

Report of the Joint Health Overview And Scrutiny Committee for Bolton Salford and Trafford Mental Health NHS Trust

Feedback from the meeting – 27th March 2007

Recommendations: The committee will submit a commentary to the Trust for inclusion in the final declaration to the Health Care Commission.

The members chose to revise the Committees terms of reference to reflect the changes over the last year.

Actions: A copy of the Senior management structure will be circulated to all members for information.
The commentary will be circulated to all members, finalised and submitted to the trust by 2nd April.
Peter will draft revised Terms of reference and circulate to all members for comment by April 16th.

Work Programme: officers will develop a work programme with the Trust and present it to members for agreement.

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Attendance:

Councillors J. Kean, (Chair), C. Gray, P. Young, L. Byrne and D. Greenhalgh.
Officers; P. Kidd, (Salford) N. Hine (Trafford), N. Aspey (Bolton).
Trust Officers; Liz Mear, Director of Governance and HR, Cath Moran, Director of Operations and Nursing.

Apologies:

Councillors J. Murphy, A. Jones, E. Eadie, and I. Hamilton.

Details

- **Trust organisation(CCC)**

Following recent changes to the management structure of the Trust, Liz Mear updated members with the current names in post. A copy of the list will be circulated to members by Peter.

- **The Core and Development Standards.**

Liz gave a presentation outlining the self assessment process and the core and development standards, the Healthcare Commission use to measure the quality and value for money of healthcare provision.

Liz outlined how the Trust have approached the assessment, allocated responsibilities and gathered the supporting evidence, for each of the core standards and the more detailed key lines of enquiry.

The presentation also highlighted 4 of the core standards which the trust has identified as “not met or have insufficient assurance”.

One of the standards which is not met arose in 2005/2006, this concerns mandatory training and is not met because the action plan for improvement was timed to be completed in June 2006 and could not be regarded as met for the full year 2006/2007, though the actions have been fully implemented on time.

One core standard with insufficient assurance in two aspects is;

- 1, a consequence of working across a number of PCT's and authorities and working to a number of differing policies this will be resolved this month with a new in house waste management policy which will meet all the various standards.
2. relates to an area where the trust is striving for higher safety and security standards around the distribution of medicines than would be classed as acceptable.

One standard regarded as not met, required a review of communication and the distribution of information arising from the annual report of the director of public health, this has been addressed and in future, information will inform policies and procedures.

The remaining standard relates to the trusts ability to learn from reportable safety incidents. This has been reviewed and resulted in a more robust procedure, which links into the risk assurance framework and will include near misses. The trust is encouraging a positive reporting culture among staff that will reflect the desire to learn from incidents rather than any desire to punish. Members were particularly encouraged to hear about this and fully support it, though agree the culture may take some time to change. Members were pleased to hear that SMART action plans are in place to address all the standards identified as not met or have insufficient assurance.

The trust hope to secure a “good” annual performance rating though are conscious that the healthcare commission may choose to visit this year to inspect the trust and the evidence it has gathered to support the assessment.

Liz then shared the Trust declaration process timetable for the coming months building up to the final submission on the 1st May at 12.00 noon.

- **Scrutiny Commentary**

Members considered the paper previously distributed which outlined the assessment process and suggested where the committee could make an evidenced based comment against some of the core standards. The paper was approved and with a few minor additions will be circulated to all members for observations, finalised and then submitted to the Trust as the committees commentary for inclusion in the final declaration.

- **Terms of reference and work programme.**

The Chair reminded members that in accordance with the terms of reference the committee will be looking for a new chair from Bolton or Trafford members. Members agreed the existing terms of reference needed revising to account for developments over the past year. Peter will draft a revision and circulate it to all members for comments and complete this revision before the next meeting.

Members then discussed issues they may consider in the future.

The visits undertaken last year were regarded a very successful members felt they learned a lot about the trust and its services and they would like to programme more visits in the coming year. As well as the units on the headquarters site members would like to consider locations within Bolton Salford and Trafford. Cath Moran would be happy to coordinate the visits around future meetings.

Other issues mentioned included

Partnership working with the local authorities.

Update on the reconfiguration of older peoples services.

Crisis resolution the impact of 24hour 7day service on local authority and PCT service commissioning.

Funding for services dealing with alcohol abuse.

Promotion of service in local areas (partnership working)

Foundation Trust Status, an update.

The annual health check and scrutiny commentary may move to biannual but currently needs consideration at this time each year.

The support officers will develop the work programme in conjunction with Trust management to ensure the issues are appropriate and timely and submit it to members for their consideration.

- **Any Other Business**

The Chair thanked the officers from the trust for their time and support and the use of the trust facilities over the past year.