
Heath and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

16 September 2022

Response by University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust to Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspection

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (UHS) was created on 1 April 2021 through the merger of Western Sussex Hospitals and Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trusts. In September 2021, inspectors from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) visited the new Trust to inspect all maternity services as well as the surgery service provided at the Royal Sussex County Hospital (RSCH) in Brighton and identified a number of areas for improvement. In April 2022, the CQC reinspected these services and carried out an unannounced inspection of urgent and emergency care at the RSCH. This showed that had improvements had been made, however it subsequently instructed that planned surgery on gastro-intestinal cancer services (at RSCH) should be suspended. The Health and Adult Social Care Committee (HASC) identified this as an issue for future scrutiny as part of its work programme planning.

The report (Appendix A) updates the Committee on the findings of the inspection and sets out the actions put in place to address these.

Focus for scrutiny

The focus for scrutiny is to seek assurance that actions taken to address areas of concern raised by the CQC have been addressed, relating to surgery, maternity, urgent and emergency services and gastro-intestinal cancer services (at RSCH).

Key lines of enquiry include:

- 1) The effectiveness and resilience of measures taken to improve services
- 2) Whether any further improvements are planned or required
- 3) The impact on service users and their families/carers as appropriate
- 4) To identify whether any further scrutiny of this matter could add value

The Chairman will summarise the debate, which will then be shared with NHS colleagues.

1. Background and context

- 1.1 The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached report. There are no resource or risk implications directly affecting West Sussex County Council, as this is a report by the NHS, relating to NHS services.

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Appendices

Appendix A: Presentation on CQC findings, feedback and response

Background Papers: None