

Agenda Item 8

		THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE	
Boston Borough Council	East Lindsey District Council	City of Lincoln Council	Lincolnshire County Council
North Kesteven District Council	South Holland District Council	South Kesteven District Council	West Lindsey District Council

Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham, Executive – Director Resources

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	19 February 2020
Subject:	Arrangements for the Quality Accounts 2020

Summary

The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire is invited to consider its approach to the *quality accounts* for 2020 and to identify its preferred option for responding to the draft *quality accounts*, which will be shared with the Committee, by local providers of NHS-funded services.

Actions Required:

- (1) To determine which providers of NHS-funded services, on whose *quality account* for 2020 the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire would like to make a statement.
- (2) To establish a working group for the *quality account* process for 2020.

1. Background

What is a Quality Account?

Quality accounts are produced each year by most providers of NHS-funded services. The content of a *quality account* is prescribed by regulations and guidance; and must include:

- three or more **priorities for improvement** for the provider for the coming year;
- an account of the provider's progress with the **priorities for improvement** in the previous year; and
- details of:
 - the types of NHS funded services provided;

- any Care Quality Commission inspections;
- any national clinical audits;
- any Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) activities;
- general performance and the number of complaints; and
- mortality-indicator information.

No Financial Content

The term *Quality Account* has been used by the Department of Health since 2010 and has caused some confusion. For the purposes of clarity, a *quality account* does not focus on finances, but represents an account of the quality (as opposed to an account of the finances) of a particular organisation. Financial information on a particular NHS provider is found in their annual report.

Requirement for Providers to Seek Comments on their *Quality Accounts*

Providers of NHS-funded services are required to submit their draft *quality account* to:

- their local health overview and scrutiny committee;
- their local healthwatch organisation; and
- their relevant clinical commissioning group.

Each of the above is then entitled to make statement (up to 1,000 words) on the draft *quality account*, which has to be included in the final published version.

The definition of 'local' is the local authority area, in which the provider has their principal or registered office. Five providers of NHS-funded health care have their registered office in Lincolnshire. Whilst there is a requirement for local providers to submit their draft *quality account* to their local health overview and scrutiny committee, there is no obligation for such a committee to respond.

Exclusions from *Quality Account* Process

Organisations with less than £130,000 NHS income per annum and fewer than 50 employees are not required to produce a *quality account*. Organisations that solely provide primary care or NHS continuing healthcare do not have to produce a *quality account*. This means that GP practices, dental practices, community pharmacies and high street optometrists do not need to prepare a quality account.

Role of the Health and Wellbeing Board

The regulations do not include a formal role for health and wellbeing boards. However, providers may share their draft *quality account* with their local health and wellbeing board for comments, if they wish. NHS England emphasises that any involvement of health and wellbeing boards is discretionary.

What Should a Statement on a Quality Account Cover?

The Department of Health has previously issued guidance to bodies making statement on *quality accounts*, which encourages these organisations to focus on the following questions: -

- Do the priorities included in the *quality account* reflect the priorities of the local population?
- Have any major issues been omitted from the *quality account*?
- Has the provider demonstrated that they have involved patients and the public in the production of the *quality account*?
- Is the *quality account* clearly presented for patients and the public?
- Are there any comments on specific local issues, which the Health Scrutiny Committee have been involved with?

As stated above, the Health Scrutiny Committee is entitled to make a statement (up to 1,000 words) on the draft *quality account*, which has to be included in the final published version of the *quality account*.

In line with the above, it should be noted that any statements prepared need not be limited to a response to the content of the draft *quality account*, but could reflect the views of the Committee on the quality of services provided during the course of the year by the provider and reflect the engagement between the Committee and the provider.

Previous Quality Account Arrangements 2010 - 2019

Quality accounts were first introduced in 2010, and over the last ten years the Committee has provided statements on the *quality accounts* on several providers. The Committee's activity is set out in the table below:

Provider of NHS-Funded Services	Current CQC Rating	Years Statements Previously Made by Committee	Notes
Boston West Hospital (Ramsay Healthcare)	Good	<u>five years</u> 2011-14 and 2016	Lincolnshire-based provider
East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust	Good	<u>nine years</u> 2011-19	There are eleven health overview and scrutiny committees in the region covered by the East Midlands Ambulance Service.
Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust	Outstanding	<u>nine years</u> 2010-18	Lincolnshire-based provider

Provider of NHS-Funded Services	Current CQC Rating	Years Statements Previously Made by Committee	Notes
Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	Good	<u>nine years</u> 2010-18	Lincolnshire-based provider
Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust	Requires Improvement	<u>four years</u> 2014-17	The health overview and scrutiny committees of the East Riding of Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire provide statements on this provider.
North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust	Requires Improvement	<u>six years</u> 2011-14 and 2016-17	The health overview and scrutiny committees of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough provide statements on this provider.
St Barnabas Hospice	Outstanding	<u>eight years</u> 2010-17	Lincolnshire-based provider
United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust	Requires Improvement	<u>ten years</u> 2010-19	Lincolnshire-based provider

Healthwatch Lincolnshire Activity

In 2019 Healthwatch Lincolnshire prepared statements on the *quality accounts* of the following six providers:

- Boston West Hospital (Ramsay Healthcare)
- Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust
- Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust
- United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust
- St Barnabas Hospice

The East Midlands Regional Healthwatch (including representation from Lincolnshire) made a statement on the *quality account* of the East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

Working Group Arrangements

The Committee usually considers draft *quality accounts* in a working group set up for that purpose. If the Committee were to adopt a working group arrangement, it is requested that members of the Committee consider whether they would wish to volunteer for this activity. Depending on the number of *quality accounts* on which the Committee would make a statement, this would involve meeting three or four times in total during April, May and early June.

2. Conclusion

The Committee is invited to make arrangements for the *quality account* process for 2020.

3. Consultation

This is not a consultation item. However, as part of the annual *quality account* process, the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire is entitled to make a statement up to 1,000 words on the content of each local provider's draft *quality account*. This process is detailed throughout this report.

4. Background Papers - No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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