

Meeting of the Public Health Select Committee - 25th April 2024

Report of the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing

NHS Quality Accounts 2023-4

Purpose of report

1. To consider the draft Quality Reports and Accounts of NHS providers for 2023/24 and the priorities set out for their services for the forthcoming year.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the Committee:-
 - Notes the contents of report and appendices to the report circulated;
 - Provide feedback and comments on the draft quality reports and accounts of NHS providers.

Background

3. A Quality Account (QA) is a public report, published annually by healthcare providers about the quality of its services and its plans for improvement with the aim of enhancing accountability, and supporting the local quality improvement agenda. Providers are required to publish their QAs for the previous year (April 1st of the previous year to end of March 31st) on the National Health Services Choices website by June of each year. Under The National Health Service (Quality Accounts) Regulations 2010, healthcare providers are required to present a draft of their QA document to local authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees or equivalent by 30th April.
4. Members are requested to note their contents in advance of the Public Health Select Committee meeting on 25th April 2024. At the meeting, a senior representative from each NHS organisation attending will present a summary of their QAs to Members who will have the opportunity to ask

questions about them. Support and guidance about what Members may wish to focus particular attention on has been provided by Public Health Officers in the accompanying Quality Accounts Checklist. NHS partners will give due consideration to incorporating any feedback into the final version.

5. Members may also wish to provide a short statement to each NHS organisation immediately after the Public Health Select Committee meeting on 25th April to endorse them and/or highlight particular points of praise or concern in the provider's Quality Accounts. Providers may wish to include these statements in the final version of their Quality Accounts. Final versions of the QAs will be circulated to Members electronically.

Finance

6. The costs of operating the Council's scrutiny structure are contained within existing budgetary allocations. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Law

7. NHS Organisations are required under the Health Act 2009 and subsequent Health and Social Care Act 2012 to produce Quality Accounts.
8. Under The National Health Service (Quality Accounts) Regulations 2010, healthcare providers are required to present a draft of their QA document to local authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees or equivalent by 30th April.

Risk Management

9. The Quality Accounts are reports from external providers and any risks listed should be included on the NHS provider risk register.

Equality Impact

10. 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.

Human Resources/Organisational Development

11. Human resources and organisational development implications for NHS Providers may be addressed within each respective draft QA report.

Commercial/Procurement

12. Commercial/Procurement implications for NHS Providers may be addressed within each respective draft QA report.

Environment/Climate Change

13. Environmental and climate change implications for NHS Providers may be addressed within each respective draft QA report.

Council Priorities and Projects

14. The Dudley Borough Vision refers to building stronger, safer and more resilient communities and protecting our residents' physical, and emotional health for the future. This includes monitoring and scrutinising the impact of local services on the health, wellbeing and safety of the Borough's citizens.



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Appendices

Appendix 1 - A guide for Members that provides suggestions on what to look for when appraising Quality Accounts.

List of Background papers

Draft Quality Accounts for 2023-4 for the following providers of NHS services to residents of Dudley have been circulated to Members separately:

- Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust
- West Midlands Ambulance Service