

## Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited

### Statement on the Prevention of Slavery and Human Trafficking

#### INTRODUCTION

This is the first statement of Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited ('NIE Networks') on the prevention of slavery and human trafficking following the introduction of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ('the Act'). This statement is made pursuant to section 54 of the Act and constitutes the NIE Networks statement for its financial year ended 31 December 2016.

NIE Networks is the owner of the electricity transmission and distribution networks in Northern Ireland and the operator of the distribution network, which serves around 860,000 connected customers. Further details on NIE Networks can be found at [www.nienetworks.co.uk](http://www.nienetworks.co.uk).

#### APPROACH

NIE Networks fully supports the aims of the Act and has a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery.

NIE Networks is committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all its business dealings and relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure modern slavery is not taking place anywhere in its own business or in any of its supply chains.

NIE Networks is committed to ensuring there is transparency in its own business and in its approach to tackling modern slavery throughout its supply chains and expects the same high standards from all its contractors, suppliers and other business partners.

#### STEPS TAKEN

In order to prevent acts of slavery and human trafficking from occurring within its business and supply chains NIE Networks has taken the following steps:

- the adoption of a [Policy on Modern Slavery](#);
- the completion of an initial risk assessment of its third party suppliers to assess those in respect of which a high risk of acts of slavery / human trafficking may exist;
- the development of anti-slavery and human trafficking requirements for incorporation into its procurement processes and contractual arrangements with suppliers and other third parties;

- the provision of mechanisms for employees, and others, to report suspected incidents of slavery and human trafficking;
- the provision of training to relevant employees, particularly those involved in procurement processes, on the risks of slavery and human trafficking occurring and the introduction of the above measures; and
- the inclusion, where applicable, of appropriate vetting processes in respect of anti-slavery and human trafficking into its pre-qualification procedures for sourcing suppliers.

Where appropriate, NIE Networks will also carry out an audit or investigation of the activities of those suppliers deemed most at risk (based on the annual risk assessment). Any instances of non compliance with the Act will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, with any remedial action tailored appropriately.

Further information about NIE Networks' ethical business practices can be found in the [NIE Networks Code of Ethics](#).

This statement was approved by the Board of Directors of NIE Networks. A new statement will be published each year on NIE Networks' website.

**Signed by: Nicholas Tarrant**

**Managing Director  
Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited**

**9 March 2017**