Modern slavery statement

The Stockton & Darlington Railway Company is strongly opposed to slavery and human trafficking. We strive to act ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place within our organisation or our supply chains.

This statement provides some background to our organisation and our supply chains. It also sets out the steps that we have taken during the creation of our business between 2018-9 to ensure that slavery and human trafficking are not taking place, either in our organisation or in our supply chains and how we hope to build on these steps in the future.

Caroline Hardie-Hammond, Director                      Neil Hardie-Hammond, Director

16 August 2019

Our organisation

We are the Stockton & Darlington Railway Company and our web site is The Railway Station. We are a new company and so our stock is only just beginning to grow, and we are sourcing new suppliers from the UK. We created this online gift shop to help celebrate the innovation and pioneering spirit that led to the original Stockton & Darlington Railway being opened and run in 1825 when nobody had ever run a public railway before.

Our products all celebrate those early pioneering days of the railway. Many of them celebrate the Stockton & Darlington Railway in particular, but soon our shelves will be stocked with beautiful items that will celebrate many of the other early railways and the wider industrial heritage of Great Britain. (The original Stockton & Darlington Railway was founded by Quaker families with a long history of opposition to slavery).

Many of our items are designed just for us and made in the UK. A percentage of our profits are fed back to the charity, the Friends of the Stockton & Darlington Railway. The Friends are conserving the surviving remains of the S&DR, helping to provide access along its route and raising the profile of the railway that got the world on track.

Our Anti-Slavery and Anti-Trafficking Policy

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in any part of our business or our supply chains. Our Anti-Slavery and Anti-Trafficking Policy reflects our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implement and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains.
The prevention, detection and reporting of modern slavery in any part of our business or throughout our supply chain is the responsibility of all those working for us or under our control. Our employees are required to avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, a breach of this statement. All employees are required to read, understand and comply in full with this Policy.

We also operate a whistle blowing policy, which encourages our employees to report any concerns or wrongdoing which extends to human rights violations like modern slavery. All reports will be fully investigated, and appropriate remedial action taken.

**Assessment of Risk**

We understand that the highest risk of slavery is within our supply chain. So far, all our suppliers are small family run businesses in the UK who we have developed a relationship with and feel confident that the risk is very low within such small local businesses.

However as our business develops and our supply chain grows, we will be asking our suppliers to confirm in writing that they will comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

We will also make sure that we keep up to date with any changes to the legislation.

We will continue to monitor the risk of slavery or human trafficking within our supply chain.

These procedures are considered to be proportionate to the size and scale of our business and exceed the legal requirement for businesses like ours.

**Responsibility for this Statement**

Our Directors have responsibility of ensuring that staff are aware of this statement and that future suppliers are signed up to this policy.

This statement has been approved by the Company Directors.

Signed by:

Caroline Hardie-Hammond

Director of the Stockton & Darlington Railway