

6. The key changes (from the June 2016 version of the guidance) are:

- **Registers of interest:** A requirement that CCGs have systems in place to satisfy themselves on an *annual* basis that their registers of interest are accurate and up-to-date. Only the declared interests of decision-making staff are required to be included on the published register.
- **Gifts from suppliers or contractors:** Gifts of low value (up to £6), such as promotional items, can be accepted and do not need to be declared, but all other gifts from suppliers or contractors must be declined and declared.
- **Gifts from other sources:** Gifts under £50 can be accepted from non-suppliers and non-contractors, and do not need to be declared. Gifts with a value of over £50 can be accepted on behalf of an organisation, but not in a personal capacity and must be declared.
- **Hospitality - meals and refreshments:** Hospitality under £25 can be accepted and does not need to be declared. Hospitality between £25 and £75 can be accepted, but must be declared. If the value of the hospitality is over £75, it must be declared and should be refused unless senior approval is given.
- **Sponsored Events:** a new section on sponsored events.
- **New Care Models commissioning:** A new annex has been appended (annex K) which summarises key aspects of the guidance that need particular consideration within the context of new care models commissioning.

7. In addition to complying with this statutory guidance, CCGs will also need to adhere to relevant guidance issued by professional bodies on conflicts of interest, including the British Medical Association (BMA),³ the Royal College of General Practitioners,⁴ and the General Medical Council (GMC),⁵ and to procurement rules including The Public Contract Regulations 2015,⁶ and the National Health Service (Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition) (No.2) Regulations 2013,⁷ as well as the Bribery Act 2010.⁸

8. This guidance aims to:

- Safeguard clinically led commissioning, whilst ensuring objective investment decisions;

³ BMA guidance on conflicts of interest for GPs in their role as commissioners and providers <http://www.bma.org.uk/support-at-work/commissioning/ensuring-transparency-and-probity>

⁴ Managing conflicts of interest in clinical commissioning groups: http://www.rcgp.org.uk/~media/Files/CIRC/Managing_conflicts_of_interest.ashx

⁵ GMC | Good medical practice (2013) http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/good_medical_practice.asp and http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/ethical_guidance/21161.asp and http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/ethical_guidance/21161.asp

⁶ The Public Contract Regulations 2015 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/102/regulation/57/made>

⁷ The NHS (Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition) (No.2) Regulations 2013 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/500/contents/made>

⁸ The Bribery Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/23/contents>