THE MORECAMBE BAY INVESTIGATION - UPDATE ON PROGRESS

This is latest update on the work we have been doing with our partners to implement the 18 recommendations relevant to our Trust from the Report of the Morecambe Bay Investigation.

What have we been doing?
During September 2015, we completed a number of actions, including:

1. Holding the Maternity Matters engagement event on 25 September 2015 at the Town Hall in Barrow. Around 60 members of the public attended the event to talk to representatives from the Trust and colleagues from our Clinical Commissioning Groups, Better Care Together, Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecology review, Health Watch, and the Maternity Service Liaison Committees. The purpose of the event was to listen to the public and their experiences of local maternity services, check with them that we were doing the right things and ask for their advice on how we could further improve maternity services in the future.

2. Hosting a half day ‘Outcome’ workshop on 23 September 2015 for the Morecambe Bay Investigation Sub-Committee, project leads and project sponsors. The aim of the workshop was to determine the outcomes for the Kirkup Programme and how we could demonstrate the difference they have made to patients and the public.

There are seven key project work streams involved in meeting the recommendations. Below is a short summary of progress for each of them from 1 September - 30 September 2015:

Kirkup Programme
- Communicated progress to the working group, Morecambe Bay Investigation Sub-Committee, and the Trust Board
- Action plans for all projects monitored, maintained and updated

Clinical Quality
- Selected to take part in the Situation Awareness For Everyone (S.A.F.E) programme, which has been previously trialled in Great Ormond Street and has been found to be very useful. The aim of the programme is to:
  - Reduce avoidable error and harm to acutely sick children
  - Improve communication between all healthcare professionals involved in a child’s care as well as families to ensure treatment is consistent and of the same high standard regardless of postcode or class
  - Close the disparity in health outcomes for children in UK vs other countries as well as between children’s care and adult care
  - Involve parents, children and young people to be better involved in their children’s/own care
- Submitted updated guidelines to maternity guideline group for consultation and ratification

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Education, Learning and Development

- Significant improvement in mandatory training compliance, representing compliance across the majority of the areas. Divisional plans are in place to address the remaining small shortfalls.
- Revised and approved the essential and role specific skills matrix, and work continues in divisions to deliver local training against these requirements
- Gained approval for a Listening into Action scheme to involve staff in identifying a creative approach to improving delivery of mandatory and role essential training

Estate

- Presented visuals on how the new unit could look at the Maternity Matters event in Barrow. The visuals were well received from the general public and staff, and all comments/suggestions made have been noted and fed back.
- Agreed in principle the location of a dedicated theatre, following discussions with the Surgery division

Governance

- Carried out priority training in relation to incident investigation and duty of candour
- Established a cross-divisional 'electronic fresh eyes' scrutiny panel to review the Root Cause Analysis (RCA) of serious incidents
- Developed engagement tools to increase the awareness of security management in the Trust

Workforce

- Started work on a clinical quality questionnaire to identify training requirements
- Agreed the questions for the self-assessment tool

Communications and engagement

- Hosted stands at the Annual Members' meeting and the Maternity Matters event to update the public on progress and give them opportunities to get involved
- Launched staff drop in sessions for those interested in finding out about progress, and giving staff the opportunity to speak to a project lead and ask any questions

How can I find out more?

We will continue to produce monthly updates like this and share them with staff, stakeholders, the media, and placed on the Trust’s website for anyone to view at http://www.uhmb.nhs.uk/morecambe-bay-investigation/implementing-the-recommendations/.

The dedicated area on our website also includes:

- The Highlight Report for each project, which gives and overview of the actions taken, actions planned and any risks or issues highlighted in that month
- The detailed action plans for each project. Please note that these are continuously reviewed and amended as appropriate as projects are taken forward so may change

We will continue to keep you updated.

David Walker
Medical Director

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