

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **Health Overview And Scrutiny Committee**

Date of Committee **22nd March 2006**

Report Title **NHS Core Standards**

Summary The Committee to note letters sent in support of the core standards declarations by the Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance NHS Trust and the North Warwickshire Primary Care Trust following consultations the Chair and Sokepersons of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

***For further information
please contact:***

Alwin McGibbon
Health Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 01926 412075
alwinmcgibbon@warwickshire.gov.uk

Phil Maull
Senior Committee
Administrator
Tel: 01926 412834
philmaull@warwickshire.gov.uk

Malcolm Hazell
Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance NHS Trust
Dale Street
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
CV32 5HH

Corporate Review Team
Performance and Development
Directorate
Warwickshire County Council
PO Box 9, Shire Hall
Warwick CV34 4RR

Alwin McGibbon , BA Hons Health &
Social Policy
Health Scrutiny Officer

Tel: 01926 412075 Fax: 01926 476881
E-mail: alwinmcgibbon@warwickshire.gov.uk
www.warwickshire.gov.uk

3 March 2006

**Warwickshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Comment NHS Core Standards
Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance NHS Trust**

Dear Malcolm Hazell

Please see below Warwickshire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's comment to support your declaration.

Warwickshire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider that Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance NHS Trust is very open, forthright and honest in its approach with the committee. They have attended all appropriate meetings and when asked about the services it provides, their response has always shown that they have the interest of Warwickshire's residents (including Coventry) at heart.

When requested they have provided information about the ambulance services in Coventry and Warwickshire and have explained in detail the activities of the Air Ambulance Service.

The committee were made aware of service changes that may affect patient care such as when Coventry's Accident & Emergency services moved to the 'Walsgrave' where the new University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital is currently under construction. The Ambulance Trust briefed the committee about concerns raised that the road layout on this site was causing a delay in accessing the A&E department, which could have compromised patient safety. They assured the committee that they were taking all the necessary steps to improve road access to A&E and the matter was very quickly resolved. This evidence helps support their declaration on Core Standards such as C17.

Malcolm Hazell (Chief Executive) has taken the time to advise the committee (and Warwickshire County Council) during the consultation period, on the proposals to merge Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance NHS Trust with others in the West Midlands region.

The examples above show their open and candid approach in providing information to the committee.

Warwickshire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee are pleased that they have been actively engaged with assessing the Trust's NHS Core Standards. They have noted the comments made by each of the core standards and support the submission they have made to the Healthcare Commission.

Yours Sincerely

Alwin McGibbon
Health Scrutiny Officer
(On behalf of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Chair)

Your letter received: Warwickshire Health Overview

Anne Heckels
North Warwickshire Primary Care Trust
139 Earls Road
Nuneaton
CV11 5HP

Corporate Review Team
Performance and Development
Directorate
Warwickshire County Council
PO Box 9, Shire Hall
Warwick CV34 4RR

Alwin McGibbon , BA Hons Health &
Social Policy
Health Scrutiny Officer

Tel: 01926 412075 Fax: 01926 476881
E-mail: alwinmcgibbon@warwickshire.gov.uk
www.warwickshire.gov.uk

2nd March 2006

**Warwickshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Comment
NHS Core Standards North Warwickshire Primary Care Trust**

Dear Anne Heckels

Please see below Warwickshire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's comment to support your declaration for April 2006.

Warwickshire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee are pleased that they have been invited to comment on North Warwickshire's Primary Care Trust's declaration on Core Standards. Many of the comments for the draft declaration still stand, but some additional comments have been added to support the declaration.

North Warwickshire PCT has been willing to attend Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings when requested to provide information such as their three year Local Delivery Plan in 2005 with an update in January 2006. The committee found this information very helpful in their understanding of the local health economy. Any gaps in NHS services identified from the Local Delivery Plan also helped the committee decide areas they may want to review. These have been included in the committee's three-year work programme.

They were keen to make Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee aware of the planned changes in Assessing NHS Core Standards and provided a presentation and information to assist the committee in this process. They are the only Trust in Warwickshire so far to invite Health OSC to comment on the final declaration for April 2006.

The PCT has also provided valuable support, information and assistance when the committee was conducting a review of mental health provision for the north of Warwickshire along with South Warwickshire PCT. Many of the recommendations from this review are now being implemented and Health OSC will be receiving a progress report in the near future.

The committee notes that the trust will be making a declaration that they have insufficient assurance that they meet the core standard that covers:

C4 (b) Healthcare organisations keep patients, staff and visitors safe

C7 (e) Healthcare organisations challenge discrimination, promote equality and respect human rights

C10 (a) Healthcare organisations undertake all appropriate employment checks

C20 (a) Healthcare services are provided in environments, which promote effective care and optimise health outcomes

C23 Healthcare organisations have systematic and managed disease prevention and health promotion programmes

C24 Emergency Planning

The committee were assured by the PCT that they would conduct a risk assessment before the next declaration. The PCT has now confirmed in a letter to Health OSC in January 2006 that they currently working to rectify this situation to be in a position to make their final declaration in April 2006.

This concludes the comments on the trust's declaration from Warwickshire's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Yours Sincerely

Alwin McGibbon
Health Scrutiny Officer
On behalf of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cllr Roodhouse (Chair)