

28 April 2014**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****CARE QUALITY COMMISSION PRESENTATION****Purpose of the Report**

1. To introduce a presentation on the work of the care Quality Commission.

Information and Advice

2. The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the independent regulator for all care and health services in England.
3. The role of the CQC is to make sure that hospitals, care homes, dental and general practices and all other care services in England provide safe, effective, compassionate and high-quality care, and we encourage them to make improvements.
4. The CQC website (www.cqc.org.uk) contains a comprehensive searchable database of checks undertaken by the CQC. A search for 'Nottinghamshire' gives over 250 results, which can be filtered further by related conditions e.g. disability/impairment, dementia/Alzheimers, physical disability, sensory impairment, family planning etc. The website also indicates, for each provider, where improvements are required and what enforcement action is being taken. Members may wish to peruse the website to get a flavour of the sort of inspection activities that the CQC engages in.
5. The CQC inspects most hospitals, care homes and home care agencies at least once a year. Dental services are inspected at least every two years. All inspections are unannounced unless there is a very good reason to give notice to a provider. Inspectors spend most of their time on an inspection directly observing care and talking to patients or people using the service and their families or carers, as well as staff.
6. Inspectors may be accompanied by experts – either subject matter experts or 'experts by experience' (people who have in-depth experience of using services).
7. There are three types of inspection:

- Scheduled – these are inspections carried out on a rolling programme. Providers are not told the date of a scheduled inspection
 - Responsive – these are carried out when concerns are raised over a provider’s compliance with the standards
 - Themed – these are carried out when a particular type of service is reviewed (e.g. learning disability services) or when a specific set of standards is reviewed (e.g. during the CQC’s Dignity and Nutrition Inspection Programme).
8. A presentation on the work of the CQC is attached as an appendix to this report. Deanna Westwood, CQC Compliance Manager will attend the Health Scrutiny Committee to present information on the work of the CQC and answer questions.
9. Members may wish to explore how working relations can best be developed between Health Scrutiny and the CQC, and how the information that is gathered by Health Scrutiny can be utilised by the CQC when undertaking inspections.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Health Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Receives the presentation
- 2) Asks questions as necessary
- 3) Explores improved ways of working with the CQC

Councillor Kate Foale
Chairman of Health Scrutiny Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately – 0115 9772826

Background Papers

Nil

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All