

Terms of Reference - Independent Review of Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Background

The following terms of reference are for an independent review regarding failings of care and treatment provided to patients at Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, with the Edenfield Centre being the primary focus of the review.

Whilst the Edenfield Centre is the focus, the review will also determine if, in identifying any issues regarding patient care or the oversight of quality, this indicates concerns in other areas of the Trust. This will be informed by evidence and information obtained from key parties including patients, families and staff.

Professor Oliver Shanley OBE ('the Chair') is appointed by NHS England to chair the independent review. The Chair will appoint those with appropriate experience to help deliver these terms of reference, including:

- An expert panel and specialist advisers
- Secretariat functions to be delivered by Niche Health and Social Care Consulting

The review findings will be informed by hearing directly from patients, families, and staff to understand their concerns, and how Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust has responded to these.

Purpose and scope of the independent review

To undertake an overarching independent review that will deduce, scrutinise and assess areas of concern. It will focus on how these incidents were able to happen and why the failings were not picked up. Crucially, the review will provide:

1. An independent assessment of what has happened within the Trust's secure services and identify conclusions and lessons. This assessment will ensure it identifies the actual reality of care for patients and staff.
2. An assessment of the culture, leadership, workforce planning and governance that may have impacted on the ability of the Trust to improve patient safety, treatment, and care, including how the Trust involved patients and families. This will include observations on culture that may have led to failures in professional standards.
3. An assessment of the adequacy of the actions taken by the Trust since the concerns were raised. This will include whether the Trust can demonstrate broader organisational learning to improve the quality of its services.
4. The review will consider whether the processes, actions, and responses of regulators, local commissioners, NHS England's specialist commissioning function, and other stakeholders relevant to the provision of secure services were satisfactory in responding to and predicting concerns about the quality of care.
5. Whether the Trust's current systems, processes and controls would give rise to the identification of similar issues now (and going forward) in all areas of care delivery.

6. Whether the issues identified in 1- 5 above indicate concerns in other areas of the Trust.

The review period will consider any concerns that have been raised from April 2021 to March 2023, including, but not limited to, HM Coroner. The review will aim to provide assurance to patients, families, staff and the broader public regarding the quality and safety of services provided by Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust.

Methods and approach

The independent review will focus on the experience of the people and families affected and the response of the Trust. This will have reference to clinical standards for mental health care during the period including, but not limited to, areas such as the use of restraint, seclusion, record keeping, and restrictive practices. The independent review will listen to the concerns of the affected patients and families, use their experience to inform the key lines of enquiry, and provide an opportunity for them to be heard.

The review will consider both quantitative and qualitative information, notably the lived experience of patients, families, and staff. The review team will use a range of recognised patient safety approaches to learning from incidents in line with best practice. Importantly, this will be underpinned by a commitment to compassionate engagement and involvement of those affected.

The independent review will also consider and report upon any good and notable practice observed.

Outcome of the review

Taking account of improvements and changes made, the review will aim to provide lessons helpful to Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, but also more widely where there are broader opportunities for improvement.

The review will submit a report to NHS England by September 30th 2023, which will include.

1. A full assessment against all aspects of these terms of reference
2. A description of the evidence used to underpin those findings
3. The identification of any areas of good practice
4. The identification of any care or service delivery problems
5. A full suite of agreed actionable recommendations, where deficits have been identified.
6. A proposal to conduct an assurance follow up visit with key stakeholders 12 months after publication of the report, to assess implementation and monitoring of associated action plans.