

Trust Development Authority: Planning guidance for NHS Trust Boards for 2013/14

Background

The NHS TDA is uniquely placed to provide NHS Trusts with bespoke advice and support on key areas such as quality, finance, business planning and governance and to bring together NHS Trusts from right across the country to share best practice and tackle many of the variations in service that currently exist.

Toward High Quality, Sustainable Services: Planning Guidance for NHS Trust Boards for 2013/14, published by the NHS TDA, sets out the responsibilities to create the environment, the structures and systems, the behaviours we need to demonstrate and the aspirations and ambitions we need to share as a Trust.

The guidance describes:

- the TDA expectations for the sector to deliver on the basics – the core standards;
- the ambitions for NHS Trusts which will help drive up standards across all NHS Trusts in the coming years; and
- the support NHS Trusts can expect from the TDA

Overview

The purpose of the guidance is to help Trust to deliver a fully integrated plan which focuses in equal measure on delivering high quality services, living within the resources available and creating the business processes which underpin future sustainability. Plans must be:

- wholly endorsed by the Trust Board and underpinned by proper clinical governance processes.
- reflect the journey toward Foundation Trust status already identified in the local TFA
- demonstrate adherence to the Quality Governance Framework.
- deliver against the standards in the NHS Constitution
- provide evidence and assurance against the 3 focus areas of quality, delivery and sustainability:

Quality – that agreed CQUIN schemes are delivered *in full* and the basic standards on quality outlined in the planning guidance and further in the technical guidance are adhered to.

Delivery – that all the core standards set out in this planning guidance are met and that all contracts are delivered in full

Sustainability – that all NHS Trusts show an improvement trajectory for surpluses and Financial Risk Ratings for 2013/14, linked to their overall medium to long term financial plans in their Long Term Financial Model.

The TDA have also emphasised the expectation on NHS Trusts to close the gap on variation. Trusts are therefore required, using the National Quality Dashboard, to identify five key areas of delivery where there is a significant variation from the top performers in the NHS and to set out an improvement plan to address this.

Objectives and Priorities

All NHS Trust plans must show:

- evidence of the delivery and monitoring of key performance indicators for quality
- a robust approach to infection control
- examination of complaints to consider trends, themes and to identify poor practice
- plans to deliver agreed CQUIN schemes in full;
- use of patient and staff feedback by the Board to capture real time feedback from patients
- alignment of clinical audit to NHS Trust priorities on quality as a vehicle for change and improvement in clinical practice
- readiness to publish the results for every consultant in the ten specialties identified for publication in 2013;
- consideration of improvements in access to routine services seven days a week
- appropriate systems and processes in place to ensure that Central Alerting System alerts are dealt with efficiently
- robust arrangements for adult and child safeguarding
- completion of quality impact assessments for all cost improvement programmes and QIPP schemes
- regular monitoring of the sustained robustness and relevance of the original quality impact assessments
- consideration of workforce metrics using the national workforce assurance tool as it becomes available
- planning to achieve appraisal of all staff with evidence that continuing professional development plans are completed.
- compliance with the requirements to undertake medical revalidation;
- robust staff and clinical engagement plans are in place
- a plan to consider feedback from trainees on a regular basis

Trust plans should also

- reflect consideration of the Local Supervising Authority Midwifery Officer's report pertaining to the Trust
- work to implement as appropriate the recommendations in Transforming Care: A National response to Winterbourne View Hospital and the forthcoming Francis Report into Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust;
- reflect consideration of assurance reports from Health Education England on the quality of the training and education environment at the NHS Trust.

The Operating Plan submitted to the NTDA will be the basis for the Trust's Annual Plan which is presented to the Board each year as part of the annual planning cycle. As part of this work we will review with the Board the Vision and the strategic objectives for the Trust, the challenges going forward and the strategic priorities for 2013/14.

Recommendation

The Trust Board is asked to NOTE the NHS Trust Development Authority planning guidance for 2013/14