

FOI disclosure 1 March 2017 by Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust:

Dear Dr Alexander,

FOI ref: 2017/0259

Further to your email below, I can now respond to your request dated 14th February 2017.

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust) to locate the requested information and I can confirm that some of the information requested is held by the Trust.

1. When was Steve Trenchard hired by Pennine Care?

Professor Trenchard's consultancy services were commissioned in July 2016.

2. Did Pennine Care rely on references or assurance from any NHS bodies?

Yes. Professor Trenchard provided the Trust with full disclosure on the issues surrounding his departure from his former role and the tribunal.

Additional assurance was sought from reviewing an independent report, which found him to be fit and proper and no evidence of misconduct or wrongdoing. A discussion also took place with a representative from a Clinical Commissioning Group regarding Professor Trenchard's character and capability.

The matter had also been referred to the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). The Trust reviewed the details of the NMC investigation which found there was no case to answer and noted there was no *'evidence such that could be said to bring into question Professor Trenchard's good character or alternatively his integrity or honesty.'*

3. If so, please disclose which NHS bodies provided references, and please disclose if Steve Trenchard was in NHS Improvement's interim pool at the point that Pennine Care decided to hire him.

Please refer to the response provided to question two.

The Trust is not aware whether Professor Trenchard is included within the NHS Interim Management and Support Service. If you are referring to another 'pool' please provide clarification.

4. Was Pennine Care in communication with NHS England, NHS Improvement or the Care Quality Commission about Steve Trenchard's appointment, before the appointment was made by the trust?

No. As a Foundation Trust, Pennine Care has statutory powers to commission the services of private contractors within delegated authority limits. The work being provided to the Trust by Professor Trenchard did not require further authorisation from any other bodies at the time of appointment.

5. Please disclose all communications with NHS Improvement, NHS England and CQC about Pennine Care's appointment of Steve Trenchard

As stated in the response to question four, Professor Trenchard's appointment was not subject to approval with any of the aforementioned bodies, therefore there is no communication held to disclose regarding his appointment.

6. Please clarify if the post to which Pennine Care has recruited Steve Trenchard was advertised, and if so details of where and how it was advertised.

Professor Trenchard's consultancy services were commissioned in line with Trust processes for engaging external consultants. It did not require external advertisement.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the details below, which outline your right of complaint.

Should you have any further queries concerning this matter, please email, write or contact the team on telephone number 0161 716 3147 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Julie Higginbottom
Information Governance Administrator

Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
225 Old Street
Ashton-under-Lyne OL6 7SR