

Divisions Affected – All

OXFORDSHIRE JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

9 JUNE 2022

QUALITY ACCOUNTS – OXFORD HEALTH NHS FT AND OXFORD UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS FT

2021/22

Report by Director of Law and Governance

RECOMMENDATION

1. **The Committee is RECOMMENDED to: -**
 - a) Consider the Quality Accounts (QAs) of both NHS Foundation Trusts;
 - b) Agree to provide comments on the accounts, to specifically include progress against the Quality Objectives for 2021/22 and their identified objectives for 2022/23;
 - c) Agree to delegate to the Interim Scrutiny Manager the task of compiling the Committee's comments on the Quality Accounts in the form of a letter and to authorise the Chair to sign the letter to Oxford University Hospital NHS FT and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust on behalf of the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for incorporation into the 2021/22 Quality Accounts

Executive Summary

2. Health bodies are required to provide the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees (HOSC) with a copy of their Quality Accounts for comment. The health body is required to incorporate any comment on its Quality Accounts received from stakeholders (inc. HOSC) into its final version that is submitted to its regulator.

Background

3. Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees are one of the stated statutory consultees that health bodies are required to invite to comment on their Quality Accounts.

4. A Quality Account is a report about the quality of services provided by an NHS healthcare provider. The reports are published annually by each provider, including the independent sector, and are available to the public.
5. The quality of the services is measured by looking at patient safety, the effectiveness of treatments that patients receive and patient feedback about the care provided. Certain specified quality indicators have to be included in the report.
6. The HOSC does not have to comment on the Accounts but it has the opportunity to do so as they provide useful summary and insight into quality issues, performance and actions being taken in respect of the two Trusts providing the overwhelming majority of NHS services in Oxfordshire.
7. Reviewing Quality Accounts can also act as a prompt for the HOSC to comment on how a health body is presenting information, the impression the HOSC has of the organisation's approach towards quality improvement overall, how the HOSC has been engaging and challenging the health body on current concerns and issues and how the health body has responded both to the HOSC and regulatory challenge.

Corporate Priorities

8. Improving health and wellbeing of residents and reducing health inequalities are stated ambitions within the Council's Strategic Plan agreed in February 2022.

Financial Implications

9. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Comments checked by: Lorna Baxter

Lorna Baxter, Director of Finance. Lorna.Baxter@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Legal Implications

10. The law states that a Scrutiny Committee can:
 - (a) • Require a council officer or councillors to attend to answer questions
 - (b) • Require information to be provided that is held by the council
 - (c) • Require responses to recommendationsSpecific Health Scrutiny powers set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 provide:
 - Power to scrutinise health bodies and authorities in the local area
 - Power to require members or officers of local health bodies to provide information and to attend health scrutiny meetings to answer questions

Comments checked by: Anita Bradley

Anita Bradley, Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring officer.
Anita.Bradley@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Staff Implications

11. None arising from this report.

Equality & Inclusion Implications

12. None arising from this report.

Sustainability Implications

13. None arising from this report.

Risk Management

14. If Members do not provide comments it could appear that there is a lack of interest from the Committee in holding the NHS to account for the achievement of and future planning in respect of ensuring high quality health services.

Consultations

15. None arising from this report.

Anita Bradley
Director of Law and Governance

Annex: None

Background papers: None

Other Documents: Quality Accounts: a guide for Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Department of Health

Contact Officer: Helen Mitchell, Interim Scrutiny Manager

May 2022