

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

11 April 2024

Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust – Care Quality Commission Assessment Outcomes

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To scrutinise the outcomes of the recent Care Quality Commission (CQC) assessments of the mental health services provided by the Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NHT) and the improvement activity proposed in response.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:

- 1) to make any comments or recommendations in response to the report from NHT on the CQC assessment results relating to the mental health services that it provides and the improvement activity proposed as a result; and
- 2) to consider whether any further scrutiny of the issue is required (and, if so, to identify the focus and timescales).

3 Background information

- 3.1 The CQC carried out a series of unannounced, focused inspections of NHT's mental health service provision during June, July, October, November and December 2023, as it had received information that raised concerns about the safety and quality of the services. The CQC published its reports on 17 January and 1 March 2024, with the ratings levels going down from the 'requires improvement' assessment given previously in 2022 to 'inadequate'. A rapid review of mental health services was also commissioned by the Secretary of State in January 2024, and the results of this were published on 26 March 2024.
- 3.2 The Committee has engaged with NHT on a number of occasions in relation to both overall service delivery and individual provision. NHT representatives attended the Committee meeting on 13 May 2021 to review its strategic and transformation work in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic, and future mental health service commissioning was discussed at the meeting on 23 March 2023. The Committee has also reviewed specific provision with NHT and its partners, including psychological services, eating disorder services, the support available to people with co-existing substance misuse and mental health needs and the support offer to people in mental health crisis. A number

of the themes that the Committee has discussed with NHT previously are relevant to the findings of the CQC reports.

- 3.3 As a result of the CQC reports and the Section 48 review, NHT has been placed within Segment 4 of the NHS National Oversight Framework. This is for NHS Trusts where there are very serious, complex issues in relation to service quality and/or finance concerns that require intensive support. NHT is now working rapidly to develop an Integrated Improvement Plan to address all of the actions and recommendations arising from the CQC reports, and also from Prevention of Future Deaths notices and other external reviews. This plan will be finalised by the end of April and it is intended to cover the full scope of the challenges faced by NHT, including patient safety, service quality, people and culture, finances and leadership. NHT is being supported by the national NHS England Recovery Support Team in developing this plan, which will be delivered as a NHT-wide Improvement Programme.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Report: Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust: Care Quality Commission Inspections and Reviews

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 Inspections – Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust](#)

- 6.2 Reports to, and Minutes of, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny meetings held on:

- [13 May 2021](#)
- [23 March 2023](#)

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

- 8.1 Adrian Mann, Scrutiny and Audit Support Officer
adrian.mann@nottinghamcity.gov.uk