

Membership

Keith Girling (Chairman)
Martin Wright (Vice-Chairman)

Richard Butler
John Doddy
Kevin Greaves
David Martin
Liz Plant

Kevin Rostance
Stuart Wallace
Muriel Weisz
Yvonne Woodhead

Officers

Martin Gately
Noel McMenamin

Nottinghamshire County Council
Nottinghamshire County Council

Also in attendance

Sharon Creber
Dr Idris Griffiths
Dr Hazel Johnson
Anne Maria Newham
Dr Tim Noble
Dr Victoria
McGregor-Riley

Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
Bassetlaw CCG
Bassetlaw CCG
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Bassetlaw CCG
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1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 07 July 2020, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were signed by the Chair.

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. HEALTHCARE TRUST – RESPONSE TO CARE QUALITY COMMISSION INSPECTION

Anne Maria Newham, Executive Director of Nursing at the Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Healthcare Trust) provided an update on the Healthcare Trust's improvement plan following its inspection in early 2019. Ms Newham was present on behalf of the Trust's Chief Executive, Dr Jonathan Brewin, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Ms Newham made the following points:

- Since the publication of the report arising from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Core and Well-led inspection in May 2019 which provided an Inadequate rating, the Trust had been working hard to address the issues raised, with improvement plans set and monitored monthly at Executive level;
- Since May 2019, the CQC had carried out 3 further unannounced inspections of Trust services, each of which acknowledged 'significant improvement' in areas previously of concern, and confirming that service provided safe care. Staffing and patient satisfaction levels had shown particular improvement;
- Areas where further improvement and monitoring had been identified included siting of ligature cutters, ensuring all patient medication was appropriately labelled and in date, and ensuring that all staff had access to electronic recording systems;
- On the basis of the follow-up inspections, the CQC had issued a 'letter of assurance' acknowledging the Trust's improved levels of performance. Unfortunately, it was not possible to change the Inadequate rating issued in May 2019 without a further in-depth inspection. This had been scheduled for June 2020 but had to be deferred because of the Covid-19 pandemic. A rescheduled inspection date is yet to be confirmed;

The Committee welcomed the significant improvements achieved since May 2019. During discussion, a number of issues were raised and points made:

- It was explained that a Green Board system had been introduced which meant that staff knew exactly where to access ligature cutters, as well as oxygen, defibrillators and similar equipment. It was also confirmed that systems had been embedded to ensure that there was no longer an issue in respect of out-of-date drugs being held;
- Issues identified by the CQC's mini-inspection at Rampton Hospital in November 2019 included out-of-date medication, non-adherence to physical health protocols and therapeutic activity carried out but not recorded. A follow-up inspection in March 2020 found significant improvements across all areas identified for improvement;

- Clinical, management and HR governance arrangements had been thoroughly reformed, with a strong emphasis on robust and regular supervision. This was coupled with encouraging a culture where staff and patients could raise issues of concern without fear of consequences.
- The Trust used the Patient Advice and Liaison Service to resolve points at issue if possible, escalating to the complaints system if a resolution was not found. The literature and information produced by the Trust describing the complaints process had been commended nationally, and incidents of recurring or escalated complaints were low;
- While the Trust was on a journey to providing single accommodation for patients, the configuration of its current estate meant that progress in the short term remained difficult. Assurance was given that dormitories were not mixed but had defined male and female sections;
- It was confirmed that the culture of bullying and fear of retribution reported in May 2019 had been swept away as a result of governance reforms, but also through a number of significant staffing and management changes. The Trust had engaged with the King's Fund to help overhaul the acknowledged negative staff culture at the Trust;
- Covid-19 had had a massive impact on the Trust, but not so severe as for acute hospitals. No staff had been lost, but at one point or other 30% of staff had been off, either ill or self-isolating;
- Comprehensive audit programmes were in place to ensure a culture of compliance was embedded in staff, and this was monitored at every Board meeting.

The Chair thanked Ms Newham for her attendance. In view of the significant improvements achieved, it was agreed that Committee would consider the findings of the deferred full CQC inspection, when this became available.

5. HEALTHCARE TRUST – IMPROVING ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH INPATIENT ENVIRONMENTS

Sharon Creber, Deputy Director of Business and Marketing at the Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Healthcare Trust) introduced the item, which provided an update on a substantial variation of service relating to acute mental health inpatient provision currently sited at the Millbrook site.

Ms Creber highlighted the following points:

- The Trust had exchanged contracts with St Andrew's Healthcare for the acquisition of the hospital site, with completion expected by December 2020. Some capital works were planned for the Spring of 2021, with decanting of Adult Mental Health Services to the site by May-June 2021. Services for older patients were to remain at the Millbrook site;

- The existing Millbrook site will in time be upgraded to provide single sex ensuite accommodation;
- The report detailed the outcomes for Nottinghamshire patients at the current St Andrew's facility, all of which had had care provision solutions appropriate to their needs within the area;
- The Trust had engaged consistently with local stakeholders in respect of the new site, including the site name. The new site was to be known as Sherwood Oaks.

The Committee welcomed the report and commended the Trust for its local engagement activity.

In the brief discussion which followed, Ms Creber confirmed that while the internal configuration of the new site would be changed significantly during capital works, there would not be a dramatic change to the overall external 'look' of the site.

The Chair thanked Ms Creber for her attendance at the meeting. No further updates to Committee on this initiative were scheduled.

6. NHS BASSETLAW CCG – IMPROVING LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Dr Idris Griffiths, Dr Victoria McGregor-Riley, Dr Tim Noble and Dr Hazel Johnson of Bassetlaw CCG introduced the item, which provided information on a new model for urgent and emergency care at Bassetlaw Hospital.

CCG representatives made the following points:

- In late 2019 central government announced £15 million capital funding to implement a new model for urgent and emergency services at Bassetlaw Hospital. The planned improvements had a focus on 24-hour urgent and emergency services, hospital paediatric urgent care services and inpatient and rapid response Mental Health services for adults and older people;
- The issues with current paediatrics services at Bassetlaw Hospital were well-documented, with the hospital having been unable to provide the levels of staffing needed for a full inpatient overnight paediatric unit;
- Current mental health provision challenges included an inpatient service which did not meet all CQC standards, had a greater inpatient capacity greater than that required for Bassetlaw patients and a lack of access to a wide range of professional mental health support;
- Plans were currently at the pre-engagement stage, with initial discussions taking place with partners and the community to hear and understand priorities, concerns and initial views on the proposals;
- The Covid-19 pandemic presented challenges to delivering an inclusive and meaningful engagement process.

During discussion, the following points were made:

- It was acknowledged that the challenges highlighted, particularly in respect of specialist recruitment, were both ongoing and significant. However, the previous long-standing issue of ambulance provision and coverage was no longer considered a significant issue;
- The view was expressed that co-locating paediatric and urgent and emergency services would bring benefits of shared expertise;
- It was agreed that improved technology, and the public's increased acceptance of it, meant that face-to-face patient interactions were less essential in certain circumstances;
- It was confirmed that the maternity ward at Bassetlaw was expected to re-open in November 2020 following successful recruitment of midwives to support the service. Safety was the paramount consideration in temporarily closing the maternity service while it had been understaffed;
- It was explained that the mental health inpatient service at Bassetlaw Hospital was a mixed dormitory, which did not meet CQC standards;
- Initial pre-consultation engagement was to last until early 2021, to be followed by a 2-month consultation period expected shortly after. The exact nature of the consultation was dependent on the release of capital funding to deliver co-location, and firming up the changes to be delivered would run into the 2021-2022 financial year;
- It was confirmed that staff were rotated around the CCG where possible, but having a truly flexible workforce depended on there being a sufficient pool of staff to enable proper rotation;
- CCG representatives welcomed the suggestion of establishing Residents Panel to help get feedback on their initial proposals.

The Chair thanked Drs Griffiths, Johnson, McGregor-Riley and Noble for their attendance. It was agreed to consider the CCG's consultation engagement plans further at the Committee's December 2020 meeting.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

It was confirmed that an additional meeting of the Committee would take place at 2pm on Wednesday 14 October 2020 to consider the consultation response and next steps in respect of the NHS National Rehabilitation Centre.

The Committee's Work Programme was approved.

It was also agreed to add the following the list of potential topics for scrutiny:

- Access to GP Appointments;
- NHS 111 CCG consultation.

The meeting closed at 1:35pm.

CHAIRMAN