

The Winterbourne Hospital

Introduction

Consultants are critical to each Circle Health Group hospital. However, in common with other private healthcare operators and in most instances, Circle Health Group does not employ these consultants. Instead, most consultants working in our hospitals are self-employed practitioners who see and treat patients at our hospitals under the terms of our “Practising Privileges” policy.

In 2014, the Competition and Markets Authority issued an Order (the “**CMA Order**”) regulating the relationships between private hospital groups and consultants who have Practising Privileges or treat private patients or refer them for tests at group facilities (“**Referring Clinicians**”).

In accordance with the CMA Order, hospital operators are prohibited from entering into any incentive schemes that are designed to encourage Referring Clinicians to refer private patients to, or treat private patients at, their facilities. Circle Health Group does not operate any such schemes. The Order also requires hospital operators to disclose information about certain arrangements they have with Referring Clinicians, including: ownership interests held by Referring Clinicians in the hospital operator or in equipment used in the hospital; the provision of certain “high value” services to Referring Clinicians; the availability of “low value” basic amenities for Referring Clinicians; and any remuneration for services provided by Referring Clinicians to the hospital. Set out below is information about the arrangements we have with Referring Clinicians at our hospital.

Higher Value Services

We charge our Referring Clinicians £20 per hour for using consulting rooms at our hospital and £15 per hour (plus VAT) for using our medical secretarial services, except in relation to NHS patients.

Referring Clinicians whose private secretaries use space at the hospital are charged £10 hour for ad hoc desk use.

We charge Andrew Hilton, Clinical Chair and Spinal Surgeon, £200 per month for a room at our hospital which is used by his private secretary. Postage and telephone costs are charged separately.

Lower Value Services

We provide a number of support services to our Referring Clinicians, for which we do not make a charge. Further details regarding these arrangements are provided on our [corporate webpages](#).

General Corporate Hospitality

At this hospital, we provide general corporate hospitality as detailed on our [corporate webpage](#), further details regarding these arrangements are provided on our corporate webpages.

In addition, we invite members of our hospital Medical Advisory Committee and a selection of other Referring Clinicians to an annual dinner. The hospital Executive Director and Director of Clinical Services along with other senior managers attend the annual dinner. The dinner approximately costs £100 per person.

Our hospital also holds specialty dinners at intervals during the year with groups of Referring Clinicians as information gathering and sharing events. All Referring Clinicians are invited and the average cost is approximately £45 per head.

Financial Interests

There are no Referring Clinicians with financial interests in equipment used or services and facilities operated within or at our hospital.

Services Arrangements

There are no service arrangements between Referring Clinicians and our hospital.

Clinical Chair

Mr Andrew Hilton is the Clinical Chair of the hospital. Mr Andrew Hilton's role includes chairing hospital Clinical Governance Committee meetings and attending the hospital's Senior Management Team meetings. Mr Andrew Hilton is paid £12,000 per year for these services. In addition, the Clinical Chair will also attend national Clinical Chair meetings, generally in London, for which we reimburse their reasonable travel and attendance expenses.

Questions

Should you have any further questions in this area, please contact us by email at company.secretary@circlehealthgroup.co.uk.

December 2023