



Northumberland County Council

Anna Foster, Deputy Director of
Commissioning & Quality Assurance

By email - qualityassurance@ntw.nhs.uk

Your ref:

Our ref: MDB/OSC/QA/2019/4

Enquiries to: Mike Bird

Email: Mike.Bird01@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: (01670) 622616

Date: 7 May 2019

Dear Ms Foster

NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR NHS FOUNDATION TRUST ANNUAL PLAN AND QUALITY ACCOUNT 2018/19

Statement from Northumberland County Council's Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee welcomes the opportunity to submit a commentary for inclusion in your Annual Plan and Quality Account for 2018/19 as presented to the committee in draft, and about our ongoing engagement with the Trust over the past year. We have continued to receive information from the Trust with participation of your officers at some of our committee's bimonthly meetings.

At our 26 March 2019 meeting we received a presentation on your draft Quality Account for 2018/19 and your priorities for 2019/20. At that meeting we also received a presentation from the North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust on their Quality Account. Before this we also received presentations from Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust about their Quality Accounts at our previous meeting on 5 March 2019. We believe that considering all four Trusts' Quality Accounts within the same month provides a good joined up picture of the many NHS services provided in Northumberland. Members responded favourably to the information you presented, with reference to the highly valued staff and clinical support provided.

Members welcomed the information you presented, including the progress made against the 2018/19 quality priorities: improving the inpatient experience, improving waiting times, embedding the principles of Triangle of Care and embedding Trust values. Regarding your priorities for 2019/20, members welcomed the continuation of a quality priority of both improving the inpatient experience and improving waiting times. Members also welcomed your two new priorities for next year, equality, diversity and inclusion and evaluating the impact of staff sickness on quality.



Daljit Lally, Chief Executive
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
T: 0345 600 6400
www.northumberland.gov.uk



Reference was also made to the work and assistance that North East Ambulance Service had contributed through their work addressing sickness absence.

The committee's Vice-chair and Policy Officer Mr Allen also attended your launch event for your Quality Account on 11 April.

From the information you have provided to the committee over the past year, including the presentation about your draft 2018/19 Quality Account, we believe the information provided is a fair and accurate representation of the services provided by the Trust and reflects the priorities of the community. Members also support your priorities for improvement planned for 2019/20.

We also would be very grateful if I could get in contact with you again soon to further discuss possible agenda items for the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider about the Trust's services during the next council year beginning on 1 May 2019.

We would also appreciate if we could diarise when you will attend to give next year's equivalent Quality Account and future priorities presentation. I would be very grateful if you could confirm whether the OSC's meeting on Tuesday 31 March 2020 (beginning at 1.00pm) would be suitable please?

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Bird
Senior Democratic Services Officer
Democratic Services

On behalf of Councillor Jeff Watson, Chair, Northumberland County Council Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee