Fraud, bribery and corruption statement

First Community is committed to eliminating fraud and corruption, freeing up public resources for better patient care.

To this end, First Community employs a specialist counter-fraud service to provide a comprehensive programme against fraud and corruption which is overseen by the company's Audit Committee.

First Community fully complies with all anti-fraud and corruption legislation, the Bribery Act 2010 and has a zero-tolerance approach to fraud and bribery as set out in our Fraud and Bribery Policy.

It is a criminal offence to give, promise or offer a bribe, and to request, agree to receive, or accept a bribe. A bribe may take the form of any financial or other advantage to another person to induce a person to perform improperly.

Although the Bribery Act permits hospitality, all staff are required to consider on an individual basis whether accepting any hospitality offered is appropriate and should they then elect to take it, to record it within the company's Hospitality register (in line with the Receipt of Hospitality, Gifts and Inducements Policy) so that it has been fully disclosed.

It is also important that all of our contractors and agents comply with our policies and procedures. When entering into contracts with organisations First Community follows best practice set by the NHS standard terms and conditions of contract for the purchase of goods and supplies.

For more information see
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_121260

We ask all who have dealings with First Community, as employees, agents, trading partners, stakeholders and patients, to help us in our fight against fraud and corruption and to contact us immediately if they have any concerns to report.

If you have anything to report First Community's Local Counter Fraud Specialist can be contacted in confidence:

Tina Jones, **Local Counter Fraud Specialist**

> By phone on 07972004119
> or by e-mail: tina.jones2@nhs.net

All genuine suspicions of fraud and corruption can also be reported to the NHS Counter Fraud Authority by calling their FREE 24hr confidential fraud reporting hotline powered by Crimestoppers on 0800 028 4060. You can also make a report to the NHSCFA using their online NHS fraud reporting tool.

Sarah Billiald
Chief Executive
November 2021