

May 2013

## Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust's Statement in respect of the Francis Report

### ***Background***

In February 2013, Sir Robert Francis QC published his public inquiry report outlining the failure of healthcare at the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, which described a lack of care, compassion and leadership. Although the public inquiry was focused on one organisation, it highlights a whole system failure. A system which should have had checks and balances in place, and working, to ensure that patients were treated with dignity, and suffered no harm.

The Report has 290 recommendations for change in the NHS. The full report and the Executive Summary, can be found on the Inquiry website at

<http://www.midstaffspublicinquiry.com/>

In March 2013, the Government published its initial response, which was divided into five areas:

1. Preventing problems arising by putting the needs of patients first;
2. Detecting problems early;
3. Taking action promptly;
4. Ensuring robust accountability; and
5. Leadership.

The government's initial response can be seen here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-government-s-response-to-the-francis-report>

Both the report and the Government's response will impact on everyone who works in the NHS.

