

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee – 26th February 2013

Report of the Lead Officer to the Committee

NHS Quality Accounts 2012/13

Purpose of Report

1. To review progress of key NHS providers in Dudley against improvement priorities set-out in their 2011/12 NHS Quality Account and consider the emerging priorities for the year ahead.

Background

Quality Accounts

2. Quality Accounts (QA) are public documents, published annually by healthcare providers about the quality of its services and plans for improvement; with the aim of enhancing accountability to the public and engaging leaders in the quality improvement agenda.
3. Consultation on finalised QAs routinely commences subsequent to the last Committee meeting of the municipal year; and so is unavailable for regular scrutiny.
4. During 2010/11 HASC established that the best way to engage scrutiny in the process was to evaluate the delivery of NHS bodies against quality issues from the QA for the previous year. In this way members are still able to measure and compare success year on year whilst ensuring planned health priorities are representative of the quality of services provided; and cover areas of importance across communities.

Improvement Priorities

5. QA's include locally agreed priorities for improvement based on an on-going dialogue with patients and the public to ensure local relevance is maintained.
6. In March 2012 the Committee agreed to monitor quality improvement priorities emerging from 2011/12 Quality Accounts. Progress against these improvement issues is presented at appendix 1 for each NHS Provider, including the West Midlands Ambulance Service.
7. Members are also encouraged to comment on the priorities going into 2013/14.

Proposals

8. It is proposed that the Committee reviews the progress against the improvement priorities identified March 2012.
9. Members comment on planned priorities for improvement going into 2013/14 with the aim of ensuring they are representative of the quality of services provided; and cover areas of importance to local communities.
10. Finally, the views expressed at this meeting will be reflected in the Committee's formal commentary on finalised Quality Accounts expected April 2013.

Finance

11. There are no direct financial implications arising from the content of this report.

Law

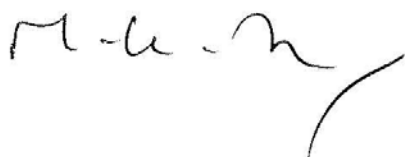
12. 'High Quality Care for All' proposed that all providers of NHS healthcare services should produce a Quality Account: an annual report to the public about the quality of services delivered. The Health Health and Social Care Act 2012 places this responsibility onto a statutory footing.

Equality Impact

13. Quality Accounts can be seen as contributing to the equality agenda in the pursuit of improving care for all. This implies a challenge to ensure that services meet the needs of all sectors of the community to make this an even greater reality in Dudley.

Recommendation

14. It is recommended that the Committee approves the proposals at paragraphs 8 to 10.



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MOHAMMED FAROOQ
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SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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List of Background Papers

Quality Accounts - report of the Lead Officer to the Committee March 2012