

Chief Inspector of Hospitals finds significant improvement

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England's Chief Inspector of Hospitals has rated The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust as Good overall following an inspection by the [Care Quality Commission](#).

A team of inspectors visited the trust during October and November 2018 to check the quality of four core services - surgery, medicine, children and young people's services and outpatients. CQC also looked specifically at management and leadership to answer the key question: Is the trust well-led?

As a result of this inspection, the trust is now rated as Good for being caring, effective, responsive and well-led. The trust remains Requires Improvement for being safe. Overall, the trust has significantly improved from a 'requires improvement' to a 'Good' rating.

Chief Inspector of Hospitals, Professor Ted Baker, said: "On our return to The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Trust we found a number of significant improvements had been made since our previous inspection.

"Staff should be proud of the progress made and there was evidence of positive changes to organisational culture, quality improvement initiatives and innovative research projects.

“There were still a few challenges the trust faced such as limited provision for children with learning disabilities and behavioural needs. But, the trust was looking into implementing learning disabilities training for staff and appointing a learning disabilities nurse.

“We have reported all our findings back to the trust and the trust board knows what it must do to bring about further improvement. We will continue to monitor progress at the trust and this will include further inspections.”

Rob Hurd, Chief Executive at the RNOH, said: "This significant improvement in our rating is down to the commitment and hard work of everyone at the RNOH, focussing on delivering the very best patient care and developing a culture in which patients - and staff - feel cared for, valued and respected. I want to extend a thank you to all the teams across the Trust for their efforts. This is one major step forward in our aim to not only maintain the RNOH's position as the country's leading specialist musculoskeletal centre, but also to become the best place to work in the NHS."

Prof Paul Fish, Director of Nursing, Quality & Patient Experience, said: “We are extremely proud of the highly specialist, patient focused and compassionate care that all of our staff deliver and we’re delighted that the CQC have recognised this during our recent inspection and increased our overall rating from ‘Requires Improvement’ to ‘Good’.”

Full details of CQC’s inspection, its ratings for the trust, including a ratings grid, are given in the report published online.