

Anti-Bribery Statement

We are committed to applying the highest standards of ethical conduct and integrity and to delivering the highest standards of patient care; this includes taking measures to protect the funds needed for this

Bribery is defined within the Bribery Act 2010 as the giving or receiving of a financial or other advantage in exchange for improperly performing a relevant function or activity.

Under no circumstances is the giving, offering, receiving or soliciting of a bribe acceptable and we will not tolerate this in any form. This applies to all staff, volunteers and non-executives, together with any external agents working or acting on our behalf.

Our zero tolerance approach to bribery, and commitment to the Bribery Act 2010, is set out in further detail within our Counter Fraud and Anti-Bribery Policy, and across a range of other Trust policies and procedural documentation. All of our staff and volunteers, non-executives and other relevant parties are required to make themselves aware of the requirements surrounding this and for meeting them at all times.

We will ensure that any allegation of bribery is investigated, and any non-compliance with the policy acted upon in accordance with the Trust's workforce policies. A criminal offence under the Bribery Act 2010 could lead to up to 10 years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine.

With regard to external parties, we do not do business with anyone who does not support our anti-bribery commitments, and we reserve the right to terminate any contracts where there is evidence of acts of bribery have been committed.

If you are in any doubt as to whether any conduct could amount to bribery, or if you have any concerns or suspicions regarding bribery being committed, please report it to our counter fraud specialist. Such reports are critical to the success of our anti-bribery measures and we will support anyone who raises an issue in good faith.

Our Counter Fraud Specialist deals with all reports of suspected fraud in the strictest confidence. You can contact them on:

Fraud Hotline: 0191 441 5936

Email: counterfraud@audit-one.co.uk

Sue Jacques, Chief Executive