

## **ESI MEDIA MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATEMENT**

ESI Media is committed to combatting slavery and human trafficking. This statement sets out details of the steps which it is taking to eradicate slavery and human trafficking in its business and supply chains.

For the purposes of this statement, slavery and human trafficking are based on the definitions set out in the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA). This statement relates to actions and activities during the financial year 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

### **Organisational structure**

ESI Media is a group of companies consisting of: Independent Digital News and Media Limited (reg. no 7320345), Independent Print Limited (reg. no 7148379), Evening Standard Limited (reg. no 6770098) and ESTV Limited (reg. no 8169523). These companies are registered in England and Wales and have their registered office at 2 Derry Street, London, W8, United Kingdom.

ESI Media is a commercial publishing and media group with national, international and regional brands, working to inform, challenge and inspire its readers and clients every day. The majority of its own staff are engaged in the UK, but it has some staff based in the United States and other countries. ESI Media comprises the following brands:

- **The Independent:** is an unbiased and trusted voice in British journalism, with a growing global reach through its website and social media.
- **Indy100:** is a pioneering news and comment platform, which combines quality journalism with user curation to deliver a seriously addictive website. The site combines new editorial formats including quizzes, interactive graphics and maps with authoritative reporting and opinion.
- **The London Evening Standard:** is the highest-circulating quality free daily newspaper in the UK. An iconic London brand, the Standard's paper, website and apps keep the capital up-to-date on the latest news, business, sport, features and entertainment. The Evening Standard is famous for its campaigning to improve life in the capital.
- **London Live:** is the first 24-hour entertainment channel exclusively for London, reaching over 2.7 million people every month. With a balanced mixture of news, drama, comedy and factual entertainment, London Live is committed to driving audience growth and engaging viewers with inspiring and entertaining content. It's one of the top 20 most watched channels in the capital.

## Supply chain

ESI Media receives services from third party suppliers of:

- editorial content, such as freelancers and picture agencies
- digital infrastructure, such as website hosting and maintenance companies
- paper and newspaper printing services (based in the UK)
- newspaper distribution services (based in the UK)
- event management services (based in the UK)
- other business services

## Supply chain risks

ESI Media has assessed the overall risk of contracting with organisations that engage in slavery or human trafficking as relatively low. However, it has recognised that a risk does exist in relation to smaller suppliers involved in the distribution of newspapers.

## Managing risks

ESI Media undertakes the following activities to assess and address risks:

- Identify suppliers that are most likely to manufacture goods or provide services in countries and/or sectors where modern forms of slavery are more likely to be prevalent
- Consult with those suppliers identified and require them to certify their compliance with the MSA
- Review supply agreements and identify ways these can be strengthened to further reduce the risk of slavery and human trafficking
- Encourage best practices around due diligence when selecting new suppliers

## Whistleblowing

ESI Media encourages all its workers, customers and other business partners to report any concerns they may have in relation to the activities of its suppliers or within the organisation. This includes any circumstances that may give rise to an enhanced risk of slavery or human trafficking.

Signed



Manish Malhotra, Group MD (Interim) and Chief Financial Officer

31 August 2017