

Overview & Scrutiny

Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

Hackney Council
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Reply to: jarlath.oconnell@hackney.gov.uk

23 June 2023

Ms Louise Ashley
Chief Executive
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Dear Louise

Response to Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust's draft Quality Account for 2022/23

Thank you for inviting us to submit comments on the Draft Quality Account for your Trust for 2022/23. We are writing to provide our insights arising from the scrutiny of the Trust's services over the past year at the Commission.

We've been grateful for the continued support to the scrutiny function of yourself and your colleagues and for your continuing leadership role as Place Based Leader for City & Hackney.

Over the past year at our Commission we've had the following items which touched on your Trust:

- Development of new City and Hackney Place Based Partnership and the role of the Place Based Leader x 3
- Mental health emergency department pressures at Homerton
- Future options for Soft Facility Services at Homerton Healthcare
- Community Diagnostic Centres
- Impact of new hospital discharge funding scheme

We do appreciate the Quality Account exercise as it allows us also to step back from individual issues we raise with you over the course of the year and take an overview of the quality of your services. The Commission Members

take a great interest in the performance of our key local acute trust and we're pleased to learn about some of your key achievements over the past year.

We're pleased that the overall CQC rating for both the Homerton and Mary Seacole sites remain unchanged at 'Good' despite the pressure of having to rebuild elective care post the pandemic and increased winter pressures.

We support the 7 quality priorities you had identified in 2022:

1	To reduce the number of community and hospital attributed pressure ulcers
2	Reducing physical violence and aggression towards patients and staff
3	Improved management and reduction in the rate of falls
4	Just Culture and Safe Environment
5	Appropriate identification and management of deteriorating patients, including maternity, paediatrics and community-based services
6	Improving our populations health
7	Improving the first impression and experience of the Trust for all patients and visitors

and that they are in place for a 2 year reporting cycle to ensure that sufficient and sustainable progress can be achieved with them. We commend the progress you are reporting thus far.

We noted with interest the following:

- a) We note that the KPI for *A&E patients being discharged in less than 4 hrs* is at 80.59% and has fallen for the second year in a row and so remains below the target of 95%. The Trust historically performed really well on this and, while this is a challenging time for the NHS nationally, we look forward to hearing more about the context here and the mitigation plans.
- b) Similarly, the KPI on the number of cases of *Clostridium difficile* has spiked from 16 to 24, as against the target of 12, and we'd be interested to know more about the reasons and the mitigation plans.
- c) We commend the continued excellent performance of the IAPT service on the 6 and 18 week targets.
- d) We commend too, the ongoing and very active role that the Trust plays in clinical research and your participation in national audits, as these will contribute to improving treatments and outcomes for our residents.

Over the coming year, and following our discussions, we will be revisiting a number of issues including: Emergency Dept mental health case management and in-patient capacity; the planned changes to Continuing Health Care, and health inequalities and medical barriers faced by the trans community. In January we hope to hear back on the future options for 'soft facility services' at Homerton Healthcare.

Members have also expressed concerns on such issues as: poor maternity health outcomes for Black women; poor prostate cancer health outcomes for Black men and the spike in rates of sexually transmitted infections. We are still refining our work programme for 23/24 and will get back to you on those which have direct relevance to yourselves.

We commend the report and are pleased that the Trust performs so strongly against a wide range of national quality assurance indicators.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Ben Hayhurst
Chair of Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

cc Breeda McManus, Chief Nurse and Director of Governance, Homerton Healthcare
Matthew Grantham, Deputy Head of Quality and Patient Safety, Homerton Healthcare
Members of Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission
Cllr Christopher Kennedy, Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care, Voluntary Sector and Culture
Dr Sandra Husbands, Director of Public Health, City and Hackney