

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee
13 January 2022

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust Improvement

Report of the Head of Legal and Governance

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review progress in improvement in response to the findings of the CQC inspection.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to consider progress in improvement at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and whether:
- a) it wishes to make any comments or recommendations; and
 - b) the focus and timescales for further scrutiny.

3 Background information

- 3.1 In September 2021 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published a report of its Well-led inspection, which took place in July 2021. The report can be viewed on the CQC's website. Following this inspection, the Trust was issued with a Section 29a warning notice under the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and rated as Requires Improvement, with an Inadequate rating in relation to whether services are well-led.
- 3.2 The Committee is aware that in October 2020 the CQC downgraded maternity services provided by NUH and since then the Committee has spoken to representatives of the Trust twice about the provision of maternity services and work taking place to make improvements. The Chair of the Committee has also spoken with Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group about its independently led thematic review of incidents relating to maternity care at NUH. A number of the Committee's concerns about maternity services relate to the Trust's governance and culture.
- 3.3 The Acting Chief Executive, Chief Nurse and Director of Midwifery attended the Committee's meeting in November to discuss the Trust's response to the CQC's report of its Well-led inspection of NUH. The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group's Chief Nurse also attended the meeting to discuss the CCG's role in supporting and holding NUH to account for improvement.
- 3.4 Since November, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee have spoken to the NHS England Regional Medical Director for the Midlands

about NHS England's role as trust regulator, to get his perspective and discuss the organisation's role in relation to supporting improvement; and held an informal evidence gathering session with representatives of Unison, the Royal College of Nursing and the HCSA.

3.6 The Trust has been invited to attend this meeting to provide an update on its improvement journey and its assessment of progress in relation to the expectation of progress by the end of January 2022. Based on the issues raised in its evidence gathering, the Committee has a particular interest in organisational culture issues.

3.7 In addition, the Trust has been invited to attend the Committee's meeting in February in relation to its progress in improving maternity services. Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group have also been invited to attend this meeting. The Trust has also been asked to share the findings of its wider review of serious incident reporting with the Committee when they are available.

4 List of attached information

4.1 None

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Care Quality Commission (15 September 2021) 'Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust Inspection Report'

6.2 Minutes of meetings of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 14 January, 15 July and 11 November 2021

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

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