

Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee

COMMENTARY ON THE DEVON PARTNERSHIP NHS TRUST

Devon County Council's Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee has been invited to comment on the Devon Partnership NHS Trust (DPT) Draft Quality Account for the year 2017/18 which includes the priorities for 2018/19. All references in this commentary relate to the reporting period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 and refer specifically to the Trust's relationship with the Scrutiny Committee and its Members.

Members believe that the Quality Report 2017/18 is a fair reflection and gives comprehensive coverage of the services provided by the DPT, based on the Scrutiny Committee's knowledge.

The Committee is pleased to see that Trust has undertaken work in 2017-18 to develop clinical care pathways and to expand the Single Point of Access service. Members commend the Trust for reducing aggression experienced within wards and in developing partnerships with carers. The Committee is also grateful to the DPT for attending a Member development session in November on mental health.

The Committee notes however that the Trust has not achieved targets to improve physical healthcare monitoring and the experience and outcomes for young people as they transition into adult services. Members also acknowledge the challenges that Devon Partnership faces in recruiting to key posts in the medical and nursing professions, but appreciate that the Trust has performed well in relation to agency staff costs.

In terms of the priorities for 2018/19, Members endorse measures to further reduce the severity of harm reported in incidents on the Trust's inpatient wards. The Committee supports the implementation of carer awareness training for clinical staff and looks forward to hearing the Trust's progress in improving the physical health monitoring of people with mental health and learning disability needs and in embedding the integrated governance structure.

Members are grateful to the Trust for attending the meeting of the Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee Standing Overview Group in May 2018 in which the Trust outlined its Quality Account for 2017-18 to the Committee.

The Committee welcomes a continued positive working relationship with the DPT in 2018/19 and beyond to continue to ensure the best possible outcomes for the residents of Devon.