

**NHS QUALITY ACCOUNTS – RESPONDING TO REQUEST TO COMMENT**

*To:* **HEALTH COMMITTEE**

*Meeting Date:* **12<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

*From* **The Monitoring Officer**

*Electoral division(s):* **All**

*Forward Plan ref:* **Not applicable**

*Purpose:* **To inform the Committee of the requirement, as part of its Health Scrutiny function, to comment on Quality Accounts provided by NHS Provider Trusts.**

*Recommendation:* **The Health Committee is asked to note the requirement to comment on Quality Accounts and endorse the proposed process for doing so.**

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 NHS Healthcare providers are required under the Health Act 2009 to produce an annual Quality Account report. A Quality Account is a report about the quality of services by an NHS healthcare provider.
- 1.2 Quality Accounts are an important way for local NHS services to report on quality and show improvements in the services they deliver to local communities and stakeholders. The quality of the services is measured by looking at patient safety, the effectiveness of treatments that patients receive and patient feedback about the care provided.

## **2. MAIN ISSUES**

- 2.1 It is a requirement for NHS Healthcare providers to send to the Health Committee in its Overview and Scrutiny function a copy of their Quality Account for information or comment.
- 2.2 NHS Healthcare providers are required to submit their final Quality Account to the Secretary of State by 30<sup>th</sup> June each year. However each provider will have internal deadlines for receipt of any comments from relevant statutory consultees.
- 2.3 Officers have been advised that Addenbrooke's Hospital (Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) will be sending the Health Committee a Quality Account towards the end of March with a request to respond by 30<sup>th</sup> April. This is well ahead of Addenbrooke's deadline for submission to Monitor of 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015.
- 2.4 It is expected that the Health Committee will receive a number of similar requests from NHS Healthcare providers over the next month, including Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (CCS), Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT), the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST), Hinchingbrooke Healthcare NHS Trust and Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.
- 2.5 It is proposed that the Health Committee consider and comment on all Quality Accounts from NHS Healthcare providers at the committee meeting scheduled for 21st May 2015.

## **3. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

### **3.1 Resource Implications**

Officer time in preparing a paper for the Committee.

### **3.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications**

These are outlined in a paper on the Health Committee powers and duties, which was considered by the Committee on 29th May 2014.

### **3.3 Equality and Diversity Implications**

There may be equality and diversity issues to be considered in relation to the quality accounts.

### **3.4 Engagement and Consultation Implications**

There may be engagement and consultation issues to be considered in relation to the quality accounts.

### **3.5 Localism and Local Member Involvement**

There may be relevant local issues in relation to the quality accounts.

### **3.6 Public Health Implications**

The quality of services at local healthcare providers will impact on public health

<b>Source Documents</b>	<b>Location</b>
NHS Choices information on Quality Accounts	<a href="http://www.nhs.uk/aboutNHSChoices/professionals/healthandcareprofessionals/quality-accounts/Pages/about-quality-accounts.aspx">http://www.nhs.uk/aboutNHSChoices/professionals/healthandcareprofessionals/quality-accounts/Pages/about-quality-accounts.aspx</a>