

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

## Agenda Item 7

**Subject:** Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspection of University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust: May 2023 Inspection Report

**Date of meeting:** 12 July 2023

**Report of:** Executive Director, Governance, People & Resources

**Contact Officer:** Name: Giles Rossington  
Tel: 01273 295514  
Email: giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**For general release**

### **1. Purpose of the report and policy context**

- 1.1 The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the statutory regulator of NHS services. This report presents information on the recently published CQC inspection report on University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (UHSx), with particular focus on the CQC's findings in relation to the Royal Sussex County Hospital (RSCH).
- 1.2 The May 2023 CQC Inspection report of RSCH is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Information from UHSx in response to the CQC's findings is attached as Appendix 2.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Committee notes the Care Quality Commission's May 2023 report on University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust, and the Trust's response to the report.

### **3. Context and background information**

- 3.1 The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the statutory regulator of health and care services in England. Part of the CQC's work is to conduct a rolling inspection programme of NHS providers, as well as spot inspections of providers where there are particular grounds for concern. The CQC grades NHS Trusts, individual hospitals and individual services as either *outstanding*, *good*, *requires improvement* or *inadequate*. Trusts and Trust services are evaluated in terms of six domains: *safe*, *effective*, *caring*, *well-led*, *responsive*, and *use of resources*.

- 3.2 University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (UHSx) is an NHS Trust which runs a number of acute hospitals across Sussex, including St Richards Hospital, Chichester; Worthing Hospital; the Princess Royal Hospital, Hayward's Heath; the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital, Brighton; and the Royal Sussex County Hospital (RSCH), Brighton.
- 3.3 The CQC inspected maternity services at all UHSx hospitals in 2021. It also inspected surgery at RSCH at the same time. The CQC published a report in December 2021, downgrading RSCH maternity and surgery from *good* to *inadequate*. The CQC also inspected RSCH urgent & emergency services in 2022, publishing a report in July 2022, downgrading RSCH urgent & emergency from *good* to *requires improvement*.
- 3.4 UHSx, supported by partners across the local health and care system, developed and implemented action plans in response to the CQC's findings. The HOSC received a progress report on these in October 2022. This showed that the Trust had made good progress in enacting the CQC's recommendations for improvement, although there was still more improvement work to be done, particularly in terms of surgery.
- 3.5 The CQC has subsequently conducted a further inspection of UHSx, this time focusing on the *well-led* domain. The CQC inspection report, published on May 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, found significant leadership failings at the Trust, and downgraded the *well-led* domain to *inadequate*. Overall, the Trust is now rated as *Requires Improvement* but *outstanding* in the *effective* and *caring* and domains. The hospital rating for RSCH has been downgraded from *good* to *inadequate*.

#### **4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options**

- 4.1 Not relevant to this report for information.

#### **5. Community engagement and consultation**

- 5.1 None for this information report.

#### **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 Members are asked to note the publication of the recent CQC inspection report, and to note the measures UHSx is taking to address the CQC's recommendations for improvement.

#### **7. Financial implications**

- 7.1 Not relevant to this report for information.

#### **8. Legal implications**

- 8.1 There are no legal implications to this report.

Name of lawyer consulted: Elizabeth Culbert    Date consulted 01.06.2023

**9.    Equalities implications**

9.1    None directly to this report for information.

**10.   Sustainability implications**

10.1   None directly to this report for information.

**Supporting Documentation**

**1.    Appendices**

1.    CQC Inspection Report, Royal Sussex County Hospital, May 2023
2.    Presentation in response to the CQC report (provided by University Hospital Sussex NHS Foundation Trust)

