

Solent NHS Trust Update to Portsmouth City Council Overview and Scrutiny

July 2016

CQC inspection

The intensive visits by the CQC took place on 27th June. We hosted 67 inspectors, who carried out a comprehensive review of the majority of Solent services. The inspection itself continues until the 14th July, with unannounced visits to our services, in and out of hours, and many requests for additional data.

We have received some preliminary feedback from the CQC following the announced inspection which has identified areas of good practice and some areas for improvement. The CQC are clear that their feedback is only preliminary at this stage as the unannounced visits and continuing data requests will provide additional information. We are keen to work with our partners in areas for improvement as and when they are confirmed.

We will continue to engage with you to discuss the feedback we have received so far. We do not expect to receive our formal assessment until September or October, but will ensure that you are kept informed of any updates before then.

Moving forward to implement the Portsmouth Blueprint

May and June heralded an important step on our journey towards team around the person.

We co-located adult's health and social care teams, and colocated children and family multi agency teams in Civic and Medina House in the city. We have already seen the benefit of closer working and are now planning the next stages of our journey towards integrated working

We continue to work with the GP Alliance to take forward two important projects; one to ensure that people with frailty have a multidisciplinary review between geriatricians, GPs and community nursing teams, and the other to try to better manage urgent care demands on both primary care and the emergency department. We are creating an urgent care hub in partnership between the Primary Care Alliance and Solent NHS Trust

We continue to support PHT in delivery of their urgent care performance. A business case to identify those with frailty in the emergency department to ensure they are appropriately assessed and their care managed effectively, and also to ensure early supportive discharge, is currently being concluded with the ambition to fully implement in the autumn.

Operational matters

Staffing pressures

We have for the last 18 months, had significant staffing vacancy levels in community nursing which has resulted in service delivery problems. The vacancy rate is moving in the right direction and we expect to be nearing a manageable figure after the summer. Generally the teams are managing their workloads better and feedback from service users is improving

There appears to have been a rise in the acuity of mental health problems in the community and as a consequence we have seen a rise in the number of people requiring intensive inpatient care. This has created pressures on service from police, through to urgent care facilities (section 136 suites). The recent closure of intensive care beds in Southern NHSFT is also noted.

The reductions in public health funding for Health Visiting coupled with reductions in training funding for health visitors, will result in the need to revisit the role and population coverage that this important service provides

Financial pressures

The plan for 2016-17 is a deficit of £4.5m. Whilst months 1 and 2 are broadly in line with plan, there remain significant financial gaps that are not yet resolved in the Portsmouth system.

Sarah Austin COO 13th July 2016