

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMMUNITIES and HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

03 March 2015

Report of the Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)

1 MAIDSTONE AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS NHS TRUST – CARE QUALITY REPORT

To set out the key findings of the report and to seek a further review of the issues raised once the Trust's improvement plan has been published.

1.1 Background

1.1.1 The Care Quality Commission (CQC) undertook an inspection of the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust in October 2014. The report arising from that inspection has recently been published and a summary of this is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. The key findings are set out below along with a recommendation that the Board revisits these issues at a future meeting after the Trust has published its improvement plan.

1.2 The Key Findings

1.2.1 Overall, the CQC has rated the Trust as one which 'Requires Improvement', the second lowest of the available ratings. As set out at Appendix 1, one area: 'are services at this trust caring?' was found to be rated as good, three areas including issues of safety, effectiveness and responsiveness were deemed to be requiring improvement and leadership at the Trust was rated as inadequate.

1.2.2 The report highlighted specific issues relating to critical care services with both Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone hospitals being rated as 'inadequate'. All other services in both hospitals were rated as requiring improvement apart from maternity and gynaecology services at Maidstone hospital which received a good rating.

1.2.3 In a wider context, the most recent reviews of 20 HS Trusts nationally has resulted in six being rated as good, 12 being rated as requiring improvement and 2 being rated as inadequate.

1.3 The Trust's Response

- 1.3.1 The Trust has 28 days following the publication of the inspection results to publish an improvement plan to address the recommendations of the CQC. The Trust is now preparing that plan and is engaging with key partners to assist with its preparation. A Quality Summit was held by the Trust and CQC on 29th January involving a wide range of bodies including local clinical commissioning groups, Kent County Council, Social Services, Healthwatch, NHS Trust Develop Authority and NHS England.

1.4 Next Steps

- 1.4.1 Clearly, implementation of the actions to be set out in the improvement plan will take some time to achieve. It is therefore suggested that the Trust be invited to a future meeting of the Board later in the year so that Members can assess the extent to which those planned improvements to local health services have been achieved.

1.5 Legal Implications

- 1.5.1 None

1.6 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.6.1 Issues dealt with by the Trust.

1.7 Risk Assessment

- 1.7.1 n/a

1.8 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.8.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

1.9 Recommendations

- 1.9.1 That the findings of the CQC report in respect of the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust **BE NOTED** and that the Trust **BE INVITED** to a future meeting of this board to review progress with its improvement plans.

The Chief Executive confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and policy Framework.

Background papers:

contact: Mark Raymond

Nil

Julie Beilby
Chief Executive