeast, dried fruits, seeds and packaging.
Allied Milling and Baking has a process of continuous update of our supply chain knowledge driven by supplier risk profile and validation activities. The key gaps identified typically relate to a lack of transparency of out-sourced labour supply practices in some down-stream supplier sites.

To date Allied Milling and Baking teams have not directly identified any infringement of civil liberties but do routinely flag minor Health & Safety and Environmental issues and work proactively with suppliers to remediate these issues.

This statement will be reviewed each financial year and published on our website.

Jon Jenkins, MD Allied Milling and Baking
September 2018