

**JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL FOR PENNINE CARE (MENTAL HEALTH)
TRUST**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
Monday, 31 October 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor McLaren (Oldham MBC) (Chair); Dale (Rochdale MBC), Davies (Stockport MBC), Grimshaw (Bury MBC), Hamblett (Oldham MBC), Patrick (Tameside MBC), Aiza Rashid (Rochdale MBC), A Smith (Rochdale MBC), Sharif (Tameside MBC) and Whitby (Bury MBC).

OFFICERS: A. Hassall - Chief Executive (Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust) and J. Jenkinson (Senior Governance and Committee Services Officer).

8 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor S Homer.

9 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

10 MINUTES

It was noted that Councillor N Shariff had been omitted from the attendance list of the minutes of the last meeting.

RESOLVED – That, subject to the inclusion of Councillor N Shariff in the attendance list, the minutes of the Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care (Mental Health) Trust meeting held on 22nd July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

11 PENNINE CARE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST PRESENTATION

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting, and invited Anthony Hassall, Chief Executive (Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust) to introduce the presentation.

The Chief Executive firstly commented on the BBC Panorama investigation that had uncovered patient abuse at Edenfield Centre, a mental health hospital in Greater Manchester. It was explained that the Edenfield Centre was one of the biggest mental health hospitals in the UK and could accommodate more than 150 patients. The hospital was a medium-secure facility intended to care for people held under the Mental Health Act who were at serious risk of harming themselves or others. This included people who had a learning disability or autism.

The BBC investigation exposed a toxic culture among staff, which had included a number of incidents of patient abuse, mistreatment, inappropriate restraint and seclusion. The Edenfield Centre had now been closed down.

The Chief Executive explained that Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust hospital was a low-secure facility and provided rehabilitation services. In light of the BBC investigation, there had been discussions at Pennine Care Board level and with staff about the importance of 'speaking up' and challenging inappropriate behaviours. There was ongoing review and improvement of the mechanisms that promoted the voice of the patient. The findings of the BBC investigation would be scrutinised to ensure any learnings were implemented.

Financial Update

The Chief Executive reported that the revenue position was in line with the plan. Although there remained a significant risk to the delivery of the financial plan at an Integrated Care System level. There was no forecast risk to achieving the £11.3 million efficiency target. The challenge would be to deliver savings on a recurrent basis.

Workforce Update

Panel Members were informed that the staff headcount had increased by 292 over the last 12 months.

There continued to be a shortage of qualified medical professionals. There were currently 33 vacancies for highly qualified staff at Pennine Care Trust. Work was ongoing to understand the staffing challenges and promote retention and investment in training roles and continued support to 'grow our own'.

The distinction between 'bank' and 'agency' staff was explained to the Panel. Bank staff were existing employees whom chose to work additional flexible hours. Agency staff were not permanent members of staff, and therefore did not have a strong affinity to the organisation. It was explained that a flexible pool of staff was necessary, however there was a keenness to reduce the use of expensive agency staff.

There was some discussion about the importance of engagement with schools to promote medical professions as a career option. It was noted that there were significant challenges to overcome in order to open up opportunities for children from lower socio-economic backgrounds, as medicine seemed to have become a 'closed career', increasingly doctors were the children of doctors.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) Update

Consideration was given to an update regarding Pennine Care CAMHS provision.

It was reported that there was increasing demand for services and investment was not keeping pace. The demand for services was far greater than current capacity.

The Panel was informed that notwithstanding the existing challenges there had been a number of successes in Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale, such as the #Thrive service, partnership working to develop parent and peer support models, and locality CAMHS link worker embedded in neighbourhoods.

RESOLVED – That the update presentation be noted.

12 WORK PROGRAMME 2022/2023

The Panel agreed that it would be beneficial to arrange an informal meeting with the Chief Executive (Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust) ahead of the next formal Joint Scrutiny Panel for Pennine Care meeting.

RESOLVED - That the Senior Governance and Committee Officer be requested to circulate dates for the Panel and the Chief Executive (Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust) to meet informally ahead of the next meeting on 12th January 2023.