

Subject:	Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUH): Care Quality Commission Inspection Report		
Date of Meeting:	20 March 2019		
Report of:	Executive Lead for Strategy, Governance & Law (Monitoring Officer)		
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Ward(s) affected:	(All Wards);		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**Glossary**

BSUH: Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust

CQC: Care Quality Commission – statutory regulator which inspects NHS and social care services

RSCH: Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton

PRH: Princess Royal Hospital, Hayward's Heath

NHSi/NHS Improvement – statutory regulator of NHS Trusts

RTT: Referral To Treatment - the national NHS target for patients to undergo elective procedures within 18 Weeks of being referred to a consultant

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the statutory inspector of health and social care services. The CQC is responsible for a rolling programme of inspections of NHS providers.
- 1.2 Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals Trust (BSUH) provides general hospital services for the populations of Brighton & Hove and Mid Sussex, and more specialist services on a sub-regional and a regional basis. BSUH operates from two major sites: the Royal Sussex County Hospital (RSCH) in Brighton, and the Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) in Hayward's Heath.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the contents of this report.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 **The CQC Inspection Process**

3.1.1 The CQC undertakes a rolling programme of inspection of NHS provider trusts. Every NHS trust is inspected at least every three years, although underperforming trusts may be inspected more frequently. When it inspects an NHS trust, the CQC examines key service-areas against five quality domains: ***caring, well-led, safe, effective, and responsive***. The CQC scores performance under each domain as either: ***outstanding, good, requires improvement*** or ***inadequate***. Where an organisation operates across more than one major site, each site is typically inspected and scored separately. The CQC also gives each trust an overall organisational score. (For Trusts already rated as ***good*** the CQC typically undertakes lower-key inspections focusing on the ***well-led*** domain.)

3.1.2 CQC inspection reports highlight areas where trusts either *must* make improvements (e.g. where there are clear legal breaches occurring) or *should* make improvements. Following an inspection every Trust is required to develop and publish a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). NHS Improvement (NHSi), the NHS trust regulator, monitors the implementation of QIPs.

3.2 Special Measures

3.2.1 Should the CQC judge that a trust is inadequate across a significant number of domains, it may recommend to NHSi that the trust be placed in Special Measures. Trusts in Special Measures are able to access additional support for improvement.

3.3 BSUH

3.3.1 BSUH is a large NHS trust which provides acute (i.e. general hospital) services for the populations of Brighton & Hove and Mid Sussex. BSUH operates two major hospital sites: at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (RSCH) and the Princess Royal Hospital, Hayward's Heath (PRH). BSUH also runs the Royal Alex Children's Hospital (RACH), the Sussex Eye Hospital, and the Queen Victoria Hospital, Lewes. Significant numbers of people from other areas also choose to use the RSCH or the PRH as their local hospital (particularly people living on the western edge of East Sussex and the eastern edge of West Sussex).

3.3.2 BSUH increasingly provides specialist services from the RSCH for the whole of Sussex, and some very specialised services (e.g. trauma) on a regional footprint.

3.3.3 BSUH employs just over 8000 people and has an annual turnover of C£600M. Standard hospital services are commissioned for their populations by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), and specialised services are commissioned by NHS England (NHSE). BSUH receives significant funding from NHSE for its specialist provision; and from Brighton & Hove CCG, Horsham & Mid Sussex CCG, West Sussex Coastal CCG, and High Weald Lewes Havens CCG for general hospital care.

3.4 BSUH CQC Inspections

3.4.1 BSUH underwent a full CQC inspection in April 2016, the results of which were published in August 2016. The Trust was rated as ***Inadequate*** and was placed in

Special Measures by NHSi. Management of the Trust was subsequently taken on by Western Sussex Hospitals (the NHS trust responsible for Worthing and Chichester hospitals).

- 3.4.2 Another full inspection of the Trust was undertaken in September and October 2018, with the CQC inspection report published in January 2019. The report found that there had been significant improvement across most areas of the Trust's operations, and BSUH was given an overall score of **good**, with the care it provides ranked as **outstanding**. Both RSCH and PRH are rated as **good**. This represents a remarkable turn-around from 2016, and the CQC has recommended that the Trust be taken out of Special Measures.
- 3.4.3 Although it found services much improved and noted a number of areas of outstanding practice, the 2019 CQC reports also highlights areas of remaining challenge. In particular, BSUH is rated as **requires improvement** under the **responsiveness** domain. Part of the problem here is down to capacity at RSCH, which is being addressed by the 3Ts development and by parallel plans to build a new acute floor. In the short term 18 new beds were opened in February 2019 at RSCH, but capacity pressures are likely to continue, particularly in emergency care.
- 3.4.4 BSUH also performs relatively poorly against the national 18 week RTT target and against the 62 day cancer RTT target. In addition, the CQC criticised elements of outpatient provision, including the suitability of some outpatient environments for people with disabilities or dementia as measured in user-led assessments.
- 3.4.5 The January 2019 CQC inspection reports are available here: [LINK](#) and the CQC's brief summary of its findings is included for reference as **Appendix 1** to this report.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 Not relevant to this report for information.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 None undertaken.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Members are asked to note the much improved performance of BSUH reflected in the recent CQC inspection report.
- 6.2 Whilst showing a remarkable improvement across many services areas, BSUH still faces considerable challenges, particularly in terms of its consistent failure to meet national waiting times targets.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 None to this report for information.

Legal Implications:

7.2 There are no legal implications to this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert; Date: 01/02/19

Equalities Implications:

7.3 The CQC reports explore equalities issues in detail.

Sustainability Implications:

7.4 None identified

Any Other Significant Implications:

7.5 None identified

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. CQC report summary

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

