



PRESS RELEASE

Is coercion, via a lottery ticket, a reasonable use of public funds?

Due to a vigilant Keep the Horton General (KTHG) campaigner, we were alerted to the presence of a 'market research' team interviewing people on 10/11 March in Banbury's Town Hall area.

It appears that Qa Research Ltd from York has been appointed by Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) to hijack targeted individuals to answer its skewed questionnaire. On Friday it was pensioners and on Saturday it was 16-24 year olds, preferably disabled ethnics!

KTHG members volunteered to answer but were denied. The interviewers were ill informed and said they were working on behalf of the County Council. They would not allow the people being questioned to fill in their own forms. If an individual said 'that service does not apply to me' the questioner replied 'that will be a no then'!

Chairman of KTHG, Keith Strangwood, intervened during Saturday's session, at which point the Qa team sought refuge in the Town Hall and subsequently exited through a cellar door.

'What has happened in Banbury is a travesty. Local people, keen supporters of their local hospital, have been duped. They were led to believe that they were answering questions on behalf of the Horton when quite the opposite was true' he said.

ends

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