

**BESTWAY WHOLESALE LIMITED, BESTWAY NORTHERN LIMITED  
and MAP TRADING LIMITED**

**MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT**

**Introduction**

This is the third statement for Bestway Wholesale Limited and Bestway Northern Limited pursuant to section 54(6) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (the "Act"). Whilst not meeting the total turnover requirements of Section 54(2) of the Act, MAP Trading Limited is included in this statement on a voluntary basis. Bestway Wholesale Limited, Bestway Northern Limited and MAP Trading Limited (together the 'Bestway Wholesale Entities') represents the following statement for the financial year ending on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**Our commitment**

The Bestway Wholesale Entities are part of the Bestway Group of companies with the ultimate parent company being Bestway Group Limited. The Bestway Wholesale Entities fully endorse the aims of the Act and take a zero tolerance approach to slavery and human trafficking in their supply chains and across their business. The Bestway Wholesale Entities are committed to preventing slavery and human trafficking within its own business and in its transactions with other businesses.

**Our structure**

The Bestway Wholesale Entities form the largest independent food wholesale group in the UK with 64 branches across England, Scotland and Wales, over 4,700 employees and a customer base of over 125,000 businesses in the independent retail sector (under the 'Bestway' and 'Batleys' brands) and the foodservice industry (under the 'BB Foodservice' brand). It also comprises a Symbol Group called 'Best-one' which has over 1,300 members and an additional 2,800 member Retailers' club called 'Xtra Local'. Moreover, the Entities include Bestpets, the No1 Uk Petfood wholesaler in the UK, which supplies the specialist pet trade and over 10,000 specialist retailers nationwide with over 9,000 branded and own label Bestpets products, whilst also operating a Pet Retail Club, 'Bestpets Local', consisting of almost 500 retailers. The Entities' also contain a van sales division, 'Bestway Vans Direct', which services 40,000 retail and foodservice customers with a fleet of 240 vans. The Bestway Wholesale Entities also have their own product ranges in both retail, 'best-one', and foodservice, 'Essentially Catering', with over 1,500 food and non-food products. Finally, the Entities also include MAP Trading, a specialist world foods company, which mills and packs rice, as well as importing around 500 other specialist products which are marketed under the White Pearl brand.

**Our suppliers**

The Bestway Wholesale Entities purchase products from around the world as well as producing their own label products. They are committed to acting ethically and expect all of their suppliers to make the same commitment. The companies will address any failures by our suppliers to meet our standards on a case by case basis and ultimately may lead to the Bestway Wholesale Entities ceasing to trade with any such supplier.

## **Within our business**

1. The Bestway Wholesale Entities have a number of HR policies and procedures that demonstrate compliance with UK Employment Law including: Employee Code of Conduct, Recruitment Policy, Equality & Diversity Policy, Anti-Bribery Policy and Corporate Social Responsibility. All of the policies and procedures are readily available to employees in the Employee Handbook and on notice-boards across the business and the aim is to publish all of the policies and procedures on the Bestway Wholesale Entities' Intranet.
2. The Bestway Wholesale Entities have created a multi-functional team to ensure compliance with the Act.
3. The Bestway Wholesale Entities have introduced an Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy.

## **Reporting**

The Bestway Wholesale Entities positively encourage employees to report any unlawful activity and/or any activity which may be in breach of policies and procedures through the Whistleblowing Policy. This includes any circumstances which may give rise to an enhanced risk of slavery or human trafficking.

## **Actions Achieved**

Since publication of the Modern Slavery Statement for the financial year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Bestway Wholesale Limited and Bestway Northern Limited have undertaken the following:

1. The introduction of an Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy including the internal publication of the policy to all employees and staff of the Bestway Wholesale Entities on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018.
2. To commence the awareness campaign for all employees and staff of the Bestway Wholesale Entities, the creation and publication of multi-lingual posters as supplied by 'Stronger2gether', an organisation that aims to reduce modern slavery and exploitation of workers. The poster has been placed in key locations across the Bestway business including the 64 national depots, central distribution centre, national distribution centre and offices in Sheffield, Huddersfield and London.

## **Next steps**

The Board of Directors of the Bestway Wholesale Entities have ultimate responsibility for the implementation of policies and procedures, including those related to ethical trading and modern slavery.

1. The Bestway Wholesale Entities will continue the staff and employment awareness campaign by creating and deploying a training programme across the Bestway business at regional and depot level to train staff on the Bestway Group Policy on Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy.
2. The Bestway Wholesale Entities shall review their contract with their national haulage and logistics partner to ensure awareness of and compliance with the Bestway Group policy on Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking.

**Approval**

This statement has been considered and approved by Bestway Wholesale Limited's, Bestway Northern Limited's and MAP Trading Limited's Board of Directors on behalf of the Bestway Wholesale Entities, who will review and update it annually.



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Director

For and on behalf of Bestway Wholesale Limited ,Bestway Northern Limited and MAP Trading Limited