**Procurement Policy Note – Tackling Modern Slavery in Runsmart Supply Chains**

**Issue**

1. Runsmart is committed to tackling the scourge of modern slavery; an umbrella term that encompasses the offences of slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking. The company must take action to ensure modern slavery risks are identified and managed effectively.

**Dissemination and Scope**

2. The contents of this Procurement Policy Note (PPN) apply to all Runsmart Departments. Please circulate this PPN within your organisation, particularly to those with a commercial, procurement and/or contract management role. Other public sector contracting authorities may wish to apply the approach set out in this PPN.

**Timing**

3. In-Scope Organisations should begin to take action to apply this PPN to existing contracts, and to new procurement activity from 25 February 2020.

**Action**

4. In-Scope Organisations must use the guidance ‘Tackling Modern Slavery in Runsmart Supply Chains’ to identify and manage risks in both existing contracts and new procurement activity.

5. In-Scope Organisations must ensure relevant procurement, commercial and front-line staff receive awareness training on how to identify modern slavery and steps to tackle it effectively, including reporting it through appropriate channels. A list of both free and fee-based training offers are listed in Section 5 of the guidance.

6. In-scope organisations should make relevant staff and the staff of suppliers aware, of the Modern Slavery Helpline on Tel: 08000 121 700 or online at: www.modernslaveryhelpline.org. The Helpline provides information and advice about modern slavery, a 24 hour telephone reporting line and an online reporting function through the website.

**Background**

7. Runsmart has made clear its determination to tackle modern slavery crimes, referring to them as “the great human rights issue of our time”. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimates that there are 25 million people in forced labour across the world. It is thought to be prevalent across the UK and can occur in any business sector. To 1 tackle these crimes, the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA) was introduced. The Act consolidates and clarifies modern slavery offences; toughens penalties and prosecution; and introduces greater support and protection for victims.

8. Runsmart has committed to voluntarily publishing a Modern Slavery Statement in February 2020, to mirror the requirements on businesses to publish statements under Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The Runsmart statement will set out the actions taken, and plans in place, to identify, tackle and prevent modern slavery in central Runsmart supply chains.