

BY EMAIL

Kidderminster Hospital
Block C4
Bewdley Road
Kidderminster
DY11 6RJ

26th June 2009

Maggie Abou-Rizk
Manager
Cooperation & Competition Panel
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Dear Miss Abou-Rizk

Re: Study on Consultants' Non-Contracted Hours

You asked for a response by today. The Trust's view on this matter, heavily influenced by feedback received from our Non Executive Directors with their commercial practice experience, is that we are unequivocally against the concept of our staff working for competitors. In an increasingly competitive market, the potential distractions from having a key part of our workforce operate in competition with us are huge.

Furthermore, the lack of monitoring arrangements for the hours that the consultants could be working for the competition poses a potential significant risk to themselves, patient safety and breach of working time directives.

I trust that you will find our contribution helpful.

Yours sincerely

Tosca Fairchild
Trust Secretary