

Subject: **Healthcare Commission Annual 'Health Check' of NHS Trusts**

Date of Meeting: **05 November 2008**

Report of: **The Director of Strategy and Governance**

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Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The HealthCare Commission's annual rating ('Health Check') of NHS Trusts has recently been published for 2007-2008.
- 1.2 This report contains details of the performance of local NHS Trusts against the HealthCare Commission standards.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members note the HealthCare Commission ratings for local NHS Trusts.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The HealthCare Commission is responsible for auditing the performance of NHS Trusts.
- 3.2 The audit process comprises a detailed self-assessment which all NHS Trusts must complete. The Healthcare Commission may then choose to augment the self-assessment process by conducting its own audit of aspects of an individual Trust's performance. Some Trusts are chosen at random for this more detailed appraisal; others are selected because of historical problems with aspects of their performance.

3.3 The HealthCare Commission 'rates' each Trust for both its quality of services and for its use of resources. These ratings can vary from 'excellent,' through 'good' and 'fair,' down to 'weak.'

3.4 The 2007-2008 ratings for local NHS Trusts are as follows:

a) Brighton & Hove City Teaching Primary Care Trust (PCT)

(i) Quality of services: **fair**

(ii) Use of resources: **good**

This compares against the Trust's performance in 06-07: weak/fair; 05-06: fair/fair

b) Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUHT)

(i) Quality of services: **excellent**

(ii) Use of resources: **fair**

This compares against the Trust's performance in 06-07: fair/weak; 05-06: fair/weak

c) South East Coast Ambulance Trust (SECamb)

(i) Quality of services: **good**

(ii) Use of resources: **good**

This compares against the Trust's performance in 06-07: fair/fair

d) South Downs Health Trust (SDH)

(i) Quality of services: **weak**

(ii) Use of resources: **good**

This compares against the Trust's performance in 06-07: good/fair

e) Sussex Partnership Trust (SPT)

(i) Quality of services: **excellent**

(ii) Use of resources: **good**

This compares against the Trust's performance in 06-07: good/good

3.5 In order to gain some idea of the relative performance of local Trusts, members may be interested in 2007-2008 national performance:

a) Acute and Specialist Trusts

(i) Quality of services: 30 excellent; 47 good; 19 fair; 4 weak

(ii) Use of resources: 40 excellent; 24 good; 29 fair; 7 weak

b) Primary Care Trusts

(i) Quality of services: 6 excellent; 27 good; 62 fair; 5 weak

(ii) Use of resources: 5 excellent; 45 good; 45 fair; 4 weak

c) Mental Health Trusts

(i) Quality of services: 66 excellent; 25 good; 7 fair; 2 weak

(ii) Use of resources: 34 excellent; 50 good; 14 fair; 2 weak

d) Ambulance Trusts

(i) Quality of services: 18 excellent; 45 good; 9 fair; 27 weak

(ii) Use of resources: 36 good; 55 fair; 9 weak

e) Learning Disability and other Trusts (including South Downs Health Trust)

(i) Quality of services: 33 excellent; 33 fair; 33 weak

(ii) Use of resources: 100 good [sic]

3.6 In addition to releasing this broad rating for each Trust, the HealthCare Commission also publishes far more comprehensive information on each standard against which individual Trusts are assessed. It is perhaps in the analysis of this material, rather than in the headline ratings, that the true value of the Annual Health Check audit process is to be found. This detailed information is available at www.healthcarecommission.org.uk

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 None has been undertaken.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 This report is to note: there are no financial implications for the council.

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are none.

Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert; Date: 20.10.08

Equalities Implications:

5.3 Aspects of the HealthCare Commission audit process relate directly to equalities issues.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None identified.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None identified.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 Local NHS Trusts are key players in delivering improvements to city healthcare in line with the corporate priorities to “improve the health of our residents” and “working together to target the most vulnerable”.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. None

Documents in Members’ Rooms:

None.

Background Documents:

1. The HealthCare Commission 2007-2008 Annual Health Check reports:
www.healthcare.commission.org.uk