

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement 2017/18

Lakeland is a UK, family-owned company with over 50 years' experience of specialising in cooking, baking, cleaning & laundry. We pride ourselves on having an excellent level of consumer trust built on our extraordinary service and innovative products. Our colleagues make an essential contribution to our success and we aim to treat all with dignity and respect.

As a multi-channel retailer, we sell our products via our catalogues, website and in 68 retail stores in the UK. We also have a number of international franchise partners, with whom we work very closely, to ensure that the Lakeland brand is represented to our exacting standards.

In order to find the newest and most exciting innovations for the home, our Buyers have to travel far and wide. Whilst many of our 'finds' are sourced in the UK, we do use a broad range of suppliers from all around the world with many being from the Far East.

All product supplier relationships are carefully managed by our Buying & Merchandising team in the UK and via our own Far East sourcing offices in Shanghai and Hong Kong, which we successfully opened in 2011. The Lakeland team in the Far East support our Buyers, by providing a local resource to oversee our suppliers, and manage the local supply chain.

We are committed to ensuring that as a business, we adopt high ethical standards. In turn, we expect all suppliers and partners, wherever they are based in the world, to do the same. We recognise it is our responsibility to ensure that our suppliers are observing and adhering to our working practices and as such, we review and improve our policies regularly.

As part of our due-diligence process of taking on new suppliers and partners, they are expected to complete our ethical trading questionnaire to ensure that they meet our standards, and comply with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. All new, directly sourced own-brand manufacturers and franchise partners are also visited by a member of the Lakeland team or nominated third party auditing body.

Modern slavery and human trafficking have no place in our business. Lakeland is a member of the SEDEX ethical collaboration platform and our goal is that by 2020 we will only source products from suppliers who are a member of SEDEX or an appropriate comparable scheme.

Over the last year we have made good progress towards this goal and are on target to meeting it. We remain committed to ensuring conformity with Lakeland's ethical trading policy throughout our supply chain by actively encouraging membership of these or comparable platforms whilst also risk assessing and grading suppliers and further developing Lakeland's ethical trading policy, supplier/partner trading terms and training.

Lakeland undertake to investigate thoroughly and quickly any instances of non-compliance to ensure all of our suppliers comply with the Modern Slavery act 2015.

The Lakeland Board of Directors approved this statement at a meeting of the Board on 18th May 2018.

Catherine Nunn
Chief Executive