

# Fashion brands Nike and Boohoo deny link to Uighur forced labour in China

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A report by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute claimed that thousands of Uighurs have been transferred to work in factories across China as forced labour

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Leading brands including Nike and Boohoo have denied using suppliers from the Xinjiang region of China where Uighur Muslims are alleged to have been put into [forced](#)

[labour.](#)

The fashion companies said that they were “shocked” at reports that products involving Uighur slave labour could be sold to UK consumers.

Andrew Reaney, group director of responsible sourcing at Boohoo, told MPs at the business select committee that the online retailer does “not knowingly source any yarn or fabric” from the region in northwest China where reports claim that hundreds of thousands of Uighurs have been interned.

He said: “We wrote to all our suppliers across the supply chain to confirm that we have no manufacturing or fabric links to that particular region.

“That was done and all of our suppliers confirmed that they have no manufacturing or fabric links to that region.”

Representatives from Nike and H&M told the committee hearing that they had also been in contact with their suppliers, who told them that no cotton used in their products derived from the area of China.

A report by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) earlier this year claimed that thousands of Uighurs have been transferred to work in factories across China, under conditions that the ASPI report said “strongly suggest forced labour”. It linked those factories to more than 80 high-profile brands.

Mr Reaney was also questioned over a report by Alison Levitt, QC, which identified “many failings” in the company’s UK supply chains.

*The Sunday Times* reported that workers at a factory in Leicester making clothes destined for Boohoo’s Nasty Gal brand could expect to be paid [£3.50 an hour](#).

He said that he could not guarantee that by this time next year the company would have all of the issues within their supply chains fixed, citing the “complexity of supply chains”, but said that Boohoo was committed to total transparency.

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Mr Reaney also told the committee that no one from Boohoo had been sacked over the company’s failings.

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