

Meeting Title	Council of Governors		
Date	21 January 2021	Agenda item	CGo.1.21.12

Quality Report 2020/21: Locally Selected Indicator

Presented by	Laura Parsons, Associate Director of Corporate Governance/Board Secretary		
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Governance responsibility	Director of Strategy and Integration		
Purpose of the paper	To present a recommendation to the Council of Governors with regard to the establishment of a governor working group, if required, following the publication of the 'requirements for external assurance for quality reports 2020/21' by NHS Improvement.		
Action required	For decision		
Previously discussed at/informed by	N/A		
Previously approved at:	Committee/Group	Date	
	N/A		

Background and Situation

Introduction

In previous years (prior to 2019/20) NHS Improvement has required the Council of Governors to select an indicator for audit from the Foundation Trust's Quality Report.

The audit is required to be undertaken by the external auditor. The external audit is concerned with the accuracy, validity, reliability, timeliness, relevance and completeness of the data collected in relation to the indicator.

In January 2020 the Council approved an indicator for audit for 2019/20. However, as a result of the pandemic, NHS Improvement issued a series of notices during February 2020 and May 2020 which, in summary, advised that:

- They would not require external assurance for Quality Reports (in line with previous requirements from NHS Improvement)
- The Annual Report no longer required a Quality Report to be included
- Foundation Trusts were required to produce a Quality Account for 2019/20 (in line with the requirements of the Department of Health and Social Care)
- The date for the submission of Quality Accounts was pushed back to December 2019

Governors received the Quality Account in October 2020 for review. The Quality Account was also circulated to in October 2020, as required, to key external stakeholders. These were:

- Bradford Healthwatch
- Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Bradford and Craven Clinical Commissioning Group

The statements received from the external stakeholders were included, as required, within the Quality Account 2019/20.

In November 2020 the Board of Directors approved the Quality Account 2019/20 which was

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subsequently published on the NHS Choices website prior to the 15 December 2020 deadline set by NHS Improvement.

The document is available [here](#).

Quality Reports 2020/21

The detailed requirements for External Assurance for Quality Reports 2020/21 have not yet been published. Publication is expected by the end of January 2021. However, given the continuing circumstances with regard to the pandemic there is a strong expectation that NHS Improvement will apply similar conditions to the production of Quality Reports that they put in place for 2019/20. Hence, it is anticipated that there will not be a requirement for external audit of the Quality Report and as such no expectation for the Council to approve a recommendation with regard to the selection of an indicator for audit for 2020/21.

Establishment of a governor working group

Where NHS Improvement does require the selection of an indicator then it is proposed that a governor working group is established comprising of three governors to determine a recommendation to the full Council at a date to be determined prior to the end of February 2021.

Recommendation/s

If it is required to do so on publication of the detailed requirements for external assurance for Quality Reports 2020/21; the Council of Governors is asked to confirm its agreement to establish a governor working group comprising at least three governors to determine a recommendation on the indicator to be audited from the Trust's Quality Report 2020/21, to be presented to the full Council for approval.

Regulation, Legislation and Compliance relevance

NHS Improvement: (please tick those that are relevant)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Assessment Framework | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality Governance Framework |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Code of Governance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Reporting Manual |

Care Quality Commission Domain: Well Led

Care Quality Commission Fundamental Standard: Good Governance

NHS Improvement Effective Use of Resources: Corporate Services, Procurement, Estates & Facilities

Other (please state):