

Press release: Ban for payroll company boss who failed to keep proper records

On 4 January 2016 John Thomas Hanbury was appointed a director of Crownsbury Limited, before the company operated a payroll processing bureau, which it had not done prior to his appointment.

However, the company entered into Administration on 18 July 2016 and the Insolvency Service's subsequent investigation found that between 4 January and 18 July 2016, John Hanbury failed to ensure Crownsbury maintained and/or preserved adequate accounting records.

He also failed to deliver adequate accounting records to the Joint Administrators when required to do so. As a result, it has not been possible to verify what the company's income and expenditure was after 3 May 2016 – the date its bank account was closed.

Further investigations found that it was not possible to determine the reason for receipts totalling £7,849 received between 24 March 2016 and 8 April 2016 into Crownsbury's bank account from a connected company, of which John Hanbury is a director, as well as determining the reason for a receipt of £520,000 into Crownsbury's bank account on 15 April 2016.

There were numerous other payments out of the company's bank account for which no proper explanation or verification could be found.

As a result, on 7 August 2018, the Secretary of State accepted a disqualification undertaking from John Hanbury, after he did not dispute that he failed to ensure the company maintained and/or preserved, or alternatively following administration, deliver up adequate accounting records to the Joint Administrators.

His ban is effective from 28 August 2018 and lasts for 7 years.

Anthea Simpson, Chief Investigator for the Insolvency Service, said:

Directors have a duty to ensure their companies maintain proper accounting records, and, following insolvency, deliver them to the office-holder in the interests of fairness and transparency.

Without a full account of transactions it is impossible to determine whether a director has discharged his duties properly, or is using a lack of documentation as a cloak for impropriety.

John Thomas Hanbury is of Shipley, West Yorkshire and his date of birth is June 1958.

Crownsbury Limited was incorporated on 30 March 2001 (Company Reg no. 04191092).

A disqualification order has the effect that without specific permission of a court, a person with a disqualification cannot:

- act as a director of a company
- take part, directly or indirectly, in the promotion, formation or management of a company or limited liability partnership
- be a receiver of a company's property

Disqualification undertakings are the administrative equivalent of a disqualification order but do not involve court proceedings.

Persons subject to a disqualification order are bound by a [range of other restrictions](#).

The Insolvency Service administers the insolvency regime, investigating all compulsory liquidations and individual insolvencies (bankruptcies) through the Official Receiver to establish why they became insolvent. It may also use powers under the Companies Act 1985 to conduct confidential fact-finding investigations into the activities of live limited companies in the UK. In addition, the agency deals with disqualification of directors in corporate failures, assesses and pays statutory entitlement to redundancy payments when an employer cannot or will not pay employees, provides banking and investment services for bankruptcy and liquidation estate funds and advises ministers and other government departments on insolvency law and practice.

Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct, is [available](#).

Media enquiries for this press release – 020 7674 6910 or 020 7596 6187

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

[News story: Speech – Climate change: too true to be good](#)

Speech by Sir James Bevan, Chief Executive of the Environment Agency
Royal Society of Arts, 24 September 2018

National Statistics: Road fuel prices: 24 September 2018

Cost of unleaded petrol (ULSP) and unleaded diesel (ULSD) in the UK as at Monday 24 September 2018.

News story: Innovative healthcare projects deliver millions of savings to NHS

An independent review highlights how the NHS and other public sector organisations have saved £30 million and achieved wider economic and social benefits, through just 8 [SBRI Healthcare](#) projects.

Commissioned by the NHS, the [PA Consulting](#) report – called ‘[SBRI Healthcare: a review of the benefits of the Small Business Research Initiative in healthcare](#)’ – says how the projects delivered a £30 million saving by July 2017, with recurring annual savings running at £19 million.

These projects also attracted £122 million in private investment, delivered £6.4 million in export sales and created 285 jobs.

Successful projects delivered wide benefits

The 8 high-impact projects that helped to deliver the saving include:

- [Isansys Lifecare](#), which supports automated patient observations and alerts through wearable sensors to support better care management and treatment
- [My mHealth](#), whose self-management telehealth system helps patients with lung diseases
- [365 Response](#), which has developed an online marketplace for non-emergency patient transport

Success story: Isansys is revolutionising monitoring of patients

They were also found to offer wider benefits, including time-savings for clinicians, a fall in non-attendance by patients, better patient outcomes, better access to services and reduced waiting times.

Future economic impact

As part of the report, PA Consulting looked at a further 14 projects to assess future economic impact.

Looking at their potential, it estimates savings to the NHS could rise to between £350 to £480 million in 2022, and £1.2 to £1.8 billion in 2027.

The report is a snapshot of the potential benefits. In total, SBRI Healthcare funded 176 projects to a value of £73 million from 2013 to July 2017.

The SBRI programme works by bringing together government challenges and ideas from industry. Businesses can win contracts to develop solutions for the specific challenges faced by public sector organisations.

Innovation is key to a successful NHS

Karen Livingstone, National Director of SBRI Healthcare, said:

SBRI Healthcare is helping to ensure the NHS embraces innovation that benefits patients, saves the NHS money and keeps the service in the vanguard of medical science and development.

At a time of budgetary constraint, new thinking and innovative technology should not be seen as a threat to the NHS's stability, but rather as a key stepping stone towards a successful future.

The report adds the NHS could gain further benefits from SBRI, including improving the pace of adoption of successful projects, a stronger commitment to buying these innovations and maintaining a broad scope for potential future contracts.

[News story: Apply to the Attorney General's Civil Panel Counsel – London C Panel](#)

The Attorney General is seeking to appoint new members to one of his panels of junior counsel, the London C panel, to undertake civil and EU work for government departments.

London C panel

Applications are invited from advocates interested in joining the London C panel.

Members of the C panel will be expected to have at least two years' experience in actual practice (from end of 2nd six months' pupillage for barristers, date of commencement of advocacy for solicitors).

Appointments will be for five years. Those appointed to the C panel will often (but not exclusively) provide the A and B panel members of the future and so should have the potential to join the A panel.

There are vacancies on the panel in all areas of public and private law.

Application

To obtain details about the eligibility requirements and the application process, we recommend reading our [Information for applicants](#) (PDF, 247KB, 4 pages) and the [Frequently Asked Questions sheet](#) (PDF, 377KB, 5 pages) .

To make an application, please email panelcounsel@governmentlegal.gov.uk and register an interest in applying. Please note that registering an interest does not commit you to making an application if you later decide not to do so.

Once you have registered, you will be provided with a link to access our online portal to obtain the application pack.

Completed applications must be submitted by noon on Tuesday 31 October 2018.

Further information and mentoring

If you have any queries, please feel free to raise them in the first instance with the Government Legal Department Panel Counsel Secretariat via email panelcounsel@governmentlegal.gov.uk or on 020 7210 1506.

We wish to encourage applications from as wide a range as possible of those eligible to apply. We will therefore endeavour to put advocates who are considering applying for the London C Panel and who want to discuss the application process, in touch with an established Panel member. The mentor will discuss either by telephone or in a meeting the application process, the eligibility criteria and the presentation of relevant information on the application form.

If you are considering applying and want a mentor please contact the Panel Counsel Secretariat via email: panelcounsel@governmentlegal.gov.uk on or before Friday 5 October 2018.