



Marie Rimmer CBE, MP
Member of Parliament for St. Helens
South & Whiston
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
Tel: 020 7219 4847/01744 752075

Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence Law:

The Government says it currently has no plans to legally mandate companies to conduct further due diligence assessments. It says it expects all businesses in the UK to respect human rights and the environment throughout their operations, in line with the UN Guiding Principles and the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises. It says the Modern Slavery Act requires businesses with a turnover of £36 million or more, to set out the steps they have taken to prevent modern slavery in their operations and supply chains, and that it will introduce financial penalties to increase compliance “when parliamentary time allows”. It further states that it has introduced due diligence legislation through the Environment Act to tackle illegal deforestation in UK supply chains.

However, I am concerned at the Government’s record on these issues. On human rights, for example, I believe that it has failed when it comes to enforcing human rights protection clauses in trade deals. I believe it is essential that we protect and embed the rights of workers in trade deals, including using human rights protection clauses to tackle the use of modern slavery in supply chains. We should also look at the best way, in line with international standards, to prevent environmental harms, modern slavery and human and labour rights abuses in supply chains, including effective due diligence rules.

Marie Rimmer CBE, MP

Constituency Office:

Marie Rimmer CBE, MP, 2nd Floor, Century House, Hardshaw Street, St. Helens WA10 1QU, 01744 752075,
marie.rimmer.mp@parliament.uk
Website: www.marierimmer.co.uk