Dr Foster Good Hospital Guide 2012
Summary of Southend University Hospitals (SUHFT) Results

Background
In November 2012, Dr Foster published the results of its annual “Good Hospital” guide for 2012. This guide is designed to provide the NHS and public with a high level understanding of how individual hospitals are performing in 4 broad categories:

- Occupancy
- Mortality
- Efficiency
- Access to Treatment

A large number of clinical and non-clinical indicators are used in each of the categories listed above to determine how each hospital is performing. These are collated either via a questionnaire that hospitals complete each year, or from the hospitals HES data which Dr Foster access directly.

From this information Dr Foster publishes a general report which looks at the 4 main categories in more detail from a national perspective. It also lists the best and worst performers in these categories. It is worth noting that SUHFT was not mentioned in this report this year, which in broad terms means it was performing within the expected parameters. In addition to this general report the public can access their local hospital’s individual performance by accessing the Dr Foster website.

SUHFT's Dr Foster 2012 Good Hospital Guide results
Under each of the 4 categories SUHFTs performance was measure via 47 metrics which covered clinical variation, efficiency, mortality and orthopaedics. These are measured on a relative risk basis measuring an observed number against the expected number which identifies whether the hospital falls within its upper or lower control limits, i.e. is it performing as expected or better or worse than expected.

Of the 47 metrics, SUHFT performed within the expected range in 42 of them. There were 2 where SUHFT performed better than expected, these were:

- 7 day emergency readmissions
- Mortality – Emergency HSMR (Weekday)

The 3 metrics where SUHFT performed worse than expected were:

- Elective Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy (day case rates)
- Admissions where procedures were not performed
- Elective Knee Replacement - 1 year revision rate.

With the exception of the Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy day case rate, in which SUHFT performed a significantly lower number than expected, SUHFTs performance was only just outside the expected performance level for the other two indicators.
More detailed analysis and review of each of these indicators is being undertaken by the Business Units concerned to identify what changes need to be implemented to ensure these 3 areas are operating within an acceptable tolerance and the service provided to our patients is of the best possible standard.