

**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Yorkshire and the Humber)**

**Date: 25 November 2014**

**Subject: NHS England’s Review of Children’s Heart Surgery Services at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust – Next Steps**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Not applicable Appendix number: Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this report is to allow the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) for Yorkshire and the Humber to identify and agree any further scrutiny activity associated with NHS England’s review of quality of children’s heart surgery services at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT).

**Background**

2. It has been reported that during 2013 a number of concerns were raised regarding the quality of Children’s Heart Surgery Services provided at Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (LTHT). These concerns led to the temporary closure of services on 28 March 2013, pending an investigation.
3. A Quality Surveillance Group (QSG) was convened by NHS England on 2 April 2013 to oversee the investigation process and at a subsequent Risk Summit meeting (held on 4 April 2013), it was agreed that a two-phase review would be carried out.

Phase 1

4. The first phase of investigation consisted of a ‘rapid review’, which found no significant or immediate safety concerns and surgery re-commenced on 10 April 2013, while the second phase of investigation took place.
5. It should be noted that, while no immediate safety concerns were identified, the rapid review highlighted a number of recommendations and areas for improvement. Some details of LTHT’s actions and progress have previously been reported to the JHOSC.

## Phase 2

6. It has previously been confirmed that the second phase of investigation would consist of three specific workstreams, namely:
  - A case note review of the child deaths that had occurred in the period from 2009 to 2012 which was the time period used in the collection of NICOR data (*Mortality Case Review*).
  - An investigation of the experiences, views and concerns of parents and families (*The Family Experience Review*).
  - An investigation of concerns raised by other clinicians in relation to inter-unit transfers and patient pathways (*The Independent Review of Concerns about Paediatric Cardiac Surgery at LTHT*).
7. It was subsequently confirmed that an 'Overarching Report' would also be produced, drawing together the outcomes and key themes from each of the three specific workstreams.
8. The reports, findings and recommendations from the Mortality Case Review and the Family Experience Report were published by NHS England in March 2014 and were subsequently considered by the JHOSC in April 2010.
9. Both these reports highlighted a number of recommendations and areas for improvement. While the JHOSC received a verbal address on proposed actions against the recommendations, the joint committee has not considered a formal written response and/or progress report against the identified areas for improvement.

### **Main issues and considerations**

10. Following the areas for improvement and recommendations identified from the 'rapid review', the JHOSC has sought assurance regarding the implementation of those recommendations and associated reporting arrangements.
11. Actions against the findings and recommendations from the Mortality Case Review and the Family Experience Report have not been formally reported (i.e. by way of a written report) to the JHOSC.
12. Furthermore, and elsewhere on the agenda, the joint committee considered the following information:
  - The Independent Review of Concerns about Paediatric Cardiac Surgery at LTHT (presented as Appendix 1); and,
  - Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust: Overarching Report about Paediatric Cardiac Surgery (presented at Appendix 2).
13. The joint committee also considered input from senior representatives from NHS England, Verita and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, alongside input from other interested.
14. One of the main considerations for the joint committee is whether sufficient information has been provided and made available to the joint committee or, should further information be requested and/or made available. For example, members may wish to seek a written report/ progress update against all the various identified areas for

improvement and recommendations. Alternatively, the joint committee may wish to produce a report based on the information made available to date.

15. The JHOSC may wish to seek further verbal assurance against the identified areas for improvement and recommendations.

### **Recommendations**

16. That, along with the details outlined at the meeting, the joint committee considers the details presented in this report and identifies any specific actions and/or additional scrutiny.

### **Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

17. None used

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.