

Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 18 September 2024

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
N/A;

Report of the Health Scrutiny Steering Group
(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

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Brief Summary

This report seeks to provide members with a summary of discussions held at the meetings of the Steering Group on 22 May and 10 July 2024 which included a review of the Steering Group terms of reference (attached at Appendix 'B').

Recommendation

The Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- i. Receive the report of the Health Scrutiny Steering Group.
- ii. Agree the changes to the Steering Group terms of reference as outlined in this report (attached at Appendix 'A').

Detail

The main purpose of the Steering Group is to manage the workload of the Committee more effectively in light of increasing number of changes to health services. The Steering Group is not a formal decision making body and reports on its activities are provided to the Committee for consideration and agreement.

The Health Scrutiny Steering Group met on 22 May 2024 with reports on Winter Reflections and Looking Ahead, and NHS Quality Accounts Review. The meeting held on 10 July 2024 reviewed the terms of reference for the Steering Group (see Appendix 'A') and the draft work programmes identified as part of the Annual Portfolio and Service Area Review which took place on 26 June 2024. An overview from these meetings is outlined below.



22 May 2024

Winter Reflections and Looking Ahead

Craig Frost and David Hutton provided members with a brief summary of the presentation on NHS winter reflections and looking ahead to 2024/25, which was provided as part of the agenda pack.

There were two key ambitions as part of the Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) Recovery Plan:

- 76% of patients being admitted, transferred or discharged from A&E within 4 hours by March 2024 with further improvements in 2024/25.
- Improve ambulance response times for Category 2 incidents to 30 minutes on average over 2023/24 with further improvements in 2024/25.

It was highlighted that whilst Lancashire and South Cumbria achieved the national ambitions for 2023/24, there was recognition across the system that performance needed to further improve going forward.

With regards to UEC capacity investment funding for 2023/24, it was reported that there was an investment of over £28m supporting a range of schemes including virtual wards, acute frailty unit, minor treatment centre etc.

Members raised concerns around the single point of access (also known as care navigation). It was reported that there were too many single points of access into the system currently and work was ongoing to reduce them.

In relation to the lessons learned from 2023/24, it was highlighted that time constraints and delays on plans from NHS England continued to impact and there was a need to ensure planning continued without awaiting guidance from NHSE, with a view to implementing guidance as its received.

With regards to development of the System Coordination Centre and Operational Pressures Escalation Levels (OPEL) framework, it was reported that OPEL would be expanded in 2024 to reflect whole system pressures.

Members were informed that in relation to the 2024/25 priorities, these included a need to continue to progress the ten high impact interventions, improve A&E waiting times and develop services that shift activity to settings outside an acute hospital for patients with unplanned urgent needs etc.

It was reported that UEC Capacity Investment Funding for 2024/25 of £28m was due to be released with a view to create additional capacity, improve UEC performance, patient experience and quality of care.

Members were advised that a UEC 5 year strategy for 2024/29 was in development with feedback being sought through a number of partner agencies with a view to presenting a final version for approval at the Integrated Care Board.



Sue Lott and Paul Lee provided members with a brief summary of the presentation on the Adult Social Care winter plan evaluation included as part of the agenda pack.

Members were provided with an overview of the variety of services and supports as part of the winter plan which included:

- 'Take home and settle' services delivered by Age UK
- Mental Health Wellbeing Team
- Additional crisis, 'Home First' and reablement
- Health and housing coordinators

It was highlighted that Intermediate Care has been renamed as Short Term Care Support, bringing together intermediate, acute and reablement teams as well as ICAT (Intermediate Care Allocation Team).

It was reported that the additional capacity provided as part of the winter plan worked well and supported teams to better respond to surges in demand, enabled more people to return directly home from hospital and improved the tactical response and coordination across hospital pressures. In total, over 6,000 patients discharged from hospital were supported.

Members were invited to ask questions and are outlined below:

With regards to what services could be made business as usual (BAU), it was reported that in Adult Services there was a need to look at capacity across previous winters to determine commissioning need to support BAU, as well as reviewing surge capacity.

It was reported that there was an LGA discharge to assess diagnostic underway which was hoped would provide the service with useful information to help plan. In addition, an intermediate care capacity vs demand project was underway to review level and focus of capacity.

Further work was also reported to be underway on the Health and Housing Coordinator pilot to understand benefits to determine funding in future.

With regards to BAU in NHS, it was reported that the £28m funding was recurrent, however some schemes were under review to identify impact and potential for BAU.

With regards to the Acute Respiratory Hubs, it was reported that these would be implemented in 2024/25, with communication to the public led by the primary/community care teams and managed within the Primary Care service.

On a question around how Adult Services overtime has been utilised, it was reported that information would be available by the end of May for circulation to the steering group.

A question was raised around plans to collaborate with those with learning disabilities and autism respiratory issues and links with Acute Respiratory Hubs to ensure that there is the right level of support at the right time. It was confirmed that further detail would be provided and circulated.



It was agreed that the winter plans be submitted either to the steering group or the committee in September/October and would be added to the work programme. It was also highlighted that any future reports would include information around mental health services.

Resolved: That:

- i. The information be considered.
- ii. Winter plans be reported to either the steering group or the full committee in September/October.
- iii. Further detail on Acute Respiratory Infection Hubs and links to support for patients with learning disabilities and autism be provided and circulated to members.

NHS Quality Accounts Review 2023/4

Members were provided with Quality Accounts draft reports from the following hospital trusts:

- Blackpool Teaching Hospitals
- Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust (LSCFT)
- University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay (UHMBT)

Members were asked to consider each of the reports with a view to providing a response back to the Trusts ahead of the final report publication.

It was felt that for all of the reports there was a need for a summary document to be included, general proof reading before publication and a glossary of abbreviations to ensure reports were accessible to professionals and general public. It was also acknowledged that with the information each Trust was expected to provide as part of the NHSE guidance on Quality Account reports, there would always be a challenge to presenting information in a way that would be appropriate for differing audiences.

Resolved: That based on discussions, responses drafted for agreement with the Chair and be sent to the Trusts.

10 July 2024

Confirmation of Membership and Terms of Reference Review

The report circulated with the agenda pack provided confirmation of the Committee's membership for 2024/25, and the current terms of reference (at Appendix 'B' to this report) which provided an opportunity for members to review the role of the Health Scrutiny Steering Group.

Regarding the revised terms of reference of the group, it was confirmed that they accurately represented the group and provided detail on the monitoring arrangements and membership arrangements of the group.



Regarding the membership of the steering group, it was confirmed that the terms of reference would be amended to reflect how the nomination of members operated.

Resolved: That the revised terms of reference be amended to clarify nomination of members and presented to the next Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee in September for approval (see Appendix 'A').

Draft Work Programmes 2024/25

Members were provided with the draft work programmes for 2024/25 of the Health and Adult Services Steering Group and Health and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee.

It was confirmed that the draft work programmes for 2024/25 had been shown to all relevant directors across Adult Services and Public Health, the ICB, LSCFT and the relevant Cabinet Members with no concerns identified.

It was noted to members that the Health Visiting and School Nurses Contract item had been delayed to 2025, however it would be kept under review.

Regarding the Quality Accounts Reports of the Trusts, members commented that it would be helpful for the Trusts to attend the full committee. The group were informed that the timing of the Quality Accounts Reports could be subject to change, due to the local county council elections in May 2025.

It was confirmed there was capacity on draft work programme of the steering group, and this could be filled with items on the upcoming clinical transformations. In addition, there were a number of briefing notes included on the work programme. Should members raise numerous concerns from a briefing note, officers could then be invited to attend a future steering group meeting.

Resolved: That the work programmes for both the committee and steering group be approved for inclusion as part of the Scrutiny Management Board meeting agenda on 23 July.

Appendices

Appendices 'A' and 'B' are attached to this report. For clarification they are summarised below and referenced at relevant points within this report.

Appendix	Title
Appendix 'A'	Health Scrutiny Steering Group - New Draft Terms of Reference
Appendix 'B'	Previous Terms of Reference

Consultations

NA

Implications:



This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Legal

There are no legal implications detailed in this report.

Financial

There are no financial implications detailed in this report.

Risk management

There are no risks detailed in this report.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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NA

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

NA

