

JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
15 JULY 2014
NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST PERFORMANCE AGAINST FOUR HOUR EMERGENCY ACCESS TARGET
REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES (NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL)

1. Purpose

To consider the performance of Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust against the operational standard for Accident and Emergency (95% of patients seen and admitted, transferred or discharged within four hours) and action that is being taken to improve performance.

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to use the information provided to scrutinise the action being taken by Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust to improve performance against the four hour emergency access target; and determine whether any further scrutiny is required.

3. Background information

- 3.1 There is a national operational standard for Accident and Emergency that 95% of patients are seen and admitted, transferred or discharged within four hours.
- 3.2 Over the last year there have been increasing reports at a national level about pressures on the urgent and emergency care system and the impact this has had on the ability to meet the national standard. In response NHS England requested that Urgent Care Boards were established around each A&E Department to oversee the development of an urgent recovery programme to improve standards; and work towards a medium and longer term response. The Committee has previously heard about the work of the Greater Nottingham Urgent Care Board.
- 3.3 Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust (NUH) hasn't met the 95% target since October 2013 and overall for 2013/14 achieved 93.3% against the 95% standard. Data presented to the Trust Board in June showed that NUH performance between March and June 2014 was one of the worst compared to peer trusts. The Trust has identified a number of factors affecting the ability to meet this target including capacity within

the Emergency Department, an increase in patients needing to be admitted, bed availability and recruitment challenges.

- 3.4 The Executive Lead for Operations and Deputy Director of Operations will be attending the meeting to give a presentation (attached) on work taking place to improve the timeliness of emergency care.

4. List of attached information

- 4.1 The following information can be found in the appendix to this report:

Appendix 1 – Presentation ‘Improving the timeliness of emergency care’ from Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

5. Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

None

6. Published documents referred to in compiling this report

Reports to and minutes of meetings of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee held on 10 September 2013 and 11 February 2014

Performance Report to Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group on 26 March 2014

Integrated Performance Report to Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust Board on 26 June 2014

7. Wards affected

All

8. Contact information

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