



Wonderfield Group

Wonderfield Group
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Modern Slavery Statement – 2024/2025

This statement has been published in accordance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (the “Act”) and constitutes the slavery and human trafficking statement for The Wonderfield Group and its relevant subsidiaries for the financial year ended 31st March 2025. The statement specifically applies to our UK business, YO! and Taiko Foods. It sets out the steps we take to understand all potential risks to ensure that there is no slavery, servitude, forced or compulsory labour, or human trafficking in our business or supply chains.

Introduction

We recognize our responsibility to identify and address potential or actual human rights infringements linked to the products and services we provide. We require our suppliers to uphold the same standards as we apply to ourselves.

Organisation structure and supply chains

YO!, Panku and Taiko Foods are brands within The Wonderfield Group which is a leading international multi-channel Japanese food business. We reach customers across multiple routes to the market including fresh sushi kiosks, grab-and-go products on supermarket shelves and innovative restaurants, selling over 60 million trays of fresh sushi a year.

We have centralized procurement teams managing the relationship between our direct suppliers that provide both food and non-food products. Most of which have been supplying The Wonderfield Group long-term and therefore have established strong working relationships based on trust and transparency.

YO! opened its doors in 1997 as a fast-casual dining restaurant chain and was one of the first UK brands to introduce the Kaiten belt. Since then, we have developed our company strategy and introduced new concepts such as YO! To Go kiosks operating in both supermarkets and train stations. Some of these kiosks are owned and operated by our valued Franchise partners, who help expand our reach and bring YO! to more customers. Taiko Foods is a UK production company made up of factory and head office workers.

Policies in relation to slavery and human trafficking

A policy and procedure on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking is in place, which outlines how we will confidentially act, along with the steps that will be taken if we uncover any employees who are a victim of modern slavery and/or human trafficking or external suppliers not adhering to the Act.

We encourage our employees to report in confidence any concerns relating to any part of the organisation in line with our whistleblowing policy which allows employees to confidentially telephone an external company called ‘Ethics Point’. All matters are then passed on to a trained adviser who guides the employee on the best course of action.

Our Code of Conduct is clearly outlined to our team members along with the actions and behaviors which are expected of them whilst at work and through the course of their duties and responsibilities. We strive to maintain the highest standards of employee conduct when managing our employees, franchise partners and suppliers and expect all our people to behave in the same way.

The Wonderfield Group complies with the Anti-Bribery Act 2010 and does not tolerate any form of bribery by or of its employees, agents or any other person acting on our behalf.

Due diligence processes

We never knowingly accept food or any non-food products from our suppliers who do not adhere to the Modern Slavery Act 2015. They must demonstrate their compliance to the Act by providing their most recent annual statement.

The procedure is designed to establish an assess areas of potential risk in our business and supply chains, monitor potential risk areas in our business and supply chains, reduce the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring in our business and supply chains, provide adequate protection for whistleblowers.

If we become aware of any concerns with our Franchise Partners or Suppliers and/or they are classed as 'high risk', a full investigation will take place to determine whether these concerns are justified with appropriate action taking place if needed. Depending on the severity of the concerns, we will work with the provider by agreeing an action plan, terminate the Supplier/Franchisee, and/or source the product from an alternative supplier.

In addition, we hold regular meetings with the key suppliers not only to ensure they are the right business to partner with but to highlight the expectations of no slavery or human trafficking within their own company and supply chain.

Risk assessment and management

Two main areas have been highlighted as potentially high risk to the business regarding modern slavery and human trafficking. These areas are Recruitment and Procurement.

By identifying the above, our UK businesses, YO!, Panku and Taiko Foods have invested in a robust applicant tracking system (People Bank) when hiring new people and an external right-to-work checking system, Trust ID. By introducing both People Bank and Trust ID, we have lowered our risk for recruitment as all of our teams complete an online application through People Bank and are applying at their own will. We also hold a face-to-face interview where further checks are conducted, and a thorough external right-to-work check is followed.

Additionally, we conduct a thorough HR compliance audit twice a year with our Franchise partners to ensure that their recruitment and employment practices align with our high standards and that there is no risk of modern slavery within our network. These audits allow us to proactively identify and address any concerns, reinforcing our commitment to ethical employment practices and safeguarding all individuals working within the YO! & Panku brands.

With regards to our suppliers, we understand that some of our food products, mainly fish, would be identified as high risk within their supply chain. By introducing our tight procedures, new contracts, completing supply audits, and continuing our ongoing close relationships with suppliers, we will safely measure the risk moving forward.

Both our people, franchise partners and suppliers have access to our modern slavery policy along with the whistleblowing policy and procedure they must follow if needed.

Training on modern slavery and trafficking

The education of our employees about the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking within our businesses and supply chains is important. This is done through our UK e-learning programs accessed via our training platform, Attensi. Our People are encouraged to identify and report any potential breaches of the organisations anti-slavery and human trafficking policy.

Employees are taught the benefits of stringent measures to tackle slavery and human trafficking, as well as the consequences of failing to eradicate slavery and human trafficking from our business and supply chains. Examples of training provided across our organisation include:

- All UK Managers have completed e-learning training on the topic.
- All new joiners onboarded to our UK businesses will have to complete a training module on Modern Slavery during their induction.
- All our Franchise Partners and their teams complete a module on Modern Slavery during their induction.
- Information absorbed during the training has been communicated to all our employees via our internal communication platform, to ensure they are aware of the signs to spot and how to communicate correctly if they deem it necessary.
- Our UK businesses are a registered supporter of Stronger Together and actively use the resources available to improve our understanding of the topic across the organization.

Key performance indicators to measure effectiveness of steps being taken

We have taken many steps during 2024/2025 to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking within the business, these consist of:

- A right to work audit is done every month to notify employees if their documents are due to expire to ensure we provide our people with enough time to renew.
- 6-monthly compliance audit conducted across all our Franchise Partners.
- Our Applicant tracking system (People Bank) allows better control over recruitment practices.
- Our UK Learning and Development team have created awareness training that highlighted key signs to spot on our e-learning platform 'Attensi'. All Managers who operate a region or manage a team completed the awareness training.
- The People Team completed a day of training on Modern Slavery awareness, provided by Stronger Together.
- The People Team delivered Modern Slavery Awareness sessions during Regional Business meetings.
- Introduced a clause within the Supplier contract to outline expectations and ensure consistency between all suppliers of The Wonderfield Group.

Further steps YO! will take to prevent Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in 2025/2026

Following our review of our actions this financial year to prevent slavery or human trafficking from occurring in our business or supply chains, we intend to take the following further steps to tackle slavery and human trafficking:

- Maintain the robust right to work checks through 'Trust ID' for all new and existing employees.
- Improve our knowledge and understanding across the organisation by delivering group training each quarter to all employees holding a management position.
- Ensure all our Restaurant/Retail Managers & Franchise Partners have watched and understood the training on our e-learning platform 'Attensi'.
- Become an active member of Stronger Together to eliminate any future risk.
- Ensure all members of the People Team and Procurement Team attend refresher training during our new financial year.
- Create a new clause within the Franchisee contract & Operating Manual to outline expectations and ensure consistency between all Franchise partners of The Wonderfield Group.



Richard Hodgson
Group CEO
Wonderfield Group

March 2025