

Borders NHS Board

HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT INSPECTORATE (HEI)
INSPECTIONS 4/5 MARCH 2010

Aim

The purpose of this paper is to update members of the Board of the current status in preparation for the HEI Inspection visit on 4th and 5th March 2010.

Background

All NHS Boards within Scotland will have at least one announced inspection from the Healthcare Environment Inspectorate (HEI) between September 2009 and September 2010.

The HEI will also undertake unannounced inspections to NHS Boards during this period.

HEI focuses on reducing Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) risk to patients. This is achieved through a process of rigorous inspection, the reports from which form the basis for improvement. The framework within which the inspections are conducted are published and Boards have the opportunity to review performance in advance of the inspection.

Specifically, the inspections will focus on measures which will:

- provide public assurance and protection, and restore public trust and confidence;
- contribute to the prevention and control of HAI;
- contribute to improvements in infection control and the broader quality improvement agenda across NHS Scotland.

Summary

This report provides an update on planned activity and actual progress in preparation for the forthcoming HEI Inspection. Equally importantly, the actions being undertaken will seek to embed continuous improvement and good practice across the organisation.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to **note** this report.

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|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Policy/Strategy Implications | To be identified |
| Consultation | Not applicable |
| Consultation with Professional | Not applicable |

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| Committees | |
| Risk Assessment | Not applicable |
| Compliance with Board Policy requirements on Equality and Diversity | Yes |
| Resource/Staffing Implications | To be identified |

Approved by

| Name | Designation | Name | Designation |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Sheena Wright | Director of Nursing & Midwifery | | |

Author(s)

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HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENT INSPECTORATE (HEI) **INSPECTIONS 4/5 MARCH 2010**

Action Plan and Progress Report

1. Introduction

The HEI inspection in NHS Borders will take place on 4th and 5th March. The inspection criteria are published within the HEI Audit Tool. The inspection team will be announced in advance of the visit but will not inform the Board of the areas to be inspected until the visit takes place.

The Board submitted a self assessment data set in late 2009. In addition, the inspection team has access to published national statistics on infection rates. This will inform the scope of their visit. It should be noted however that the team has the freedom to visit any area within the Borders General Hospital. Future visits are likely to extend to other sites and service areas.

This report provides a summary of the action plan and work that is in progress to prepare for the visit and to instil an ongoing culture of awareness of the HEI/HAI agenda.

2. Background

Advanced planning activity comprised:

- A series of 'walkrounds' by Executive Directors during December 2009. These included all wards and departments and highlighted an initial improvement checklist.
- A preliminary action plan was developed and responsible personnel were identified for each improvement area.

Current planning activity builds upon the initial work and is set out below.

3. Work in Progress

- Meetings have taken place with Senior staff, including Charge Nurses and Operational Managers to ensure that they have an appropriate knowledge base and effective processes in place for reporting issues and identifying and implementing improvement measures.
- The HEI Audit Tool which sets out the inspection criteria has been distributed to all areas and is now completed. These will be the subject of weekly review and update to ensure appropriate actions have been taken.

- A sub group has been established and will meet on a weekly basis under the direction of the Director of Nursing and Midwifery. This will be the vehicle for managing the plan and ensuring workload and resource prioritisation.
- Local teams, assigned to service areas and led by an Executive Director, will visit their areas to ensure progress and also to emphasise the importance of this agenda for improvements in patient care.
- A communication campaign will be launched specifically to inform all staff of their role and responsibilities regarding the Healthcare Environment.

4. Conclusion and next steps

Work will continue to further develop and implement the Action Plan.

The Board Chief Executive will receive a draft report within four weeks of the inspection. Where appropriate, the report will set out improvement measures and signpost the Board to organisations which can provide further support for improvement.

The Chief Executive will agree the factual accuracy of the draft report prior to publication.

Board members are asked to note progress in this area.