

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2017 AT 10.00AM

Agenda Item No.

5b

**PROPOSED ANNUAL SCRUTINY OF HEALTH PROVIDER QUALITY
ACCOUNTS 2017/18 - 2018/19**

Report of the Head of Scrutiny

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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide Members with the Quality Accounts questions to which provider trusts will respond and the proposed format for the Committee's scrutiny of health trusts Quality Accounts 2017/18 - 2018/19.

2. Summary

- 2.1 In previous years the Committee has scrutinised patient experience and NHS finances jointly in March. Feedback has highlighted the difficulty of addressing both themes effectively at one meeting. In response, it is proposed that consideration of finances and the Quality Account scrutiny is held at separate meetings of the Committee. If Members agree each trust's finances would be addressed at the December meeting (see Item 5a) and Quality Accounts at the March meetings.
- 2.2 On the 15 March and 29 March 2018 it is envisaged that the Committee will scrutinise three providers in the morning followed by a further three providers during the afternoon. The organisations to be scrutinised are
- East & North Herts Hospital Trust (ENHT)
 - West Herts Hospital Trust (WHHT)
 - Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH)
 - East of England Ambulance Trust (EEAST)
 - Herts Partnership Foundation Trust (HPFT)
 - Herts Community Trust (HCT)
- 2.3 It is proposed that for each organisation a small group of six Members under the direction of a chairman and supported by a graduate trainee will gather evidence.
- 2.4 Each trust will provide a written response to questions attached as Appendix 1 in advance of the meeting. The questions have been

developed with assistance from a Healthwatch Hertfordshire, the Care Quality Commission and partner trusts.

- 2.5 A briefing for Members of the Committee will be held in advance of the meeting.
- 2.6 The lead member will be expected to liaise with the other Members of the group to agree key lines of inquiry etc.
- 2.7 In advance of the Committee member groups will meet to agree with the lead member the key lines of enquiry, those questions that do not require further consideration and any particular areas of focus. At the start of the Committee meeting in the Council Chamber Members will receive an introduction; a summary by the Head of Scrutiny of the format for the Committee's scrutiny.
- 2.8 Information gathered during the scrutiny will inform the stakeholder statement provider by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee and recorded in the Quality Account for 2018/19.
- 2.9 The Committee's recommendations will be monitored by the Impact of Scrutiny Sub Committee.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Committee approves the proposals for its scrutiny of the Quality Accounts 2017/18 - 2018/19.
- 3.2 Members agree the proposed Quality Account questions.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report

Background Information

Francis Report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-of-the-mid-staffordshire-nhs-foundation-trust-public-inquiry>

Appendix 1- Proposed Questions is attached as a separate document