

# Fraud Awareness

## Clinical & Non-Clinical Staff

Three Yearly

- Avoid printing this document if possible
- **Please ensure you complete and sign the declaration form once completed**

## Anti-Fraud, Bribery & Corruption Awareness

### Fraud in the NHS

The NHS employs more than 1.5 million people, putting it in the top five of the world's largest workforces.

In 2018 the NHS Counter Fraud Authority (NHSCFA) estimated that fraud cost the NHS around £1.29 billion per annum.

That's enough money to pay for over 40,000 staff nurses, or to purchase over 5,000 frontline ambulances.

### What type of Fraud is most common?

The two biggest single areas of fraud are related to patients and procurement of good and services.

- Costing the NHS in excess of £340m and £266m a year respectively according to NHSCFA.

### What type of Fraud is most common?

Patient fraud includes people wrongly claiming for exemptions for the cost of things, eg: prescriptions and dental fees.

Payroll fraud is thought to cost £94m a year.

Dentists said to claim around £126m in work on NHS patients that has not been done

### National Anti-Fraud Arrangements

NHS Counter Fraud Authority (NHSCFA) is a special authority charged with the identification, investigation and prevention of fraud within the NHS

It was previously known as **NHS PROTECT**.

## NHSCFA's three main objectives are:

- To educate and inform those who work or use the NHS about fraud in the health service and how to tackle it
- To prevent and deter crime in the NHS by removing opportunities for it to occur or to re-occur
- To hold to account those who have committed crime against the NHS by detecting and prosecuting offenders and seeking redress where viable.

## NHS Counter Fraud Authority

Local NHS organisations remain primarily accountable for dealing with crime risks in the NHS.

The NHSCFA provides information and guidance to the trust and our local Anti-Fraud Specialists to help improve anti-fraud, bribery and corruption work across the NHS.

## Who is the Trust's Anti-Fraud Specialist?

Airedale NHS Trust's Anti-Fraud Specialist is:

**Justin Williams from Audit Yorkshire**

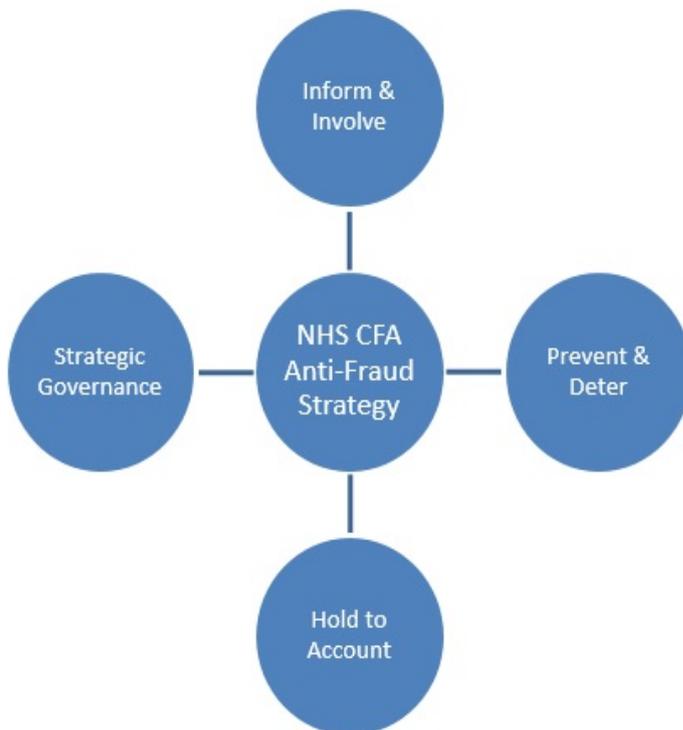
**If you have any concerns or suspicions about fraud at Airedale NHS Foundation Trust contact him on 01274 228 193 or by E: [Justin.williams1@nhs.net](mailto:Justin.williams1@nhs.net)**

## What is the role of the Trust's Anti-Fraud Specialist?

- Inform and Involve
- To raise awareness of crime risks against the NHS to staff and to the public.
- To publicise the risks and effects of crime against the NHS.

## Prevent and Deter

- To discourage individuals who may be tempted to commit crime against the NHS and ensure that opportunities for crime to occur are minimised.
  - Hold to Account
- 
- To detect and investigate crime, and sanction those who have committed crimes, and seek redress. (Disciplinary, civil, prosecution.)
  - Strategic governance
  - To ensure that anti-crime measures are embedded at all levels across the organisation.



## What is Fraud?

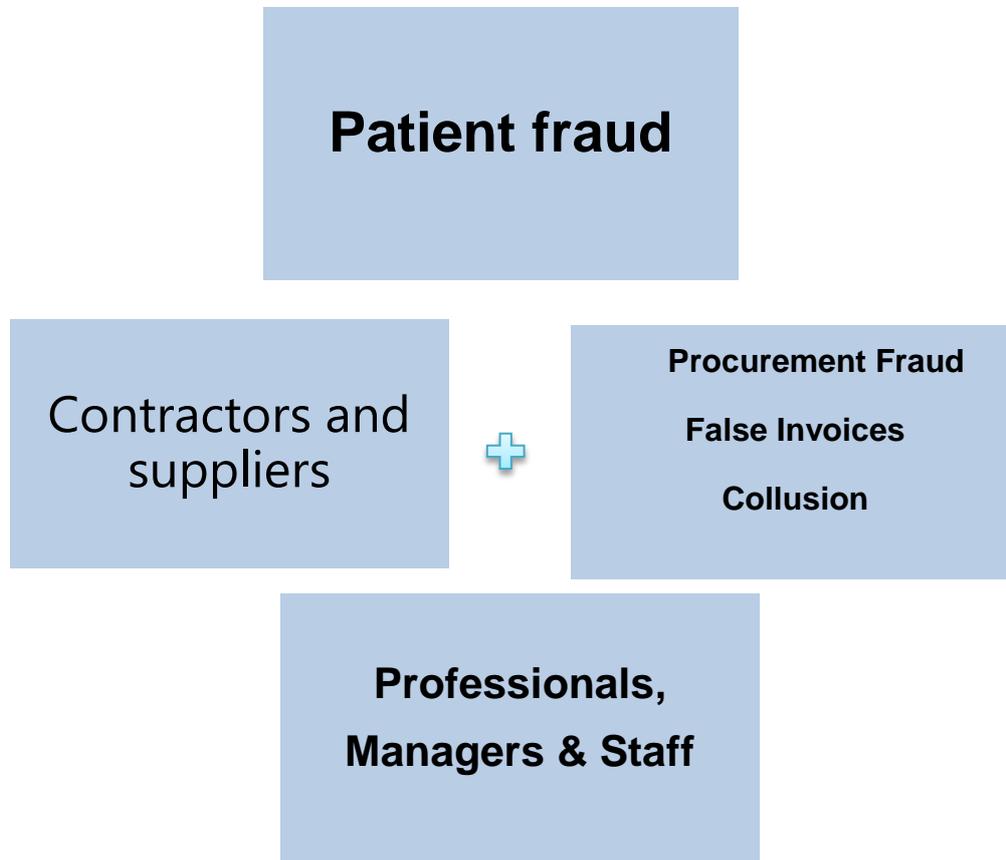
Dishonest actions done deliberately with an intention to deceive



## General Fraud Offences include:

- False representation
- Failing to disclose information
- Abuse of position

## Types of NHS Fraud



- Working elsewhere whilst sick
- Claiming feesheet/Overtime/Travel/Mileage
- Falsifying CV's/Qualifications/Visas/Passports
- Selling NHS Supplies on Ebay
- Submitting claims for 'Ghost' patients and staff
- Claiming for treatments not provided
- Overseas Visitors
- Health Tourism
- Prescription fraud

## Real NHS fraud case:

### NHS Chief Executive Paula Vasco-Knight:

- Chief Executive at South Devon NHS Foundation Trust and NHS England  
Lead for Equalities
- Submitted a false invoice for a piece of work supposedly done by her husband to the value of £11,000
- Pleaded guilty at Crown Court during a trial
- 16 month sentence suspended for 2 years and ordered to carry out 250 hours unpaid community work
- Husband sentenced to 10 months, suspended for two years and 150 hours unpaid work
- Criminal record
- Ordered to repay the £11,600 and court costs



## Bribery Act 2010

An inducement or reward offered, promised or provided to someone to perform a relevant function or activity improperly in order to gain a personal, commercial, regulatory and/or contractual advantage, on behalf of oneself or another.

In effect from 1st **July 2011**.

**It is a criminal offence to:**

- Give, Promise or Offer a Bribe
- Request, Agree to Receive or Accept a Bribe
- Bribe a Foreign Public Official
- Corporate Offence of Failing to Prevent Bribery

## **The first person to be convicted under the new Bribery Act was a Court Clerk.**

- For over a year, Munir Patel, used his privileged access as an administration clerk in a London Magistrates' Court to manipulate the official process to help offenders avoid prosecution – fines, penalty points and disqualification.
- The Sun newspaper filmed him bragging how he took bribes 'all day long' to manipulate the court's legal database..
- Patel admitted one count of bribery by taking £500 to avoid putting details of a traffic summons on a court database; but the prosecution believe he earned at least £20,000 by helping 53 offenders.
- Jailed for 6 years: 3 for bribery, 6 for misconduct in a public office, to run concurrently (reduced to 4 years later by Court of Appeal in May 2012)



BBC News 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011

## How do you comply?

- You must declare any Secondary Employment/Private work undertaken.
- Ensure your private work is not undertaken in NHS time
- Do not use any NHS resources for private work.

### Fees/Allowances

- Check the fees/allowances are allocated correctly
- Payments made to the Trust for work undertaken in NHS time
- Declare any potential Conflicts of Interest
- Declare any Gifts, Hospitality/Sponsorship
- Timesheets/Payments/Mileage claims should be checked and accurate.
- Abide by the Trust/NHS Code of Conduct
- Be alert to when a gift, hospitality, or sponsorship could be interpreted as a 'bribe'

**Declare any interests, which could be seen to compromise your judgment, decisions or duties in your role at Airedale NHS Trust.**

**Contact the Trust's Company Secretary for further information about Conflicts of Interest/Declarations**

## Suspect an NHS Fraud or Corruption Contact:?

- **Justin Williams T:** 01274 228193 or E: [justin.williams1@nhs.net](mailto:justin.williams1@nhs.net)
- NHS Fraud Hotline 0800 028 40 60
- [www.cfa.nhs.uk/reportfraud](http://www.cfa.nhs.uk/reportfraud)
- Andrew Copley Airedale NHS Trust's Director of Finance
- NHS Fraud & Corruption Reporting Line
- 0800 028 40 60 (Freephone 24hrs)
- NHSCFA confidential reporting online form
- [www.cfa.nhs.uk/reportfraud](http://www.cfa.nhs.uk/reportfraud)

## Suspect an NHS Fraud or Corruption? DO NOT:

- Ignore the problem – you might be the only one who knows about it
- Investigate it yourself or start discussing it with others
- Confront anyone
- Carry out any surveillance
- Tamper with computers, equipment or files you think may be involved
- Commence any disciplinary action before informing Justin Williams

## • Need help and advice to raise a concern?

- **The Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 (PIDA)** provides LEGAL PROTECTION to workers, and is known as the UK's Whistleblower Law. You must meet the tests as laid down in the legislation in order to gain protection.
- Free help and advice about raising concerns, including information, guidance and awareness materials, is available from the NHS and Social Care Whistleblowing Helpline:
  - Tel: 08000 724 725
  - **[www.wbhelpline.org.uk](http://www.wbhelpline.org.uk)**
- You can also get independent and confidential advice about raising a concern about possible wrongdoing or malpractice at work from The Whistleblowing Charity Public Concern at Work (PCaW):
  - **020 7404 Tel 6609**
  - [helpline@pcaw.org.uk](mailto:helpline@pcaw.org.uk)
- The Trust encourages openness, honesty, and accountability – please familiarise yourself with the Trust's Whistleblowing Policy

## Who Pays for Fraud



Please watch this 2 minute video from [NHSCFA](#)

**Please now complete the Mandatory Training Workbook Declaration Form to record you have read and understood this workbook and return a signed copy to [E:training.dept2@anhst.nhs.uk](mailto:E:training.dept2@anhst.nhs.uk)**