
Meeting: Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 12 May 2014

Subject: Quality Account (2013-14)

Summary: This note provides the Members of the Social Care, Health and Housing OSC with an opportunity to comment on the Quality Account for Bedford Hospital NHS Trust for 2013-14.

Advising Officers: Victoria Parsons, Trust Board Secretary, The Luton and Dunstable Hospital University Foundation Trust
Nina Fraser, Director of Nursing and Patient Services
Bedford Hospital NHS Trust
Richard Winter, Executive Director, South Essex Partnership University Foundation Trust (SEPT)

Contact Officer: Paula Everitt, Scrutiny Policy Adviser (0300 300 4196)

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: NHS

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

The review of services contained in the draft Quality Accounts are for NHS agencies and not the Council itself. The services referred in the Quality Accounts will however support the Council by promoting health and wellbeing and protecting the vulnerable.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That the Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee comment and agree a statement on the Quality Accounts submitted by The Luton and Dunstable University Hospital Foundations Trust, Bedford Hospital NHS Trust and SEPT if so minded.**

Background

1. All providers of NHS healthcare services in England are required to publish a quality account that represents the quality of the healthcare services delivered over the previous year. Trusts are required to share their quality accounts with Healthwatch and appropriate Overview and Scrutiny committees with responsibility for health matters who are offered the opportunity to comment on the draft document on a voluntary basis. These quality accounts are produced annually and made available to the public.
2. The Department of Health have produced guidance on Quality Accounts titled "Quality Accounts: a guide for Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSCs)". The DoH guidance states that "Quality Accounts aim to enhance accountability to the public and engage the leaders of an organisation in their quality improvement agenda. If designed well, the Accounts should assure commissioners, patients and the public that healthcare providers are regularly scrutinising each and every one of their services, concentrating on those that need the most attention."
3. The Department of Health Guidance "Quality Accounts: a guide for Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSCs)" suggests that OSCs might consider the following:-
 - Do the priorities identified by the provider contained in the Quality Account match those of the public?
 - Has the provider omitted any major issues from the Quality Account?
 - Has the provider demonstrated they have involved patients and the public in the production of the Quality Account?

Conclusion and Next Steps

5. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the Quality Accounts and provide any comments as they feel appropriate. Comments on the Quality Accounts are voluntary, the Committee is not obliged to comment if it does not feel it necessary.
6. Any statements agreed by the Committee will be sent to the provider to allow them time to prepare their final Quality Account, which will include the statement, for publication.

Appendices:

Appendix A - Priorities dashboard Luton and Dunstable Hospital

Appendix B - Priorities dashboard Bedford Hospital

Appendix C – Priorities dashboard SEPT

Background Papers: (open to public inspection)

Quality Accounts: [a guide for Overview and Scrutiny Committees](#)

Luton and Dunstable University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's Quality Account 2013/14

Bedford Hospital NHS Trust's Quality Account 2013/14

SEPT's Quality Account 2013/14

Location of papers: Priory House, Chicksands