

This statement is made on behalf of Belmont Green Finance Limited trading as Vida Homeloans (referred to as “Belmont Green” or “the Company”) pursuant to section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

This statement was approved by Anth Mooney, CEO, following the filing of the Company’s annual accounts, and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors at the Board meeting on 29 July 2021.

Belmont Green Finance Limited is registered in England and Wales, with the registered number 09837692 and registered office at 1 Bridge Street, Staines-upon-Thames, Surrey, TW18 4TW. Vida Homeloans is a trading style of Belmont Green Finance Limited.

This statement sets out the steps taken to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in our business or supply chains.

Belmont Green’s Business and Structure

Belmont Green is a specialist lender based in the United Kingdom. The Company provides mortgages to customers who fall outside the criteria of mainstream lenders. Belmont Green’s products are designed to be prudent, cautious and deliver good customer outcomes and are distributed using the Vida Homeloans brand.

Belmont Green was established in 2015 and now has assets of £2billion and an annual equivalent turnover of c. £61million. It has 10,500 customers and employs over 170 staff.

Belmont Green’s Colleagues, Supply Chains and Policies

Belmont Green has zero tolerance to slavery and human trafficking. Belmont Green and its people are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all business relationships and to implementing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in the organisation or in its supply chains.

For example, Belmont Green has specific lending conditions in place to ensure that houses of multiple occupancy are appropriately licensed and that every property has a physical valuation where any concerns relating to multiple tenants or living standards are flagged and conditions imposed. The company has money laundering safeguards in place to protect against funds containing proceeds of crime obtained through modern slavery or human trafficking.

As part of ongoing initiatives to identify and mitigate risk, Belmont Green is continuing to review its systems and policies to ensure that they effectively:

- identify and assess potential risk areas in its business and supply chain;
- monitor potential risk areas and mitigate the risk of modern slavery or human trafficking taking place in its business or supply chain; and
- protect whistleblowers.

Belmont Green does not manufacture or supply any goods. Its suppliers support the Company's functions and the financial services it provides to customers, and consist primarily of IT, professional services (for example solicitors or accountants) or other services providers (for example mortgage administration). Belmont Green has a limited number of suppliers which are outside the UK. For these reasons, we consider the risk of the presence of slavery or human trafficking within the Company's supply chains to be low, but continue to monitor this regularly.

The impact of Covid-19 pandemic

The health and safety of colleagues and suppliers throughout the pandemic has been forefront of mind for the management team at Belmont Green, with updating and monitoring of health and safety guidance and policies and review of working from home practices, including through colleague surveys and health and safety assessments. Support for mental health and physical wellbeing has included training for managers to understand how to recognise potential wellbeing issues. The impact of fluctuations in work volumes and the impact on requirements for colleagues and suppliers is continuously monitored. Due to the low risk nature of our business, it is not considered that the pandemic has significantly increased the risk of exploitation either within the business or in the businesses of our suppliers, however this situation will be monitored and priorities will change if required.

Training

We provide all staff with training that is relevant to them and their role. The Company has a detailed policy in place for onboarding and managing third parties. We are committed to delivering effective training to those that deal with third party suppliers as part of their role.

Belmont Green's Effectiveness in Combating Slavery and Human Trafficking

Belmont Green has in place a number of policies and procedures to ensure due diligence is carried out on suppliers, supplier relationship management is carried out in accordance with level of risk and the Company adheres to all relevant legislation and regulation.

These will be reviewed during the coming year as part of our continuous improvement initiatives and we will continue to work to ensure that relevant policies and procedures are effectively embedded in the Company and any risks are identified, carefully considered and monitored, and appropriately mitigated or managed. Belmont Green will regularly review its approach to tackling modern slavery and human trafficking.

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the Belmont Green Finance Limited Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement for the financial year ending 31 December 2020.

Anth Mooney, Belmont Green Finance Limited, 29 July 2021