

Response from Suffolk Primary Care Trust

22 June 2009

I have reviewed the possible recommendations document and whilst I'd support the recommendations in 7a) and b) the exceptions within 7ci, ii and iii may prevent many consultants achieving 7a and b. I have in mind consultants who chose to work in chambers or similar out of their NHS time who inevitably will have a strategic management role in that organisation, will contribute to tenders (they are the clinical experts and provide the 'added value' to any bid), and would normally have a financial interest whether that is a shareholding or simply taking a salary. The wording around these items needs to be tighter to ensure all parties know what's allowed and what's not.

Also I would question why this is being restricted to consultants – we have had ultra-sonographers threatened with the sack for talking to potential competitors, I could easily see this happening with physios and nurses.

European working time directive needs to come into this somewhere as well.

Regards

Jon

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