Our Position

The Commonwealth Bank Group (the Group) is committed to maintaining and improving systems and processes to avoid complicity in human rights violations related to our own operations, our supply chain, and our products and services. We understand that slavery and human trafficking can occur in many forms, such as forced labour, child labour, domestic servitude, sex trafficking, workplace abuse and human trafficking. Therefore, in this statement we use the terms “slavery and human trafficking” to encompass these various forms of coerced labour.

Our Commitment to Human Rights

Our commitment to respect human rights, which includes slavery and human trafficking, is guided by the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and is outlined in our own Human Rights Position Statement. Our approach to human rights is integral to the Group’s vision to excel at securing and enhancing the financial wellbeing of people, businesses and communities, in line with the values of integrity, accountability, collaboration, excellence, and service.

Our Policies, Processes and Procedures

We are committed to act with integrity in all our business activities and comply with laws. Many of our existing policies contain sections which are aimed at ensuring there is no slavery or human trafficking in any part of our global business or supply chain. Our relevant policies include, but are not limited to:

- Statement of Professional Practice
- Workplace Conduct Policy
- Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Policy
- Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy
- Outsourcing Policy
- Supplier Code of Conduct
- Whistleblower Protection Policy

Our relevant processes and procedures include, but are not limited to the following:

- We monitor and review the effectiveness of relevant internal policies and how these have been implemented across our business areas.
- We undertake supplier risk assessments and due diligence on proposed service providers.
- We have a range of policies and implement programs to support an inclusive workplace.
- Our employees and our suppliers have access to the Group’s SpeakUP hotline, an external telephone and email service staffed by independent consultants, providing an avenue for our employees, or our suppliers and their employees, to anonymously report or raise any concerns or suspected unethical or corrupt behaviour.

Our Suppliers

As outlined in the Supplier Code of Conduct, we expect our suppliers and their supply chain to share our values, to act with integrity in their business activities, and comply with laws.

Steps Taken in 2015 - 2016

We have invested time and resources to understand the issues and risks at hand, releasing a new Human Rights Position Statement in November 2015. The statement complements, guides and informs a number of existing policies and procedures, supporting our efforts to make a positive impact through the way we do business.

Acting with integrity and respect for human rights are drivers for our ongoing commitment to ensure there is no slavery or human trafficking of any form in our business activities or supply chain.

This statement will be reviewed and updated annually.

2016
David Turner, Chairman