

22 March 2019

## Official Response for Country Data Dashboard

### UNITED KINGDOM

*This document transposes Official Responses that were submitted by email to [info@delta87.org](mailto:info@delta87.org) or the completion of an online survey conducted by Delta 8.7.*

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Below is the Official Response for the UNITED KINGDOM Dashboard.

**Date received:** 22 March 2019

**Submitted via:** Email

#### **UK government (Home Office) Official Response:**

Tackling human trafficking and modern slavery remains a top priority for the UK Government and we are committed to stamping out this abhorrent crime.

The UK Government is taking comprehensive action at home and overseas to achieve this. This includes using fully all the tools the Modern Slavery Act provides; protecting victims more effectively by reforming our National Referral Mechanism; and strengthening our policing response.

The Government is committed to identifying and supporting the men, women and children who are victims of modern slavery to recover from exploitation and rebuild their lives. As part of this, in October 2017 the Government announced an ambitious package of reforms to the National Referral Mechanism, the system that identifies and supports potential victims of modern slavery. These reforms involve improvements to support victims before, during and after their time in NRM support, as well as to the way the NRM works for children.

The Modern Slavery Act contains a world-leading provision on transparency in supply chains. This requires large businesses to publish an annual report on the steps they have taken to eradicate modern slavery from their organisation and their supply chains. Thousands of businesses have already published transparency statements and boardrooms are now more focused on this issue than ever before.

The United Kingdom's international efforts to fight slavery are supported by a £200 million UK Aid commitment. The Prime Minister launched a Call to Action to end forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking in 2017 to galvanise political commitment to meet the goals we have set in the sustainable development goals. Over 85 countries have endorsed this pledge. The UK, together with the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, also launched at the United Nations General Assembly 2018 a set of principles for nations to adopt in a bid to tackle modern slavery in global supply chains, including public procurement.

In support of this global approach, the UK Home Office's Modern Slavery Innovation Fund has funded the inception and development of UN University's Delta 8.7 platform. We welcome the role the platform plays in bringing together data and research on 'what works' to help policy makers across the world deliver effective, evidence-based modern slavery policy.