



DRAFT CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

Providing children's surgery and anaesthesia services in South and Mid Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire

Following a review into children's surgery and anaesthesia services in South and Mid Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire, we are now considering a number of options for the future of the service.

At the moment, depending on where people live, they will have a different experience and receive different standards of care. Our local doctors, nurses, healthcare staff and clinical experts all agreed that this wasn't fair – and came together to change it.

Between January and April this year, we held an open pre-consultation to ask patients and members of the public what would matter to them when accessing these two services. All feedback has been central to the development of the options which have been agreed by all our local NHS clinical commissioners and councillor health leads.

We want to know what you think. Between 3 October 2016 and 6 January 2017 we want your opinions on our options to change and improve our children's surgery and anaesthesia services.

Who are Commissioners Working Together?

Commissioners Working Together is a partnership between the eight NHS clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) in South and Mid Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire. NHS clinical commissioning groups pay for local health services in their region and our aim is to provide better services for everyone by working together.

Our partners are:

NHS Barnsley CCG
NHS Bassetlaw CCG
NHS Doncaster CCG
NHS Hardwick CCG
NHS North Derbyshire CCG
NHS Rotherham CCG
NHS Sheffield CCG
NHS Wakefield CCG

Why do we want to change children's surgery and anaesthesia services?

At the moment, some people have better experiences, better and faster treatment and better access to services than others – and we don't think this is right. We want everyone to have access to the same, high quality services, no matter where in the region you live.

We also know:

- Some of our hospital doctors and nurses don't treat as many children as others do – which means experience and quality of services and treatment can vary depending on where you live.
- Nationally, there aren't enough health care professionals qualified to treat children.

- Changes to the numbers of hours that doctors can work means that cover is a mixture of permanent and temporary staff and this can affect continuity of care.
- The costs of services will exceed funding in the future.
- For the reasons above, the quality of the service isn't the same everywhere – all hospitals must work to the same high standards, but this is getting harder.

Which services do you mean?

If your child needed an operation under general anaesthetic (where they are sent to sleep):

- ✓ At night, or
- ✓ At a weekend, or,
- ✓ They need to stay in hospital overnight

For the following services,

- Ear, nose and throat (ENT)
- General surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Oral surgery
- Trauma and orthopaedics
- Urology

We are proposing they are done in a different way.

These are the only services we are proposing to change.

For most services, nothing would change. Children would still have operations in their local hospitals for things like:

- Tonsil removal
- Glue ear
- Setting of fractures/broken bones
- Any treatment that requires only a local anaesthetic but not being sent to sleep

We're also not looking to change specialist services for children with very complex or multiple conditions needing care from specialist doctors and nurses. For these services, you would still go to Sheffield Children's Hospital as the only specialist children's centre in our region.

What are the options for children's surgery and anaesthesia services?

We are recommending that three options for the future of children's surgery and anaesthesia services are considered during public consultation. These are:

Option 1:

If your child needed an operation under general anaesthetic (where they are sent to sleep):

- ✓ At night, or
- ✓ At a weekend, or,
- ✓ They need to stay in hospital overnight

For the following kinds of surgery, they would go to Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Pinderfields General Hospital or Sheffield Children's Hospital (map).

- Ear, nose and throat (ENT)
- General surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Oral surgery
- Trauma and orthopaedics
- Urology

Children's operations for these services would no longer be provided in Barnsley or Rotherham hospitals.

Option 2:

If your child needed an operation under general anaesthetic (where they are sent to sleep):

- ✓ At night, or
- ✓ At a weekend, or,
- ✓ They need to stay in hospital overnight

For the following kinds of surgery, they would go to Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Pinderfields General Hospital or Sheffield Children's Hospital (map).

- Ear, nose and throat (ENT)
- General surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Oral surgery
- Trauma and orthopaedics
- Urology

Children's operations for these services would no longer be provided in Barnsley, Chesterfield or Rotherham hospitals.

Option 3:

If your child needed an operation under general anaesthetic (where they are sent to sleep):

- ✓ At night, or
- ✓ At a weekend, or,
- ✓ They need to stay in hospital overnight

For the following kinds of surgery, they would go to Pinderfields General Hospital or Sheffield Children's Hospital (map)

- Ear, nose and throat (ENT)
- General surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Oral surgery
- Trauma and orthopaedics
- Urology

Children's operations for these services would no longer be provided in Barnsley, Chesterfield, Doncaster or Rotherham hospitals.

Which option do we prefer?

We prefer option 2. This is because with careful planning to ensure we have the most appropriate staff in each hospital, and to make sure our patients could get to one of the hospitals within XX minutes, we believe that option 2 would give all patients in South and Mid Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire, access to the same quality and standard of children's surgery services.

We do not think that option 1 would be sustainable as we would not have enough doctors or nurses to provide cover across all sites meaning we would risk facing further safety and quality problems.

We also think that option 3 would be challenging in terms of the increased amount of patients going to only one of two places.

By making changes to how children's surgery and anaesthesia services are currently provided, we believe we can better run the service as one – sharing skills, knowledge and ultimately, providing a much better, equal service to every child across South and Mid Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire.

I live in Barnsley/Chesterfield/Rotherham - where will I go if my child needs an operation?

In the future, you may need to travel to another hospital in South Yorkshire if your child needs a certain kind of treatment that is no longer provided at your local hospital - but at the moment, nothing will change.

All options and the decision to approve any of the options is subject to public consultation.

What if my child needs an emergency operation?

At the moment your child would go to your local hospital, where depending on their needs, they may be transferred to Sheffield Children's Hospital for specialist care. If you live in Sheffield already, you would go straight here. This won't change.

If you want to change services, should I be worried that this means they're not safe at the moment?

No. For the reasons mentioned, we want to improve services so our patients get consistent and continued high quality and sustainable care - while avoiding care becoming unsafe in the future.

We know that to provide the best services for our patients, we could do things better and we believe that one of the best ways to do this is to work across a wider area – ensuring safe staffing levels and using skills and resources in a more efficient and effective way.

Let us know what you think!

>Personal details questions including equal opps form (no names)<

Do you agree or disagree with our proposal to change the way we provide children's surgery and anaesthesia services?

Agree
Disagree
Don't know

If you disagree with our proposal to change the way we provide children's surgery and anaesthesia services, please let us know why:

(Comment box)

At the moment, some people have better experiences, better and faster treatment and better access to services than others – and because we want to make sure everyone has access to the same high quality care, we have developed the following options with feedback from our doctors, nurses and members of the public who took part in our pre-consultation. Which of our proposed options do you prefer?

Option 1
(Details in box)

Option 2
(Details in box)

Option 3
(Details in box)

Why do you think this is the best option?

(Comment box)

Do you think there is another option we could consider?

Yes

No

Don't know

If you answered yes, please describe this below and say why you would prefer this option

(Comment box)

[What happens next?](#)

Between 3 October 2016 and 6 January 2017, we will be asking for people living in South and Mid Yorkshire, Bassetlaw and North Derbyshire to let us know what they think about our proposals to change children's surgery and anaesthesia services.

The results of this consultation will be presented to the Commissioners Working Together (joint CCG) board and the joint health overview and scrutiny committee who will make a decision on how children's surgery and anaesthesia services will be provided in our region.

When making a final decision, we will consider:

- All patient and public feedback
- The impact on access to services, including travel times
- The impact on quality and safety of the service

We expect a decision to be made in February 2017.