

HEALTH & WELLBEING REVIEW COMMITTEE

8th April 2009

HEALTHCARE COMMISSION STANDARDS FOR BETTER HEALTH CORE STANDARDS - NORTHUMBERLAND TYNE AND WEAR TRUST

REPORT OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

Strategic Priority : Healthy City, CIO1, C104

1. Why has this presentation come to the Committee?

- 1.1 To inform Members of the NTW's revised governance arrangements as it moves towards Foundation Trust status and provide information on the Trusts core standards and annual health check.
- 1.2 The work of the Committee in delivering its work programme will support the Council in achieving its Strategic Priority of a Healthy City, support delivery of the Healthy City theme of the Local Area Agreement, and help the Council achieve Corporate Improvement Objectives CIO1 (delivering customer focussed services) and C104 (improving partnership working to deliver 'One City').

2. Background

- 2.1 Core Standards describe a level of service which is acceptable and which must be universal.
- 2.2 Trusts' Boards, when assessing compliance, should determine whether they have 'reasonable assurance' throughout the year that the standard is being met without 'significant lapses'. All aspects of services should be considered when judging whether there is reasonable assurance.
- 2.3 The Healthcare Commission will also use information from its partners and other bodies in three ways:
 - as adequate assurance that an element has been met
 - to answer specific lines of enquiry in inspection
 - use information in cross checking process to target trusts for inspection

3. Current position

- 3.1 The presentation provides the review committee with information relating to NTW and their delivery of core standards including the Annual Health Check declaration 2008/09.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 This provides members with an overview of the core standards and the initiatives that NTW are undertaking to meet these requirements.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members consider and comment on the information provided.

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