

Daily Telegraph 6th March 2017

Hundreds of NHS chiefs picking up six-figure sums

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paid is Dr Fielden, 53, earning between £220,000 and £225,000, and currently suspended following his arrest.

The organisation, which has 5,017 employees, recently came under fire after its "NHS identity team" ordered every hospital to alter its logos.

The Care Quality Commission, which has 3,261 staff - up from 2,139 three years ago - now has 18 officials on six-figure salaries, a rise from 11 in 2013-14.

Health Education England, has 43 managers on six-figure salaries. At the Department of Health, there are 18 officials on six-figure salaries.

A PHE spokesman said the organisation's purpose was "to keep the nation safe from infectious disease and improve the public's health". He added that it had cut its costs to the taxpayer by more than £145 million since 2013.

Chris Day, the CQC's director of engagement - who is paid between £95,000 and £100,000 - said the organisation was "transparent about our spending on salaries".

An NHS England spokesman said: "We now have far lower administrative costs than France, Germany or any of our major competitors. That's unsurprising as we've cut the running costs of the NHS by 50 per cent since 2010, and are going to take another 25 per cent out over the next few years."

Quango and cash Health service's highest earners

Prof Frances Gould, PHE lead microbiologist North East, £235,000-£240,000
Prof Sir Mike Richards, CQC, £235,000-£240,000
Dr Jonathan Fielden, NHS England deputy medical director, £220,000-£225,000
Jim Mackey, NHS

Improvement chief executive, £215,000 to £220,000
Paul Baumann, NHS England chief financial officer, £205,000 to £210,000
Michael Murphy, NHS Blood and Transplant, £205,000 to £210,000