

Summary of NHS England Risk Summit for Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

Background

Risk summits are a tried and tested approach to understanding and mitigating risks within an NHS organisation.

They aim to address potential or actual service quality problems which may mean providers, such as hospitals, failing to meet the essential standards of quality and patient safety. Such problems may relate to a specific service or be indicative of more serious and systemic problems within a provider organisation.

A risk summit may be triggered in a number of ways. It could be the result of regular performance and quality reviews between the provider and commissioners, an external regulator (such as the Care Quality Commission or Monitor) or from concerns raised by staff, patients or other parties.

When NHS England calls a risk summit it brings together representatives from the provider organisation, commissioners, key clinical leaders and other regulatory and stakeholders to explore and understand the issue. Together they agree what interventions, if any, may be necessary to ensure patient safety and quality can be guaranteed in the short, medium and longer term and whether further risk summits are required.

Action

On Thursday 29 August 2013, NHS England hosted a risk summit for Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust relating to concerns about patient care and safety at the Bradgate Unit, including the findings outlined in the recently published CQC report. All key partner agencies were represented at this summit.

Outcomes

Following in depth discussion of the issues raised the following outcomes were agreed:

- 1) An urgent meeting on Friday 30 August 2013 between the Trust, Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Local Authorities to agree what immediate actions are required to ensure safe patient care at the Bradgate Unit in the short term.
- 2) NHS Trust Development Authority, in partnership with local Clinical Commissioning Groups, to develop a plan to provide additional support to the Trust Board of Leicestershire Partnerships NHS Trust in order that the Trust can provide assurance and move forward their plans to improve patient safety on a longer term basis.
- 3) No follow up risk summit would be required at this stage.