

CCG ref: BLMK ICB 2316

13th April 2022

Via Email

Performance & Governance Directorate
Governance & Compliance Team
Capability House
Wrest Park, Silsoe
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Dear Sirs,

Re: Rebuild our NHS for people not private profit

Thank you for taking the time to write to me with your concerns. The organisation welcomes concerns, compliments and complaints as valuable feedback that will help us learn from your experiences and make improvements to the services, we commission.

Whilst the Health and Care Bill is yet to pass through Parliament, NHS England has made provisions in their governance arrangements in each of the Integrated Care Board's Constitutions for the arrangements for Conflict of Interest Management and Standards of Business Conduct. The organisation is currently preparing a policy for these purposes, which will take in within its scope the membership of the Board and its Committees.

In addition, as part of the appointment process for the Board and its Committees, members will be required to meet an eligibility criterion for membership, including complying with the criteria of the NHS 'fit and proper person test', as part of the employment standards check. There is also an explicit statement setting out the disqualification criteria for Board membership, which allows me as the person making the appointment a veto on any application where it could "reasonably be regarded as undermining the independence of the health service because of the candidate's involvement with the private healthcare sector or otherwise".

Thank you once again for your continued interest in our health and care partnership.

Yours faithfully,



**Dr. Rima Makarem,
Chair Designate,
NHS Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board**