

The Bribery Act 2010 - Statement from the Chief Executive

The Bribery Act 2010 which came into force on 1 July 2011 aims to tackle bribery and corruption in both the private and public sector. Bribery can be defined as “giving someone a financial or other advantage to encourage them to perform their functions or activities improperly or reward them for having done so”.

Great Western NHS Foundation Trust is keen to ensure that it complies with the Bribery Act and has carried out a lot of work to raise awareness of it with staff and the Board of Directors.

One of the six principles of the Act is that there is top level commitment in the organisation to the prevention of bribery. The Board of Directors at Great Western NHS Foundation Trust is committed to this. The Director of Finance has been identified as a lead person in this Trust for the prevention of bribery.

It is our intention to conduct all of our business in an honest and ethical manner. We are committed to acting fairly, professionally and with integrity in all of our business dealings and relationships wherever we operate. As a NHS Foundation Trust we follow good business practices and have robust controls in place to prevent bribery and we are committed to implementing and enforcing effective systems to counter bribery. The Trust will not tolerate any form of bribery by, or of, its employees, associates or any person or body acting on its behalf.

On behalf of the Trust I confirm our commitment to ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities in relation to the prevention of bribery and corruption and that the risk of Trust exposure to acts of bribery is mitigated.

Nerissa Vaughan
Chief Executive
Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
December 2011