

Meeting of the Health Select Committee 31st July 2024

Report of the Director of Public Health

NHS Quality Accounts 2023-24

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;
 - 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 31st July 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 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 select committee structure are contained within existing budgetary allocations. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Law

7. Select Committees are established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the requirements of the Council's Constitution, which was adopted under the Local Government Act 2000, subsequent legislation and associated Regulations and Guidance.
8. Working Groups are not Committees as defined by Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and will not have delegated powers and can only make recommendations. As such Access to Information Procedure Rules referred to in the Constitution will not apply to meetings of these Groups.

Risk Management

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

Equality Impact

9. 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

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

Commercial/Procurement

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

Council Plan

12. 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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List of Background Documents

Attached as Appendices to this report are the Quality Accounts for 2023-4 for the following providers of NHS services to residents of Dudley:

- Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Also attached is a guide for Members that provides suggestions on what to look for when appraising Quality Accounts.