Modern Slavery Act Statement

Introduction
This Statement is published by the Exeter Friendly Society and its subsidiary, The Exeter Cash Plan (collectively referred to as "The Exeter") in accordance with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. It outlines the steps taken by the Exeter during the year ending 31 December 2017 to identify and eliminate the use of slavery and human trafficking in its business and its suppliers.

Our previous statement was published in May 2017.

About The Exeter
We are a friendly society, specializing in health and life insurance, with links going back as far as 1888. We strongly believe in treating our members, business partners and people in our supply chains fairly. We acknowledge modern slavery is a pressing issue and we are committed to doing all we can to ensure that slavery and human trafficking does not take place in our business or our supply chains.

Our Business and Supply Chains
Our insurances are sold through intermediaries who are all authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and through their authorised representatives. Both we and selected business partners manage and administer members' policies.

Like other office-based financial services firms, we buy goods (stationery, office equipment, food), services (office cleaning, security, catering), IT supplies (hardware and software), travel and accommodation, and we negotiate contracts with numerous third-party administrators, IT service providers and professionals in specialist fields. The majority of our suppliers are professional organizations delivering specialist services, knowledge & skills.

The risk that modern slavery could be part of our immediate supply chains continues to be assessed as extremely low. The Exeter’s biggest exposure to inadvertently using or benefitting from modern slavery is most likely to arise from hospitality, security and office cleaning services supplied by third parties.

Measures taken to detect and eliminate the use of slave labour
During the last twelve months, we reviewed our existing suppliers and third-party contractors and introduced a contractual provision on compliance with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. We introduced a more rigorous review of new suppliers and business partners, designed to ensure that they undertake the necessary checks to eliminate slavery.

We also provided all our staff with training, which has increased their awareness of the indicators of modern slavery in the workplace. Our Policies on Corporate Social Responsibility and Financial Crime continue to require staff to report any suspected criminal acts wrongdoing, and our Whistleblowing Policy encourages reporting of any actual or suspected wrongdoing, including the use of slave labour.

Recruitment Process
To ensure that we do not inadvertently directly employ anyone who might themselves be slaves, we continue to use robust recruitment processes that are fully compliant with UK employment and regulatory laws. We undertake ‘right to work’ document checks and also perform due diligence and background checks. We provide all our employees with an employment contract and provide market-related pay and rewards which are reviewed annually.

Future Action
We will continue to exert due diligence in our dealings with staff and service suppliers. We will continue to use only authorized intermediaries to sell our products, and their authorized representatives. We will continue to undertake robust reviews of both existing and new supply chains. We will continue to train staff to maintain awareness.
Approved by the Board

This statement has been approved by the Board, pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes The Exeter’s Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement for the financial year ending 31 December 2017.

Andy Chapman
Chief Executive
Date: 23 May 2018