

Item 8: CQC Quality Report – Darent Valley Hospital

By: Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services

To: Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 7 March 2014

Subject: CQC Quality Report – Darent Valley Hospital

Summary: This report invites the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the information provided on the CQC Quality Report - Darent Valley Hospital.

It provides additional background information which may prove useful to Members.

1. Introduction

- (a) Following on from the publication of the Francis Report in February 2013, the Care Quality Commission was asked to establish the post of Chief Inspector of Hospitals. Two further Chief Inspector posts, for Adult Social Care and for General Practice, were also then introduced.
- (b) The appointment of Professor Sir Mike Richards as Chief Inspector of Hospitals was the precursor to a radical review being undertaken of the way the CQC inspects hospitals. These new inspections will involve large inspection teams than previously and take longer. The teams will involve trained members of the public as well as clinical and other experts.
- (c) Eight key service areas will be inspected, along with others where necessary. These eight are:
 - A&E
 - Acute medical pathway (including frail elderly)
 - Acute surgical pathway (including frail elderly)
 - Critical care
 - Maternity
 - Paediatrics
 - End of life care
 - Outpatients.
- (d) Public listening events will be held on the first day of each inspection and after the inspections, Quality Summits will be held. HOSCs will have the opportunity to play a role in these summits.

2. First and Second Waves of Inspection

- (a) The first wave of inspections was announced in July 2013. These were in effect to be a way to help develop and test the new approach. In Kent, Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust was included in wave 1, with

Item 8: CQC Quality Report – Darent Valley Hospital

the inspection starting from 25 November. 18 Trusts in total were included.

- (b) On 24 October, and following the closing of a CQC consultation on changing their inspection regime, the CQC named the next 19 Trusts which were to be inspected from January 2014. In Kent, East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) has been included. The aim is to inspect every NHS Trust by December 2015.
- (c) These 19 Trusts will be the first to be awarded the new 'Ofsted style' rankings of:
 - Outstanding
 - Good
 - Requiring improvement
 - Inadequate

3. Intelligent Monitoring

- (a) These 19 Trusts were selected for a number of reasons. Some were follow ups to hospitals which were part of the Keogh Review. Some were Trusts which Monitor asked the CQC to look at, or are Trusts applying for Foundation Trust status. Others again were ones which showed a higher risk with CQC's new intelligent monitoring system or which showed an intermediate risk to enable the intelligent monitoring tool to be tested. EKHUFT was one of these intermediate rated Trusts.
- (b) This new intelligent monitoring tool is based on 150 indicators based around the five key questions all inspections will seek to answer. These questions are to be asked of every service:
 - Is it safe?
 - Is it effective?
 - Is it caring?
 - Is it responsive to people's needs?
 - Is it well-led?
- (c) Together with any local information which the CQC has obtained, this intelligent monitoring tool has been used to group all 161 Acute Trusts into six bands based on the risk that people may not be receiving safe, effective, high quality care - with band 1 being the highest risk and band 6 the lowest. A Hospital Intelligent Monitoring report has been produced for each Acute Trust. The CQC are keen to stress that a high band does not mean people are at risk, but rather that there are issues which the CQC needs to look into.
- (d) Bandings for Hospital Trusts in Kent, with links to the full reports:

Item 8: CQC Quality Report – Darent Valley Hospital

- Medway NHS Foundation Trust – Band 1.
http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/reports/RPA_101_WV.pdf
 - East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust – Band 3.
http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/reports/RVV_101_WV.pdf
 - Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust – Band 5.
http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/reports/RWF_101_WV.pdf
 - Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust – Band 5.
http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/reports/RN7_101_WV.pdf
- (e) More detailed information on the hospital inspection regime can be found on the CQC website: <http://www.cqc.org.uk/public/news/more-hospital-inspections-announced>

4. Recommendation

Members of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider and comment on the reports on CQC Quality Report – Darent Valley Hospital.

Background Documents

CQC, 'Chief Inspector of Hospitals announces inspection plans', published on 18 July 2013, <http://www.cqc.org.uk/media/chief-inspector-hospitals-announces-inspection-plans>

CQC, 'More hospital inspections announced', published on 24 October 2013, <http://www.cqc.org.uk/public/news/more-hospital-inspections-announced>

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