

From: Minh Alexander <*****>
Subject: Whistleblower-led event
Date: 27 February 2018 at 07:34:36 GMT
To: Henrietta Hughes <*****>
Cc: Clare Sardari <*****>

Dear Henrietta,

Thanks for your email.

It would be helpful if we could have a brief response to the two central questions raised in our email to you of 22 February 2018, before more detailed discussions.

The issue of being allowed, or not, to lead a discussion about law reform is key.

We would rather not lead an event if law reform is a banned topic.

You suggest that we discuss the matter on the day of the conference however time constraints are unlikely to allow thorough consideration. We feel a scheduled meeting would be more productive. Clearly such meeting will not be necessary if the discussion of Law Reform continues to be refused on the basis that it is incongruent with the aims of your office.

With best wishes,

Dr Minh Alexander
Clare Sardari

From: "Hughes, Henrietta" <***** >
Subject: RE: Whistleblower-led event
Date: 23 February 2018 at 09:47:28 GMT
To: Minh Alexander <***** >
Cc: Clare Sardari <***** >, "Brown, Jerina" <***** >

Dear Minh and Clare

Thanks for this. I'm actually on leave until the day before the conference so it would be great to catch up with you then to discuss. I think once I have a better idea of your vision for the event we will be able to offer bespoke support to make it a great success

With best wishes
Henrietta

From: Minh Alexander
Sent: 22 February 2018 16:56:14
To: Hughes, Henrietta
Cc: Clare Sardari
Subject: Whistleblower-led event

BY EMAIL

Dr Henrietta Hughes
National Freedom to Speak Up Guardian
Care Quality Commission

22 February 2018

Dear Dr Hughes

Whistleblower-led event

Thanks very much for the letter from your office, via Gavin Rogers, of 25 January 2018, attached

We write to seek clarification of two points:

1. Regarding his comment therein:

“We should point out that the subject of your proposed event, legislative reform, isn’t part of our remit so we must be mindful that resources that are used for this event should also advance the general aims of the National Guardian’s Office.”

May we clarify if this is saying that your office will support us in running an event, but not if we seek to focus on law reform, as we have suggested?

We are a little concerned at the assertion that seeking law reform is not in your Office’s remit. You advised a year ago that you were not seeking law reform, but that is a separate issue of prioritisation as opposed to remit.

2. Regarding his comment:

“You asked for assistance in sending out invitations and distributing an ‘event pack’. We think that this might compromise the independence of the event so feel that invitations may be better coming from you.”

This seems to conflict a little with his comment:

“We would, of course, be happy to promote the event to our stakeholders, though any material we use for that will need to go through our normal communications quality assurance process.”

Gavin's refusal to assist with distribution of invitations is also is not congruent with our discussion with you on 3 November when we agreed the principle of the Office leveraging the cooperation of bodies by its backing of our event, thereby helping to ensure their attendance.

We would be grateful to know if this agreed principle still holds good.

Subject to clarification of the two points above, we will get back to you on the other points raised in Gavin's letter.

With best wishes,

Dr Minh Alexander

Clare Sardari

From: "Rogers, Gavin" <*****>
Subject: RE: Whistleblower-led event
Date: 29 January 2018 at 09:44:15 GMT
To: ""Minh Alexander " <***** >, "Clare Sardari"
<*****>

Ms Sardari and Dr Alexander,

Please find attached a letter in response to your email below, our Social Media Handbook and a list of the members of the Advisory Working Group as requested.

Kind regards

Gavin Rogers

From: Brown, Jerina On Behalf Of Hughes, Henrietta
Sent: 21 December 2017 09:34
To: Rogers, Gavin
Subject: FW: Whistleblower-led event

From: Minh Alexander [*****]
Sent: 20 December 2017 13:54
To: Hughes, Henrietta
Cc: Clare Sardari
Subject: Whistleblower-led event

BY EMAIL

Dr Henrietta Hughes

National Freedom To Speak Up Guardian

Care Quality Commission

20 December 2017

Dear Dr Hughes,

Whistleblower-led event

Thank you again for agreeing to consider our suggestion that whistleblowers lead an event.

We have given some thought to this since the meeting on 3 November and would like to suggest the following:

1. We would like to lead an event on a core issue around which there is whistleblower consensus: The need to wholly reform UK whistleblowing law.
2. The event should ideally span late morning and mid-afternoon (eg 11am to 3pm), to increase the chances of those invited being able to fully participate, as this would allow time for those coming from outside of London comfortable time for travel.
3. Thank you for booking the CQC room for the 16 March, but we suggest a later date (May) to allow time for preparations, and also so that we may have the optimum time slot as described.

4. We are making enquiries but it is likely that we will be able to source recognised expert speakers at no or minimal cost.

5. We would to make maximum use of time by surveying participants and analysing the data gathered beforehand, to help inform discussion at the event and facilitate small group work.

6. As the venue is of limited size, this will limit numbers but we hope to involve the wider whistleblower community by collating brief case vignette data on the range of experiences that people have had with the Public Interest Disclosure Act. We would aim to use this material to inform discussion the event, and would be grateful if you would publish an electronic copy of the collated data on your website. We will take responsibility for ensuring that the content is concise and focussed on specific difficulties with the legislation, and suitable for publication.

7. We would be grateful for your assistance in sending out invitations. We will take responsibility for producing the programme flyer and invitations, but it would be helpful if they could be issued under your auspices, to help increase the likelihood of participation.

8. We would be grateful for technical assistance with recording the proceedings on the day (at least of the formal presentations by expert speakers) and transcription of the recordings. And with distribution and publication of the resultant event pack that we hope to produce.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Sardari

Dr Minh Alexander

From: "Brown, Jerina" <***** >>
Subject: HOSTING A WHISTLEBLOWING EVENT
Date: 13 December 2017 at 15:43:50 GMT

To: Minh Alexander <*****> Clare Sardari
<*****>

Dear both

You will have been notified that the next Advisory Working Group will take place on the 16 March in the afternoon. You mentioned at the last meeting you would like to host your own event. If you still wished to do this I have reserved our Board Room for the entire day to accommodate our meeting in the afternoon with the morning on hold for your event should you wish to go ahead.

I attach a meeting form template for your to complete if you would still like to hold an event.

Kind regards
Jerina