

# MODERN SLAVERY & HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Board Statement

## Executive Summary

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**Grenadiers Holdings Limited is publishing this statement in accordance with the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015 (the “Act”) which requires businesses to state the actions taken throughout the financial year to ensure the risk of modern slavery is mitigated in its business and throughout its supply chains.**

In this statement references to “Grenadier” or the “Company” are references to Grenadier Holdings Limited, and references to “the Group” or to the “Grenadier Group” and “Paragon Group” are references to Grenadier and its subsidiaries.

This statement applies to the Company and each of its subsidiaries in respect of the financial year ending 30 June 2023.

We are committed to ensuring there is no slavery, servitude, forced or compulsory labour or human trafficking in our supply chains or within any part of our operations; and we enforce effective systems and controls to minimise the risk.

The policies and practices within our operations include our Recruitment and Selection Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Supplier Code of Conduct and Whistleblowing Policy. All companies within the Group are audited to assess their employment arrangements and Human Resources policies, with the risk of any of these offences occurring determined to be low. Supply partners operating in countries or industries with a high risk of modern slavery undergo due diligence to ensure their employment practices are in line with the International Labour Organisations recommendations. Our Anti-Slavery and Human-Trafficking policies apply to all persons working for, or on behalf of the Company in any capacity, including but not limited to, employees, agency workers, temporary staff, agents, contractors, external consultants, third-party representatives, and business partners.

During the financial year ending 30 June 2023 there were no reported incidents of slavery, servitude, forced or compulsory labour or human trafficking relating to the Company’s employment arrangements recorded through the whistleblowing process, and no issues came to the Company’s attention through its management and human resources processes.

## Business, Structure, and Supply Chains

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**Grenadier Holdings was formed through the evolution of the former Paragon Group into a series of investment holdings. Historically, Paragon Group took direct operational responsibility for the running of our companies. As these companies have evolved and grown to their current scale, our focus has also shifted – Grenadier Holdings now holds significant shareholdings in our operating companies and our focus is now to manage and foster the evolution and growth of these investments.**

The change of name from Paragon Group to Grenadier Holdings ensures clarity between our operating businesses and our investment holding company and coincides with the rebrand of Paragon Customer Communications to Paragon.

Paragon Group was known as Grenadier as recently as 2004. Tracing its history back as far as 1886, the business was founded originally as a secure print payment provider to some of the leading financial institutions in the UK. During the first half of the 20th century, the Company evolved to become pioneers in magnetic strip coding, ticketing, and direct mail.

In 1998, under a new management team and ownership led by current Executive Chairman Patrick Crean, Grenadier embarked on a significant expansion programme. This growth led the business into secure e-commerce, web-to-print and digital platforms. The business embraced data to deliver secure and compliant solutions to an expanding set of clients across our operations which were becoming increasingly international.

Our investments align with our near 140-year heritage in delivering critical business services including customer communications, contactless smart technologies, and print & packaging related services. This alignment ensures that Grenadier Holdings adds experience and insights to our investments, helping achieve our shared goals.

## Supply Chain

**Due to the nature of the services that the Company provides our supply chain is complex. Our vast and diverse network of suppliers stretches globally into Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the Americas, and consists of small, medium sized enterprise and large-scale corporations with the majority residing in the UK and mainland Europe.**

The Company remains committed to acting responsibly and supporting the objectives of the Modern Slavery Act and has established an enhanced strategic approach to vetting current and new suppliers

Grenadier expects all contractors, suppliers, and other business partners to uphold high standards in all business practices and to share our zero-tolerance approach to slavery and human trafficking. We expect all suppliers to comply with all relevant laws of the country in which they operate.

Some likely risk areas for modern slavery within our own supply chains include vulnerable populations in politically or economically unstable countries and high-risk product and service categories, such as clothing and apparel.

Risk-based audits and questionnaires are regularly conducted on our existing strategic supply base. These audits assess a wide variety of issues including:

- Employment policies, practices, and compliance to Working Time Directive
- Subcontracting policies
- Confirmation of right to work as a condition of employment
- Working practices
- Management structures
- Assurance that the sites audited have capacity for types of workloads reported (they are not subcontracted to an unreported 3rd party)
- Any accommodation and transport provided for workers
- Compliance with our Supplier Code of Conduct
- Providing a copy of their own Modern Slavery Statements

These audits are intended to identify any Modern Slavery and Human Rights Abuse practices. We review what appropriate investigative and remedial actions should be taken if issues of concern are identified.

The Company is keen to work with our suppliers and respond to any reasonable situations as a responsible company, keeping in mind the best interest of any people that may be affected.

In the event of our procedures highlighting concerns in relation to Modern Slavery and Human Rights abuses among our supplier base, where necessary the Company may terminate the relationship with the supplier in an effort to protect our customers, our employees, our reputation and critically those people potentially at risk of human rights abuses.

## Policies

**We believe a strong and principled approach to doing business is fundamentally important to our present and future success. Our culture encourages responsible practice at all levels of the organisation and presents clear guiding principles that drive ethical interactions with, and outcomes for, our key stakeholders.**

The Company has a zero-tolerance approach to Modern Slavery. We are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships.

We have enforced effective systems and controls to minimise the risk of Modern Slavery in our own business and supply chains.

Control maturity varies across the Grenadier operating businesses depending on the risk factors associated with the activities of each company.

Policies and practices may include:

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- Staff Handbooks
  - Supplier Codes of Conduct
  - Employment and Migration Policies
  - Recruitment and Selection Policies
  - Whistleblowing Policy
  - Equal Opportunities Policies
  - Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policies
  - Human Rights Policy Policies
  - Principles of Business Ethics

## Employment

**Our operating divisions audit and assess their employment arrangements and Human Resources policies. It has been determined that the risk of any of these offences occurring in this area is low.**

All our employees receive a written statement of their terms and conditions, including but not limited to; pay, working hours, holiday entitlement and pay, overtime rates, sick pay, and deductions. We carry out checks to ensure that our employees have a legal right to work in the UK or other countries in which they are employed.

We utilise temporary workers in addition to our permanent employees to support our business needs. Any third-party workers are subject to the same checks and policies as our employees. No recruitment fees are paid by the individual being considered for employment.

The Company also adheres to the standards of the National Living Wage legislation and Minimum Wage legislation in the countries in which we operate. This is reviewed on an annual basis.

We undertake verification of all individuals, as required by UK legislation, prior to appointment and in certain roles, which includes DBS and other security checks.

**Training**

**We are committed to ensuring that the Company's employees are equipped to understand the implications of the Modern Slavery and Human Rights abuses in our business and to identify risk factors and escalate appropriately.**

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**This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes Paragon's Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking statement for the financial year ending 30 June 2023.**

ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY, on 20 December 2023



Signed: .....  
Mike Gordon, Group Chief Operating Officer