



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

# MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT



**SPORT  
AUS**



## FOREWORD

Modern slavery can occur in every sector and industry and, like many human rights violations, is often hidden in plain sight. Given the prevalence of modern slavery globally, it is highly likely that the Australian Government is exposed to modern slavery risks. To address this global human rights issue, the Australian Government passed the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth)*, which entered into force on 1 January 2019.

The objective of the Modern Slavery Act is to increase transparency and accountability by establishing an annual reporting regime. The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) is committed to ensuring our procurements and purchases promote supply chains that are free from exploitation and sends a clear message that modern slavery is unacceptable. We will build on our response over the coming years by being an advocate and working with key sport sector partners to grow awareness of modern slavery practices.

This statement sets out the actions we have taken to address modern slavery risks and the strategies we will implement to prevent slavery and human trafficking within our operation and supply chains.

I am proud to release this first ASC Modern Slavery Statement.



**Josephine Sukkar**  
ASC Board Chair

## INTRODUCTION

This statement is made in accordance with section 13 of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* and is the ASC's first annual Modern Slavery Statement, covering the period 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020.

Modern slavery is a crime that deprives an individual's liberty and dignity for another's gain. The Australian Government estimates that there are approximately 1500 victims of modern slavery in Australia at any time. The United Nations estimates that at least 40 million people around the globe are in modern-day slavery. Those most at risk include women and children who may have little or no capacity to protect themselves.<sup>1</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 was established in 1985 under the *Australian Sports Commission Act 1989* and operates in accordance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The ASC does not own or control any other entities.

The ASC operates strategic sports training facilities at Pizzy Park (Gold Coast), Lake Burley Griffin (Canberra) and at Varese in Italy and operates from premises in Melbourne and Sydney. Our headquarters are located at the Bruce Campus in Canberra.

The ASC is a Corporate Commonwealth entity under the Health portfolio and is governed by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Minister of Sport. The Board determines the ASC's overall direction and is accountable to the Minister for Sport. The ASC comprises; Sport Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

Sport Australia is responsible for driving the broader sport sector including participation, supporting activities linked to sport and sport industry growth. Our work is delivered in conjunction with our partners across the sport industry — sporting organisations, peak sports bodies, the Office for Sport and other Australian Government agencies. Sport Australia comprises several divisions — Sport Business, Corporate and Strategic Coordination & Engagement — and each division has a number of branches.

The AIS leads and enables a united high-performance system that supports Australian athletes and teams to achieve international and Olympic success. The AIS has two primary roles; to lead and enable a united, collaborative high-performance system, and evolve a system-wide approach to athlete wellbeing for athletes to engage with and inspire the community.

The AIS has five branches, including: Operations, Athlete Wellbeing & Engagement, Technology & Innovation, Performance and Sport Strategy & Investment.

You can learn more about the ASC by using this [LINK](#).

## OUR OPERATIONS

Sport Australia works together with the sport industry and the wider community, to build capability across the broader sport sector and champion the role of grassroots and community sport.

The AIS works with the National Institute Network (NIN), National Sporting Organisations (NSOs), Australian Olympic Committee, Paralympics Australia, and Commonwealth Games Australia, to support our elite athletes through; high-performance and national programs, research and innovation, the AIS Campus (Canberra), and the European Training Centre in Italy.

## OUR SUPPLY CHAINS

The ASC has a standardised procurement approach and policy that covers both Sport Australia and the AIS. 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 Murray Motion.

The ASC adopts the Commonwealth Procurement Rules in principle, our contract templates are based on the Commonwealth Contracting Suite, and in undertaking procurement activities we establish a relationship of trust and integrity with all our suppliers. 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.

Supplier selection and on-boarding procedures includes due diligence of the supplier's reputation; and contracts reference the requirement for compliance with applicable laws and standards.

1. *Global Estimates of Modern Slavery*. The International Labour Organization. Geneva 2017.

## 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. However, we recognise that slavery risks can be linked to particular indicators such as; geographical locations, some goods and certain industries or sectors.

The ASC will use the Department of Home Affairs 'Addressing Modern Slavery in Government Supply Chains Toolkit' risk screening tool to identify potential risks of modern slavery in our supply chains. Using this tool will help us to understand and focus on those items we directly control or contribute to, as opposed to those items over which we have less control. The result of assessing the indicators and applying the screening tool will be a risk and control table which will be added to as the ASC continues to improve its awareness and understanding of modern slavery risks.

In applying the screening tool, the ASC acknowledges that:

- visibility of the risks of modern slavery practices in our full downstream supply chains is limited
- modern slavery risks to the ASC will change over time as operational requirements change and our understanding of our supply chains improves
- there is a risk that there may be links to modern slavery further down the supply chain that are outside of the ASC's visibility and control.

## ACTIONS TO ADDRESS MODERN SLAVERY RISKS

### Supplier due diligence

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

- inclusion of standard Australian Government Terms and Conditions in ASC contracts
- use of ASC contract terms and conditions that specify legislative compliance requirements
- whole of government purchasing agreements, and
- specific onsite contract management and monitoring of major contracts.

ASC contract and procurement practices are aligned with the Commonwealth Procurement Framework and our Contract and our Procurement Guidelines are reviewed and updated every two years. The ASC conducts due diligence on all new suppliers during on-boarding (where applicable requesting information about sub-suppliers). We have implemented modern slavery contract clauses developed by the Commonwealth Government and released in November 2020, and where applicable require new suppliers to attest through signing of contracts that:

- They don't use any form of; forced, compulsory or slave labour
- They don't require employees to post a deposit or bond
- They don't require employees to surrender their passports or work permits as a condition of employment
- They have made reasonable efforts to ensure that there is no use of forced, compulsory or slave labour within their supply chains

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

# PLAN FOR FUTURE ACTION

## Working with our stakeholders

We will:

1. Work with sport industry bodies to determine the best approach to raising awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking within and across sporting communities; and support attention to due diligence by providing links to Modern Slavery information resources.
2. Continue to review and update our processes and policies to ensure that modern slavery issues are addressed.
3. We will apply a risk screening tool to procurement activities to improve identification of potential modern slavery risks — this assessment will result in a risk and control table and inform the requirement for further action.
4. To assist with identification of potential modern slavery risks, all appropriate ASC staff will complete the e-learning module 'Modern Slavery Training for Procurement Officers'. This training, produced by the Australian Government, 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, and
  - how to report concerns about modern slavery practices.

## Measuring how we are performing

The incorporation of specific processes to assess and address risks of modern slavery will be a new undertaking. To assess the effectiveness of these processes, applied to the entire procurement lifecycle, we will undertake the following:

1. Quantify the number of contracts that have completed the initial risk assessment. Note: an initial risk assessment process will be incorporated into all future approaches to market.
2. Where higher risks are identified in an approach to market, future actions (as outlined above) will be used to assess the effectiveness of our actions and controls and, if required, further actions taken.
3. Statistics on compliance with these requirements can be provided in future Modern Slavery Statements.

The ASC will continue to assess potential impacts of modern slavery on our business, and to identify areas of concern.

This statement was approved by the ASC Board on 2 March 2021.



**Josephine Sukkar**  
ASC Board Chair



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