

CWOP/25/11

Policy & Scrutiny Committee

Community and
Older People

Date

9 June 2011

**Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (SUHFT)
Action Plan**

The Committee previously considered this item on 10 March 2011. At that time, the Committee received three reports: CWOP/08/11 (the Care Quality Commission Review of Compliance report), CWOP/12/11 (SUHFT Action Plan in response to the CQC issues identified), and CWOP/13/11 (draft Service Specification for Adult Psychiatric Liaison Service). Minute 20/11 recorded the discussion at the meeting and an introductory extract from that is reproduced below:

“(a) Background

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) had found that SUHFT did not have an overarching policy addressing the provision of services to people with mental health needs and that overall there were deficiencies in processes around the service provided to this patient group. The CQC had undertaken a responsive review of unacceptable delays in the Accident and Emergency Department at SUHFT, both in carrying out psychiatric assessments of patients and/or delays for people waiting to move to more suitable services. Evidence provided by SUHFT to the CQC had shown that there were significant breaches of the ‘four hour wait’ (the national target time for patients to be seen in A&E departments) in relation to patients who also required a psychiatric assessment.

A number of process and training deficiencies had been identified. The CQC had also criticised SUHFT for not having a named lead for mental health nor any clear care pathway for those with mental health conditions. SUHFT had drawn up an action plan to address the issues identified by the CQC and it was confirmed that all actions in the plan were due for completion by the end of March 2011 with one exception. “

The Action Plan is resubmitted (attached) and Malcolm McFrederick, Director of Operations at SUHFT and Llewellyn Lewis, Clinical Director, South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust will both be in attendance at the meeting to provide a further update on it.

