

Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust, Director of Finance Statement

Bribery Act 2010 & Trust Anti-Bribery Strategy

On 1st July 2011 the Bribery Act 2010 came into force, reforming the criminal law of bribery and corruption making it easier to tackle these offences proactively. It creates specific criminal offences which carry custodial sentences of up to 10 years and potentially unlimited fines. It also introduces a corporate offence which means that if **Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust** is exposed to criminal liability, it is punishable by an unlimited fine, for failing to prevent bribery.

Bribery may be considered to be: ***"an inducement or reward offered, promised or provided to someone to perform their functions or activities improperly in order to gain a personal, commercial, regulatory and/or contractual advantage."***

Bribery is a criminal offence. **Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust** does not, and will not, pay bribes or offer improper inducements to anyone for any purpose; nor do we, or will we, accept bribes or improper inducements. This approach applies to **everyone** who works for us, or with us. To use a third party as a conduit to channel bribes to others is a criminal offence. We do not, and will not, engage indirectly in, or otherwise encourage, bribery.

We are as committed to the prevention, deterrence and detection of bribery just as we are to combatting fraud in the NHS. As an organisation, we have a zero-tolerance attitude towards bribery and we aim to maintain anti-bribery compliance as 'business as usual', rather than as a one off exercise.

To this end, everyone associated with the Trust is expected to play their part. The Trust has adopted a corporate Anti-Bribery Strategy since July 2011.

To find out more about the Bribery Act and how it might affect your area of responsibility in relation to the Trust, please contact the Trust's Anti-Fraud Specialist.

Reporting Concerns

If you have any concerns or suspicions regarding bribery, corruption or fraud, please contact:

- The Trust's Director of Finance, on telephone 0151 708 9988.
- The Trust's Anti-Fraud Specialist, on telephone 0151 285 4500.
- NHS Fraud & Corruption Reporting Line, powered by Crimestoppers 24/7:
Freephone Telephone: 0800 028 40 60
- NHS Fraud & Corruption Online Reporting Form:
<http://www.reportnhsfraud.nhs.uk>