

3 May 2017

Jenny Coles  
Director of Children's Services  
Hertfordshire County Council  
VIA EMAIL

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Dear Jenny

**CCG funding of respite provision for children and young people**

Following previous conversations that have taken place with my predecessor Cameron Ward, and our discussion last week, I wanted to take the opportunity to formally communicate our position regarding respite provision and our agreed actions.

I understand from our conversation that the County Council were not aware formally regarding the CCG's funding position around Nascot Lawn, but the CCG is clear that this has been very much part of the discussions held over many months. This letter is to formalise our position.

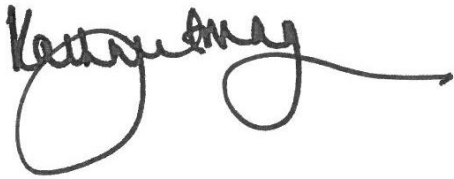
As discussed we have concluded we will no longer be funding historical arrangements regarding respite services reflecting the legal obligations of the CCG. Commissioning and funding for respite provision is the responsibility of Hertfordshire County Council. Despite our financial position, the CCG can only commission services that the relevant legislation permits it to do; if it steps outside those lawful bounds it will by definition be exceeding its power. The CCG commission palliative care, Children's Continuing Health Care and Children's Community Nursing. All of these health services support children with learning disability and complex health conditions and would be available to support this patient cohort.

In line with the plan agreed by our teams we are very much committed to continue to work with Hertfordshire County Council, Children's Services on the Hertfordshire offer of respite provision in light of this decision. I understand discussions have taken place regarding transition arrangements of up to 6 months. In order to meet the 6 month transition period and the relevant contract notice period, the CCG has written to HCT to serve notice. The CCG funding for Nascot Lawn will cease on 1 November 2017. The County Council may of course decide to continue funding beyond this date.



The CCG would welcome involvement in any discussions between the Trust and the Hertfordshire County Council in order to help facilitate the next steps for this provision and for the families, children and young people affected.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn Magson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Kathryn Magson**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

cc     John Wood, HCC  
       David Evans, HVCCG  
       Dr Rami Eliad, HVCCG  
       Liz Biggs, HVCCG

