

Report to: **East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)**

Date: **03 December 2015**

By: **Assistant Chief Executive**

Title: **East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) Quality Improvement Plan Scrutiny Review Board: Progress Report**

Purpose: **To provide an update on the progress of the Scrutiny Review Board established to examine ESHT's quality improvement planning in response to recent Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection reports.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

HOSC is recommended to consider and comment on the progress report.

1. Background

- 1.1 At its June 2015 meeting, the HOSC agreed to establish a Scrutiny Review Board to examine East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust's (ESHT) quality improvement planning in response to the CQC inspection reports of March and September 2015 which had rated the trust as 'Inadequate'.
- 1.2 The ESHT Quality Improvement Scrutiny Review Board includes all HOSC members. The Board operates five themed 'sub-committees' on maternity, surgery, pharmacy, patient records, and outpatients. Details of sub-committee membership are included in **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 1.3 The Scrutiny Review Board has held two meetings to date: a plenary session on 30 July 2015 where the scope and Terms of Reference of the review were agreed; and an evidence-gathering meeting on 17 November 2015 with the ESHT Interim Chief Executive, Director of Nursing, and Director of Human Resources, where plans to transform ESHT's organisational culture and the trust's Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) were discussed.
- 1.4 The Board sub-committees each met in October/November 2015 to identify witnesses and agree a course of action. The sub-committees have subsequently held or plan to hold evidence-gathering meetings with ESHT managers and clinicians, and where relevant with key stakeholders.
- 1.5 Board members will use this initial round of meetings to gauge whether ESHT's improvement plans adequately address all the issues identified in the CQC inspection reports, and whether the actions being taken seem likely to lead to substantial and sustained improvement. Where members require more information to come to a view, or are not satisfied with the trust's approach to a particular issue, they will seek further assurance via written submissions or additional meetings with ESHT. The Board will also actively monitor the trust's progress against its QIP targets over the next few months.
- 1.6 The Scrutiny Review Board will report back to the HOSC at the 24 March 2016 committee meeting. The Board's report will make recommendations to ESHT's regulators, the CQC and the Trust Development Agency (TDA)/NHS Improvement. The report will highlight areas where the Board believes that the trust's improvement planning has been effective: i.e. where there has already been or there is good reason to believe there will be substantial and sustained improvement. If there are still areas of concern for the Board at this point, these will also be flagged-up to the NHS regulators, and the Board may wish to recommend that additional or alternative actions are considered.

2. Conclusion and recommendation

- 2.1 HOSC members are asked to consider and comment on the activities of the HOSC Scrutiny Review Board

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