



Transforming community services - Haringey children's community health services

NHS Haringey is seeking expressions of interest from other NHS organisations to become the provider of health services for children in Haringey.

The services include health visitors, school nurses and speech and language therapists, and are provided in a range of community settings as well as peoples' homes.

Great Ormond Street Hospital, which currently provides these services on behalf of NHS Haringey, has informed NHS Haringey that it does not want to continue to provide services in Haringey. It will instead focus on its role in specialist care.

After discussing with Haringey Council and other partners on how the service should be developed for the future, NHS Haringey will formally invite offers in early December, with the new provider in place for 1 April 2011.

NHS Haringey has been very happy with Great Ormond Street Hospital's management of children's services in Haringey, and recent external reviews have been extremely positive about these services.

The health visitor service is fully recruited to and we've added to other key staff; joint working with our partners is much improved; and recent external inspections have found that we are providing a good service to children and their families.

Following a two week engagement period, which will run from 29th November to 13th December 2010, a wide range of providers will be invited to express an interest in managing the service. NHS Haringey will talk to users and its partners about how we can make services better, and then commission an organisation to provide them.

The closing date for Expressions of Interest will be 10th January 2011.

A panel consisting of Directors, and Non Executive Directors from NHS Haringey, a local GP, and the Director of Children and Young People's Services from the Council will short list potential providers against a set of agreed criteria, shortlisted organisations will be invited to give a presentation to the decision making panel, and other stakeholders including a senior manager from Haringey Children's Community Health Services will have opportunity to comment, and then a decision will be made.

GOSH and NHS Haringey are committed to ensuring a safe and effective transfer of staff by 1st April 2011, and will work with the new provider to ensure this happens.

Following the discussions with users and partner organisations, NHS Haringey will invite a wide range of providers to express an interest in providing the service.

Haringey Children's Community Health Services

Children's Community Health Services in Haringey are currently managed by Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. Services include health visiting; school nursing; speech and language therapy; physiotherapy, occupational therapy, dieticians and paediatricians. Services are provided in a range of community settings including schools and health centres, as well as peoples' homes. The service has over 250 staff and a budget of £8.2 million.

Haringey's children's community health services are organized into 4 multidisciplinary teams, which relate closely to the service structures of Haringey Councils Children and Young People's services. The service provides a range of universal, targeted and specialist services to the whole child population of Haringey of 56,000 children and young people, of whom 18,000 are under 4 years of age. There are 193.00 wte (250 headcount) staff providing health services within 4 care groups, Early Years, Schools, Specialist Child Health and Safeguarding, providing services to more than 190 sites across the borough.

The four teams are:

- Safeguarding Service - Provides specialist child protection advice, supervision, training and support for staff and independent practitioners on child protection, child death, children in care, homelessness and domestic violence.
- Early Years Service – A multi-disciplinary team of health visitors, children's nurses and therapists, who provide universal, targeted and specialist services to children under 5. Close links with Haringey Council's Children & Young People's Service are essential for effective service provision for young children and their families and GOSH in Haringey managers work closely with colleagues within the Local Authority to plan and deliver multi agency services.
- Schools Service - A multi-disciplinary team of school nurses and therapists, who work with children and young people in mainstream and special schools, and with specialist units and resource bases. The service has well established links with local schools and the education service and is fully committed to integrated service delivery and management of services provided to school aged children. The primary locus for service provision is schools.
- Specialist Child Health Service/Child Development Team - A multi-disciplinary team of medical staff and therapists, who provide a range of specialist services for children and young people aged 0 to 19 with additional needs, disabilities and complex health needs. The service is currently working with LBH Children's Service to further develop proposals for an integrated, community based, specialist children's service, including the development of a specialist resource centre. The ethos will continue to be to provide as much care as possible in children's homes, nurseries/ children's centres and schools but some specialist assessment facilities are also required.