
Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

20th January 2010

Report of the Head of Civic, Legal & Democratic Services

Comments for the Care Quality Commissions New Registration Process

Summary

1. This report is to update Members on the comments provided by a delegated task group on aspects of the various Trusts' performance as part of the Care Quality Commission's new processes for regulation of NHS Trusts.

Background

2. For the past few years the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee have been providing commentaries on the local NHS Trusts' declarations as part of the Annual Health Check. The last of these was for the year 2008/09 and the Committee's comments were published in an agenda dated 11 May 2009.
3. The regulation of health and adult social care services has undergone changes and new registration standards have been introduced that will apply to NHS Trusts for the first time. All NHS Trusts (including Primary Care Trusts as providers) must be registered with the Care Quality Commission from 1st April 2010.
4. In 2010, all NHS Trusts, NHS Foundation Trusts and Primary Care Trust providers will be included in the new system of registration that replaces assessment of performance against the core standards set out in 'Standards for Better Health'. The Care Quality Commission will invite Trusts to apply to be registered and ask them to make a declaration of their compliance with the new registration requirements in January 2010. The applications will then be assessed and further enquiries made, including some inspections, in order that Trusts are registered at 1 April 2010.
5. The Care Quality Commission has now invited those groups who submitted third party commentaries last year to send them evidence about aspects of Trusts' performance separately from Trusts' declarations. These groups include Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) and Overview & Scrutiny Committees amongst others.
6. The evidence provided will be used to help inform the Care Quality Commission's decisions about the registration of providers from April 2010. The evidence will be used, where relevant, to inform core standards

assessments and commissioning assessments. Thereafter, evidence submitted will be used to inform monitoring of the ongoing compliance of providers on a continual basis.

7. Representatives from the Care Quality Commission attended the Centre for Public Scrutiny's (CfPS) networking events for health, care and wellbeing Overview & Scrutiny Committees (OSCs) in autumn 2009. A northern event was held on 24th November 2009 in Leeds. The Scrutiny Officer and three members of the Committee attended.
8. At their meeting on 23rd September 2009 Members of the Committee delegated the task of completing a commentary in relation to the registration process to the three Members who attended the event in Autumn 2009 (in conjunction with the scrutiny officer). This task group was then asked to report their findings back to the Committee.
9. The findings have now been submitted via an online form to the Care Quality Commission. The task group found the collation of these awkward due to the nature of the form, which they felt was predominantly targeted at representatives such as LINKs, the voluntary sector, carer and users.
10. However the task group did mention that all of City of York Council meetings, along with those of NHS North Yorkshire & York and the York Hospitals Foundation Trust were public meetings at which members of the public could register to speak.
11. A copy of the form and the task group's response is attached at Annex A to this report.

Consultation

12. The Care Quality Commission sends monthly bulletins and attends various information events to keep both officers and Members aware of developments.

Options

13. Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Analysis

14. This is a new process and Members of the delegated task group did not feel that the online form asked questions that were relevant to overview and scrutiny committees. They did however, realise the importance of such a mechanism being in place for other groups to comment via.

Corporate Strategy 2009/2012

15. This relates to the Healthy City theme of the recently refreshed Corporate Strategy.

Implications

16. **Financial** – There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report.
17. **Human Resources** – There are no Human Resources implications associated with the recommendations in this report.
18. **Legal** – There are no legal implications associated with the recommendations within this report.
19. There are no other known implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Risk Management

20. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no known risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

Recommendations

- i. Members are asked to note the information provided.

Reason: To enable the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee to carry out their duty to promote the health needs of the people they represent.

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Report Approved

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Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Monthly updates for NHS Trusts published by the Care Quality Commission
Reviews in 2009/10 – Assessing and rating health and adult social care
organisations (available on the Care Quality Commission's website).

Annexes

Annex A – Task Group's response