This is a challenge that is best addressed through the ongoing and proactive engagement with both suppliers and the Higher Education Procurement Consortia sharing experiences and refining best practice.

We will review the conclusions from the aforementioned research project with a view to applying the feedback where it will enhance the existing approach being taken by the University.

Since the last statement, the University's Procurement function has aligned its structure against defined categories of spend. The associated Category Plans are designed to support the management of these categories of expenditure and will include an assessment of risk around the presence and/or likelihood of modern slavery occurring in the respective supply chains. These assessments will draw upon available knowledge and tools, including, but not limited to outputs from NETpositive Futures and sector collaboration.

Alastair Matthews
Chief Financial Officer