

Supporting Freedom to Speak up (Whistleblowing) in the NHS – Whistleblowers Support Scheme Newsletter – November 2017

Whistleblowers' Support Scheme for Secondary Care –progress so far

Panel training completed and panel assessments underway

We have concluded all the panel member training sessions for the time being. We will deliver more as required in the New Year when the full scheme has been developed. Thank you to all those who have completed the training.

Following the launch of the pilot scheme in September we have now organised our panels to assess the applications. Applicants who are successful will start on the scheme in early December.

Contracts awarded for support service provider and evaluation of pilot scheme

We are pleased to advise that we have awarded the contract for provision of the support services to Working Transitions who are also currently working with NHS England.

Working Transitions will be able to offer a range of support services including:-

A dedicated coach for each participant

Redeployment support e.g. access to personal telephone redeployment coach; workshops and seminars

Outplacement support e.g. support to plan and map out of future career path

Practical and psychological support e.g. psychometric testing; independent financial advice and personal career management

Coaching support and training

We have also awarded the contract for evaluating the pilot scheme's processes and outcomes to John Moore's University who will obtain feedback from applicants on the scheme throughout. They will also endeavour to obtain feedback and comments/suggestions from whistleblowers who have not accessed the scheme at this moment in time. This information will be fed into the proposal for any future scheme. The feedback mechanism will start as soon as the panel meetings are concluded and successful applicants have been offered a place on the scheme. Both applicants and panel members will be contacted directly by the John Moore's

University team. If anyone else would like to offer any feedback/comments either via the John Moore's team or directly to NHS Improvement please contact me for email addresses/phone numbers.

Positive feedback from employers workshops

We have held three very positive workshops with employers from across the country. Over 100 representatives, mainly HR Directors, CEO's and other senior managers attended and we have obtained some very good ideas of how they felt their trust could help to support the scheme and initial commitments for various levels of involvement and offers of opportunities for applicants on the scheme.

These ideas and pledges of commitment will be collated in the next couple of weeks to give us a suite of options and opportunities for trusts to get involved with. Guidance for each option will be given so that organisations know what to expect and what is required.

Thank you to all those who attended the sessions, I hope they proved informative and interesting.

We are considering delivering a few more updated sessions in the New Year in conjunction with NHS England – details will be circulated as and when available.

Handling individual issues

Whilst it is not our role to become directly involved in resolving individual issues, we will however seek to find common solutions where issues are raised by a number of whistleblowers.

One concern raised on a number of occasions by whistleblowers is that references are creating a barrier to getting a job. If you think this has happened to you, please can you advise me of your experience so that we can better understand this issue and so determine what needs to be done

New email address

Unfortunately, we appear to have experienced some problems with the confidential email address due to filtering of some emails that were re-directed into spam accounts.

We have now set up a new email **NHSI.wbss@improvement.nhs.uk** on a platform directly managed by NHS Improvement on which we are able to manage the filtering ourselves. If you have sent an email to the old address but have not received acknowledgement of receipt or response please re-send using the new address.

Web Page

We add to our web page on a regular basis. Here you find details of upcoming events and any new information we have circulated.

Please visit the page by clicking the link below.

<http://improvement.nhs.uk/resources/freedom-to-speak-up-whistleblowers-support-scheme>

The next newsletter will be circulated in January but in the meantime if you wish to discuss the scheme or require any information about the pilot phase please contact me directly or via the new confidential email address

Confidential email address **NHSI.wbss@improvement.nhs.uk**

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NHS Improvement