

## **Fraud and bribery – chief executive’s statement**

Fraud is an act of deception that is intended to make a financial gain or to cause loss to another party. Bribery is generally defined as the giving or receiving of a financial or other advantage in exchange for improperly performing a relevant function or activity.

At The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust, we are committed to applying the highest standards of ethical conduct and behaviour, which includes having robust controls in place to prevent fraud, bribery and corruption. We also expect our suppliers, service users and those working on behalf of us to adhere to these standards and may seek to terminate contracts with any suppliers found by a court of law to have been guilty of corruption.

We are also committed to the prevention of bribery, as well as to combating fraud, and implementing and maintaining robust policies for the prevention and detection of fraud, bribery and corruption. The Board of Directors carries out its business in an open and transparent way. In addition, we expect the organisations that we work with to do the same. Doing business this way enables us to reassure our patients, members and stakeholders that public funds are properly safeguarded.

We have in place an Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy, which applies to all staff, as well as patients, service users and other individuals and organisations, who act for or on behalf of us.

The success of our counter fraud, bribery and corruption measures depends on all employees and those acting for the organisation playing their part in helping to prevent, detect and deter fraud, bribery and corruption.

We maintain a register of interest for directors and staff and ask staff not to accept gifts or hospitality that may compromise them or PAHT.

We encourage staff, patients, service users and others associated with us to report any suspicions of fraud, bribery or corruption and we will rigorously investigate any allegations. Such suspicions should be reported to our counter fraud team.

Best wishes

**Lance McCarthy**

Chief executive