

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
21 SEPTEMBER 2017
REVIEW OF END OF LIFE/ PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES – IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review progress in implementation of the accepted recommendations arising from the Committee's review of end of life/ palliative care services.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:

- a) consider the progress made in implementing the accepted recommendations made by the Committee to improve end of life/ palliative care services; and
- b) decide whether any further scrutiny of progress and/or outcomes is required.

3 Background information

- 3.1 During 2015/16 the Committee carried out a study group review of end of life/ palliative care services. The review focused on addressing the following question:

Are end of life/ palliative care services for adults delivered across Nottingham City to a quality standard to meet the needs of patients, their families and carers, including in relation to cultural and faith needs?

- 3.2 Based on the evidence during the review the Committee made 7 recommendations for improvement. These recommendations were aimed at a variety of organisations, including: Nottingham CityCare Partnership, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Nottingham City Council and NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 3.3 In May 2016 the Committee heard that all of the recommendations were either fully or partly accepted.
- 3.4 In November 2016 the Committee received an update on implementation of the accepted recommendations. At that time the only outstanding recommendation was:

It is recommended that Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust review the level of need, including on acute wards, for the services of the Hospital Palliative Care Team at weekends and ensure services are in place to meet that need.

- 3.5 In response to this recommendation the report and recommendations were discussed at Nottingham University Hospitals (NUH) Quality Assurance Committee (sub-committee of Trust Board attended by Chair, Chief Executive, Chief Nurse and Medical Director) in April 2016. The action following this meeting was for a Consultant in Palliative Medicine to work with the Better for You Team (team that supports change and transformation) to model the effect of providing a seven day service within the current establishment. In November 2016 NUH reported to this Committee that work was underway to review specialist palliative care provision and availability at NUH in response to the Committee's review, the 2015 NUH CQC inspection and the National End of Life Care Dying in Hospital Audit. This work was being reported to the Quality Assurance Committee. A review had been carried out by the Better for You Team. The Quality Assurance Committee felt that further detail on the modelling was required to make a decision on the best way for NUH to provide a seven day service. A data collection exercise commenced on 1 October 2016 to run for six months.
- 3.6 The Quality Assurance Committee considered the outcome of the specialist palliative care seven day working pilot in July 2017 and supported the development of a business case to fund a permanent seven day specialist palliative care service.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 None

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

- 5.1 Notes from contributor interviews, visits and study group discussions are available from the Senior Governance Officer listed at the bottom of this report.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Reports to and minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 18 February, 19 May and 24 November 2016.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

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