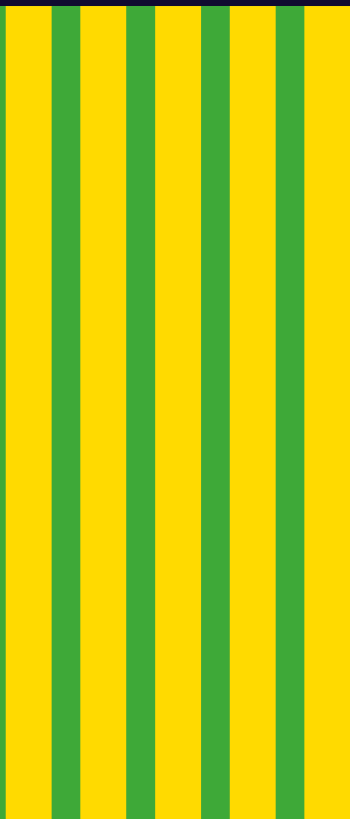




**Australian Government**  
**Australian Sports Commission**

# MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT



## FOREWORD

The Australian Government is taking a significant leadership role in combating modern slavery which can occur in every sector and industry and, like many human rights violations, is often hidden in plain sight. Eradicating modern slavery requires an ongoing commitment and acknowledgement that we all have a role to play.

This is the Australian Sports Commission's (ASC) third Modern Slavery Statement, and our position remains clear — there is no place for modern slavery in the Australian community or in any supply chains of Australian goods and services.

The ASC's vision is for sport to have a place for every Australian and to provide results that make Australia proud. This can only be achieved if we have a strong focus on ensuring safe and enjoyable sporting environments are provided.

The ASC is committed to ensuring that our procurements and purchases use supply chains that are free from exploitation, which we achieve by building closer relationships and working collaboratively with partners across our supply chains.

We are focused on building a solid foundation to address modern slavery risks and establish strategies to prevent slavery and human trafficking within our operations and supply chains. To date, we have not identified any known modern slavery practices in our operations or supply chains.

We will continue to raise awareness of this important issue across the sport sector and support the due diligence efforts of our sport industry peers through a range of strategies.

With this firm commitment in place, I release the 2021-22 ASC Modern Slavery Statement.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Josephine Sukkar'.

**Josephine Sukkar**  
ASC Board Chair



## INTRODUCTION

This statement is made in accordance with section 13 of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* and covers the period 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022.

Modern slavery is a crime that deprives an individual's liberty and dignity for another's gain. The Australian Government estimates that between 2015 and 2017, there were approximately 1900 victims of modern slavery in Australia at any time.<sup>1</sup> The United Nations estimates that close to 50 million people around the globe are subject to modern-day slavery. Those most at risk include women and children who may have little or no capacity to protect themselves.<sup>2</sup>

At the ASC, we have zero-tolerance for inaction in relation to modern slavery and human trafficking; and are fully committed to identifying and preventing these crimes from occurring in our operation and supply chains.

## OUR STRUCTURE

The ASC is a Corporate Commonwealth Entity within the Australian Government's Department of Health portfolio. It was established in 1985 and operates under the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* and is governed by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Minister for Sport. The Board determines the ASC's overall direction, decides on allocation of resources and policy for delegated decisions, and is accountable to the Minister for Sport.

The ASC is administered from Canberra at the AIS Bruce campus, and has offices located in Melbourne and Sydney. The AIS campus is a 65-hectare multipurpose facility with sporting, administration, commercial and residential functions. The ASC also operates the European Training Centre (ETC) in Varese, Italy and high performance sports training facilities at Pizzey Park on the Gold Coast.

You can learn more about the ASC by visiting [ausport.gov.au](https://ausport.gov.au)

## OUR OPERATIONS

The ASC is responsible for supporting and investing in sport at all levels. Our role is to increase involvement in sport and enable continued international sporting success through leadership and development of a cohesive and effective sports sector, targeted financial support and the operation of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

The ASC champions the value of sport. We encourage and help Australians from all backgrounds, ages and abilities to get involved in sport and enjoy the many benefits. We play a central leadership role across the broader sport sector through collaboration and direction. Alongside our national sporting organisations (NSOs) and national sporting organisations for people with disability (NSODs), we collaborate closely with our State and Territory partners, including the National Institute Network, and our key high performance Games partners, the Australian Olympic Committee, Paralympics Australia and Commonwealth Games Australia.

The ASC delivers a variety of grants through investment in high performance and national sport participation programs, performance pathways, people development and wellbeing, and research and innovation. We manage high performance operations at the AIS Campus in Canberra, supporting seven National Training Centres of Excellence, and the ETC in Italy. Further, we individually support thousands of athletes and dozens of Australian sports through guidance and collaboration.

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1. Australian Border Force, **'Modern Slavery Key Facts and Figures [PDF 147KB]'**, Australian Border Force, n.d., accessed 16 November 2022.
  2. Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, The International Labour Organization. Geneva 2022.



## OUR SUPPLY CHAINS

The ASC has a standardised procurement approach, adopting the Commonwealth Procurement Rules in principle, and structuring procurement templates from the Commonwealth Contracting Suite. All ASC contracts valued at or above the reporting threshold AUD\$100,000 (GST inclusive) are published on the ASC website biannually and tabled in Parliament as required under the Senate Order on Entity Contracts (Murray Motion).

The ASC aims to establish a relationship of trust and integrity with all suppliers engaged. We have not been made aware of any allegations of slavery or human trafficking activities against any of our suppliers, but if we were, we would act immediately by reporting to the relevant authorities.

## RISK OF MODERN SLAVERY PRACTICES

It is unlikely that the ASC's current and immediate supply chains have risks which meet the threshold for serious exploitation as defined by the Modern Slavery Act (the Act). However, we recognise that slavery risks can be linked to particular indicators such as geographical locations, some goods and certain industries or sectors. We also acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic may have increased the risk of vulnerable people being exposed to modern slavery.

## CURRENT ACTIONS TO ADDRESS MODERN SLAVERY RISKS

The ASC has a range of controls to ensure that, where possible, our supplier engagements do not contribute to the risk of modern slavery. These controls include:

- use of whole of government coordinated arrangements
- determining the modern slavery risk profile of the procurement and supplier
- inclusion of standard Australian Government Terms and Conditions in approach to market and contract documentation for supplier engagements deemed at risk of modern slavery practices; and
- contract management and monitoring of major contracts to ensure consistency within the supply chain.

The ASC conducts due diligence on all new suppliers during on-boarding, including where applicable, requesting information about sub-suppliers. Depending on the modern slavery risk profile of the procurement and supplier, Commonwealth Government modern slavery model clauses are applied to procurement documentation. This ensures suppliers respond to modern slavery risks and support the Government's efforts to address modern slavery in its own supply chains.

Where a risk of modern slavery is identified, the ASC will continue to educate on any potential risks/impacts and possible controls.



# ACTIONS TO ASSESS AND ADDRESS RISKS

## Working with our staff and stakeholders

We will:

1. Continue to work with sport industry bodies to raise awareness of modern slavery within and across sporting communities; and support stakeholder attention to supply chain due diligence by providing access to Modern Slavery tools, information, and resources.
2. Collaborate with the Australian Border Force and other Commonwealth Government entities in relation to a whole-of-government approaches to investigating supply chains for major government suppliers and guidance around government procurement panels.
3. Continue to review and update our procurement processes and policies to raise staff awareness and ensure that modern slavery issues are addressed.
4. In line with the 'Department of Home Affairs Addressing Modern Slavery in Government Supply Chains Toolkit', develop processes and guidance for ASC staff conducting procurements, including standard application of the risk screening tool and supplier questionnaire for high-risk procurements. This will ensure we understand how suppliers of high-risk procurements address their individual modern slavery risks.

In applying the risk screening tool and supplier questionnaire, the ASC acknowledges that:

- there is a risk of links to modern slavery further down the supply chain that are outside of the ASC's visibility and control
  - modern slavery risks to the ASC will change over time as operational requirements change and our understanding of our supply chains improves.
5. Where higher risks are identified in an approach to market, we will assess the effectiveness of our actions and controls to mitigate risks and, if required, take further actions.
  6. To assist with increasing awareness and identification of potential modern slavery risks, the ASC e-learning Procurement module will be reviewed and updated to incorporate sections on modern slavery in procurement and supply chains. All appropriate ASC staff will complete the e-learning module and an assessment to measure comprehension of the subject. The e-learning module will educate staff on:
    - what modern slavery is
    - what modern slavery looks like in Government supply chains
    - what the ASC can do to further address modern slavery risks
    - how to report concerns about modern slavery practices.



## Effectiveness of our actions

Our commitment to raising awareness of and reducing risks of modern slavery is ongoing. We recognise that continuous reviews and improvements across our processes is imperative. The ASC is considering how to improve measuring the effectiveness of its modern slavery processes for future Statements.

In the 2021-22 period, the ASC implemented a number of initiatives and took the follow actions to address modern slavery:

- commenced an assessment process of all suppliers the ASC entered into a contract with, who met the reporting threshold. This process identified the requirement for a risk screening tool and informs the action we are taking to introduce the risk screening tool and supplier questionnaire for high-risk procurements.
- established an online library of information, articles and resources on human rights in sport on the Clearinghouse for Sport, our information and knowledge sharing platform for the Australian sport sector.
- shared case studies, resources, training links and guidance on modern slavery with our stakeholders; and
- supported our stakeholders who met the reporting threshold in developing their own Modern Slavery Statements. Three of the four NSOs who meet the reporting threshold have registered Modern Slavery Statements. We continue to work with other NSOs and NSODs who are close to the reporting threshold to assist them in understanding their obligations.

This statement was approved by the ASC Board on 16 December 2022.



**Josephine Sukkar**

ASC Board Chair





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Leverrier Street Bruce ACT 2617  
PO Box 176 Belconnen ACT 2616  
+61 2 6214 1111