

Anti-Bribery Statement

Statement from Andrew Bland, Chief Officer for NHS Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

The Bribery Act 2010 came into force on 1st July 2011 with an aim to tackle bribery and corruption in both the private and public sector.

It is important that NHS Southwark CCG, its employees, suppliers and business partners remain compliant with the legislation. The responsibility to detect and prevent bribery applies to all employees of the CCG, regardless of position held, as well as consultants, vendors, contractors and/ or any other parties who have a business relationship with the CCG.

NHS Southwark CCG supports a zero tolerance approach to Bribery. It is a serious offence carrying unlimited fines and a custodial sentence of up to ten years. Soliciting, offering or accepting a bribe will be held to be an offence under the Act. In addition, the Act introduced a new corporate offence resulting in a wider spectrum of potential defendants, meaning, companies, as well as individuals, may find themselves in breach of the Act. Thus, it is important that we are all aware and remain compliant with the Act; maintaining a robust corporate and employee code of practice. It is essential for us to work together in ensuring we create an anti-bribery culture within the work place.

NHS Southwark CCG has an Anti-Bribery Policy in place; it is vital that all employees and those whom we deal with are aware of the policy and assist the organisation in compliance. Any suspected instances of bribery will be taken seriously and dealt with thoroughly by the CCG, and appropriate action will be taken where necessary. If there is any doubt as to whether an action might constitute bribery, the matter should be referred to Southwark CCG's Local Counter Fraud Specialist