

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
18 OCTOBER 2018
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HEALTHCARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST WAITING TIMES
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review actions planned/ being taken in relation to Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust's Quality Improvement Priority 'to reduce waiting times in services where delays in access could potentially cause harm and improve the experience whilst waiting'; and progress in delivering on this priority.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to review the actions planned/ being taken by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to reduce waiting times for mental health services.

3 Background information

- 3.1 Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust provides a range of mental health services to residents in the City.
- 3.2 When health scrutiny councillors reviewed the Trust's Quality Account 2017/18, they discussed with Trust representatives work to reduce waiting times. In previous years the Trust has had a focus on ensuring timely access to services, which reflected feedback from service users and carers and the monitoring of waiting times and other metrics. The Trust had identified the following as one of its Quality Improvement Priorities for 2018/19: 'to reduce waiting times in services where delays in access could potentially cause harm and improve the experience whilst waiting'. The Trust's ambition is to improve services where feedback has told them there may be problems; ensure appropriate access is available whilst waiting; and ensure no patient is harmed whilst waiting to access services.
- 3.3 Based on feedback received by the Committee waiting times is one of the main areas of concern for local people, for example during the year the Committee has spoken to the Trust and commissioners about child and adolescent mental health services and had some concerns about timely access to those services. In its comment on the Quality Account, the Committee encouraged this service to be an area of focus for the Trust within this priority. The Committee also decided to look in more

detail at the actions being taken by the Trust in relation to this priority for mental health services and review progress in delivering those actions during the course of the year.

- 3.4 A paper from the Trust is attached setting out current waiting times for mental health services, areas of focus and actions being taken to reduce waiting times. The Head of Performance, General Manager for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Interim General Manager for Adult Mental Health Services will be attending the meeting to present this information and answer questions.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Paper from Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust 'Local Partnerships Mental Health Waiting Times for the period April to August 2018'

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 Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust Quality Account 2017/18

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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