



ALDI STORES LIMITED
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GHu/sb. 51

17 December 2020

Dame Sara Thornton DBE QPM
Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner
5th Floor, Globe House
89 Eccleston Square
London, SW1V 1PN

Dear Dame Sara,

Thank you for your letter of 24th November regarding Operation Fort and the framework your office has developed regarding compliance with the Modern Slavery Act. We are grateful for the work you and your team are doing on this vitally important issue.

Operation Fort highlighted the pervasive nature of modern slavery in supply chains. At Aldi, we are committed to the role we have to play in identifying and removing modern slavery wherever it is found. Aldi's position is unequivocal: we will comply with both the letter and spirit of the regulations. My team and I fully understand the importance of continually improving our processes and working closely with you and your team.

When I wrote to you in July 2019 I set out the work that we had completed so far, and some of the steps we planned to take. The framework you have produced is a very useful marker of this progress, and we plan to refer to it as we continue to develop our policies in this area.

Having reviewed our current practices against the framework, I believe Aldi sits within the **'evolving good practices'** category. I would not seek to claim we are fully in line with each point in this category as yet, but we have made good progress and will continue to do so with a view to being fully compliant as soon as possible.

To demonstrate our alignment, I have included specific examples in both the 'meeting basic expectations' and 'evolving good practices' categories below.

Our progress was recognised earlier this year by the Thomson Reuters Foundation and we were awarded the Stop Slavery Enterprise Award for goods and service companies.

Whilst I am proud of the progress we have made, we are in no way complacent and appreciate the need to do more. We are currently working with external organisations such as the Slave Free Alliance (SFA) and the Wilberforce Institute to review our business and operations, and are committed to act where necessary to improve our practices. We also welcome the recommendations of the Operation Fort retailer review.

Thank you once again for your work in this area. We look forward to continuing to work closely with you in the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Giles Hurley', written in a cursive style.

Giles Hurley
Chief Executive Officer - UK and IRE