

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Safeguarding Plan Progress Report – Ofsted Follow-Up Inspection

1. The Safeguarding Plan Progress Report stated that a further appendix would be provided once the Ofsted follow-up inspection report was published. This report updates members on progress and the next steps, and is supported by a verbal update.
2. The Ofsted report has now been published and is attached to this covering note. Progress has been rated as Good overall with Good capacity for further improvement. This represents the best result that could have been achieved. The report identifies ten priorities for improvement, with work currently underway in most of these.
3. Whilst the Ofsted report involves all three inspectorates, each health trust will receive a letter from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) within the next two weeks, identifying any specific areas for improvement that they must address.
4. It is important to maintain the momentum of improvements and ensure that we are positioned to realise the ambition of being rated as amongst the best by 2012. In order to achieve this, the priorities for further improvement from the report, along with the verbal feedback, health letter actions and lessons learnt, are being formed into the refreshed Safeguarding Plan. This refreshed plan builds further detail into the actions for the remaining 18 months and ensures that the learning from our follow-up inspection, unannounced inspections across England and the planned Safeguarding & Looked after Children inspections is also incorporated.
5. We are developing the refreshed plan in partnership; incorporating Council, health and police actions, whilst retaining the same overall structure as the current plan.
6. The refreshed Safeguarding Plan will be complete and approved by June 2010, enabling 18 months of delivery. The current plan was designed to incorporate this window for refreshing, to ensure that the plan remains relevant, challenging and deliverable.