

## ITEM No

### JOINT CITY AND COUNTY HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

11 MARCH 2008

#### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

#### HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTION - UPDATE

##### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This meeting will be attended by Dr Stephen Fowlie, Medical Director at Nottingham University Hospitals Trust. The Joint Committee requested that the Trust return to update Members following their attendance at the December meeting to discuss the outcomes of a Department of Health report on the Trust's tackling of Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI).
- 1.2 This report outlines some of the issues identified by the Committee at the December meeting which Members may wish to explore further in light of the information provided by the Trust.

##### 2 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Committee is requested to consider the information provided within this report, together with that provided by Nottingham University Hospitals Trust, and make recommendations as necessary.

##### 3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The issue of tackling HCAI at Nottingham University Hospitals Trust (NUHT) was brought to the Committee in December. In August 2007 NUHT invited the Department of Health Improvement Programme Review team to assess the work of the Trust in tackling Health Care Acquired Infections. Feedback from the Department of Health was received by NUHT's Trust Board meeting on Thursday 6 December 2007. The Board agreed the report of the Improvement Programme Review Team and the Trust's action plan.
- 3.2 At the December meeting, the following comments were made by Members of the Committee:
  - i) the Trust were congratulated for undertaking this work when already achieving a standard ranking on infection rates;

- ii) it was good to see that authority had been returned to ward staff to reinforce ward hygiene and cleaning standards;
- iii) the presentation had been encouraging in showing the progress achieved;
- iv) the Trust could have been considered negligent not to have requested further assistance in reducing HCAs;
- v) it was vital that public perception of hospital healthcare was positive if patients were not to be deterred from seeking medical attention.

3.3 The Committee resolved to request a report back from the Trust in April on the progress made against their action plan. This has been brought forward to March to enable the Committee to incorporate the latest situation into their commentary on the Trust's performance against Core Standard C4 of the Annual Health Check.

#### **4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

None

#### **5 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

Reports to and minutes of the Joint City and County Health Scrutiny Committee held on 11 December 2007.

#### **6 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

None

**Barbara Cast**  
**Head of Overview and Scrutiny**  
**Nottingham City Council**

**Contact Officer: Nancy Barnard**  
Telephone number: 0115 915 9827  
Email address: [nancy.barnard@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:nancy.barnard@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

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