

Board of Directors Meeting in Public

Subject:	Conflict of Interests Register	Date: 21 st March 2018		
Prepared By:	Shirley A Higginbotham, Head of Corporate Affairs and Company Secretary			
Approved By:	Shirley A Higginbotham, Head of Corporate Affairs and Company Secretary			
Presented By:	Shirley A Higginbotham, Head of Corporate Affairs and Company Secretary			
Purpose				
To consider the Conflict of Interests Register, regarding the recording of declarations in line with the Conflicts of Interest Policy for the year 2017-2018			Approval	
			Assurance	x
			Update	
			Consider	
Strategic Objectives				
To provide outstanding care to our patients	To support each other to do a great job	To inspire excellence	To get the most from our resources	To play a leading role in transforming health and care services
Overall Level of Assurance				
	Significant	Sufficient	Limited	None
		x		
Risks/Issues				
Financial	There are no risks or issues identified in this report			
Patient Impact				
Staff Impact				
Services				
Reputational				
Committees/groups where this item has been presented before				
N/A				
Executive Summary				
<p>NHS England issued new guidance with regard to 'Managing Conflicts of Interest in the NHS' which came into force on the 1st June 2017.</p> <p>In order to comply with the new guidance a revised policy 'Conflicts of Interests' has been developed, approved and published on 21st June and is live on the Trusts intranet. This replaces the Trusts previous Standards of Business Conduct Policy.</p> <p>A new online Conflicts of Interest register has been developed and was launched on the 30th June 2017. This enables all staff to complete their declarations on-line, the register is supported by a comprehensive 'how to' guide and FAQ's.</p> <p>The key items to be declared are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gifts • Hospitality • Travel and Accommodation • Outside Employment • Clinical Private Practice • Shareholding and other Ownership Interests • Patents • Sponsored Events • Sponsored Research • Sponsored Posts 				

The new on line system is linked to ESR and enables the administrators with the Corporate Services team to monitor completion and send targeted emails members of staff who have complied with the policy. All staff band 7 and above have been defined as 'decision making' and are therefore required to complete a declaration including a nil declaration.

The register is published on the Trusts website.

There has been significant publicity throughout the year to encourage staff to complete the register including:

- Weekly Bulletin
- Screen Splash
- Newsletters
- Targeted emails
- Attendance at meetings of particular staff groups

The Audit and Assurance committee receive an update with regard to compliance at each meeting.

Internal audit and external audit have expressed support for the process used by the Trust to record conflicts and to encourage staff to comply with the policy.

In line with the guidance staff must complete an Annual Declaration therefore the Corporate Services team are currently working with the Communications department how to publicise this and make it as easy as possible for staff to re-register.

Attached are the detailed registers as published on the Trust website, below is a snapshot of the compliance as of March 2018

