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From: Richard Brooks [<mailto:richard.brooks40@ntlworld.com>]

Sent: 03 November 2014 13:24

To: Malkin Charles (NHS EASTERN CHESHIRE CCG)

Subject: from Private Eye

Chris,

As discussed, I am a journalist with Private Eye magazine and I would be grateful for some responses on Eastern Cheshire CCG's performance, its QIPP work and the Caring Together programme. The matters I'm interested in are as follows -

1. Please can you reconcile the statement on p14 of the CCG's 2013/14 annual report that the CCG recorded a small surplus for the year with the figures in the accounts, p60, that appear to show a deficit of £11m (income £211m v expenditure £222m).
2. I was also interested to see that the CCG is forecasting growing revenues (p15). Are these figures in real or nominal terms and can you tell me the assumptions behind an expected rise in income in the current difficult conditions for the health service?
3. Could you please also explain why the accounts say that £600,000 of consultancy costs were met by NHS England when an FoI response I have received says the figure is £300,000. And can you confirm whether the figure for spending on consultancy is net of this contribution (i.e. the gross spending was correspondingly higher)?
4. The remuneration of key members of the governing body seems very high. Can you please explain how the salaries for Dr Bowen (presumably a non-executive also receiving a salary from his other position at McIlvride Medical Practice), Mr Hawker and Mr Mitchell were arrived at. And can you explain the extremely high figures for pension benefits for these three, saying what the actual employer contributions were.
5. Do you publish a register of interests and a log of gifts and hospitality for governing body members? If so, please may I see copies? And can you explain how the significant conflicts of interest apparent from the transactions listed on p78 are managed.
6. Finally, can you please explain what evaluation has been conducted of the work performed by McKinsey and Carnall Farrar on the Caring Together programme and explain how value for money has been assured when p47 reports "lack of transparency, rigour and overall governance in the QIPP programme".

Thank you,

Richard Brooks
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