

<b>Paper No. SET/30/2022</b>	
	<b>Tick One</b> ✓
For discussion	
For approval	✓
For noting	

**Date of Trust Board Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022

**Confidential or Public Agenda:** Public

**Agenda item:** 7.3 Annual Directed Delegated Statutory Functions and Corporate Parenting Report, 2021-22

**1.0** Annual Delegated Directed Statutory Functions & Corporate Parenting Report 2021/22. The report is presented for consideration for approval by Trust Board.

**2.0 Background information**

This report provides an overarching assurance framework for the discharge of delegated directed statutory social care functions. The scheme requires the Trust to produce a biannual report addressing how it has discharged those directed statutory functions pertaining to social care issues.

**3.0 Brief summary of key points contained in the paper/s**

The Trust has experienced a number of challenges in relation to the discharge of directed statutory functions within the context of covid-19 and significant workforce issues. All issues have been raised with HSCB (now SPPG) and are presented in detail in the report.

*Workforce:* The Trust has continued to face difficulties recruiting qualified social workers during this reporting period. This issue is documented on the Trust Corporate Risk Register

*Mental Capacity Act (MCA) (2019):* The discharge of the delegated directed statutory function associated with the MCA has been challenging across all directorates.

**Children's services**

There continues to be a high number of unallocated social work cases within children's disability and safeguarding services.

The Trust is experiencing pressure on all placement types due to a rise in the number of children in care, a reduction in the number of foster carers, the need for bespoke placements to meet the needs of young people and an increased number of separated / unaccompanied young people requiring support. This pressure has led to a reliance on independent providers and 82 young people being placed in unapproved placements.

The regional secure care centre continues to manage young people who are presenting with increased risk. Young people's access to drugs is documented on the Trust Corporate Risk Register.

There have been increased admissions to the mental health inpatient service, including those requiring support for the management of a diagnosed eating disorder. This increase has led to challenges accessing inpatient beds.

The lack of provision of short breaks for children with a disability has led to a number of Judicial Reviews.

#### **Adult Mental Health Services**

Following an RQIA inspection the mental health service developed an adult safeguarding action plan. This has been further developed following an increase in adult safeguarding referrals.

#### **Adult Disability Services**

The closure of Muckamore Abbey Hospital to admissions continues to have a significant impact on mental health services in providing in-patient beds for those with a severe learning disability.

In this reporting period, disability services have experienced an increase in safeguarding referrals.

#### **Primary Care and Older People**

Throughout this reporting period, compliance with annual care management reviews was 22%.

This reporting period saw an increase of 13% in the number of referrals (828) received into the adult protection gateway team. Joint protocol and single agency Trust investigations all increased in this reporting period.

In this reporting period unmet need has increased by 114% within domiciliary care services.

### **4.0 Recommendation/s for the Trust Board**

For approval

**Lead Director:** Barbara Campbell

**Designation:** Director of Children's Service and Executive Director of Social Work

**Date:** May 2022