

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, 21 MARCH 2018 AT 10.00AM**

**BACKGROUND PAPER FROM HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
CHILDREN'S SERVICE FOR THE COMMITTEE'S SCRUTINY OF HERTS  
VALLEYS CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP'S PROPOSAL TO WITHDRAW  
£600,000 FUNDING FROM NASCOT LAWN NHS RESPITE CENTRE (THE  
"PROPOSAL")**

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**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide members with a response to the scrutiny questions to be addressed at the Special Health Scrutiny Committee taking place 21 March 2018.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Members will be seeking information to address the following questions

**2.1.1 Is the Proposal in the interests of health services in Hertfordshire?**

Without a sustainable alternative proposal in place between Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group (HVCCG), East and North Herts Clinical Commissioning Group (E&NHCCG) and the council to meet the respite needs of children with complex health needs in Hertfordshire, this proposal is not in the interests of health services in Hertfordshire. Importantly, it would not be in the interests of the children, young people and families who are receiving care through Nascot Lawn short breaks services.

It would also be setting aside the agreement reached as a result of the Overnight Short Breaks Review and agreed by the council and HVCCG and E&NHCCG in the Autumn of 2016. The Agreement being that four Overnight Short Breaks (OSB) settings would reduce to three, and all three settings would deliver an integrated offer in order that both the health and care needs of children could be met in their local setting in all but exceptional cases.

**2.1.2 Are there any alternative service proposals available to HVCCG and the County Council that would address the current and future needs of CYP with complex health and social care needs requiring respite care in Hertfordshire?**

There has been an ongoing dialogue between the council and HVCCG, E&NHCCG on the issue of how best to meet the health needs of these children

and their families since April 2017 .This has resulted in the agreement which has been signed by all three parties attached as Appendix 1. Through the resources which have been committed, the council and its CCG partners will seek to work with parents to develop an integrated offer for OSB across Hertfordshire. Appropriate clinical input will be sought to inform service development ensuring that the service is safe and best meets the health needs of children receiving OSB.

**2.1.3 How will the integration and joint responsibilities between HVCCG and the County Council be arranged and managed going forward?**

In 2015 the County Council and its CCG partners signed up to a co-produced Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Integrated Commissioning Strategy 2015 - 2018. This strategy is currently under review and the agreed OSB proposals will be built into the revised strategy. The implementation of the component elements of the Strategy are considered in a variety of forums including the 0 – 25 Programme Board, the SEND Commissioning Programme Board and the SEND Executive, the HVCCG Children, Young People and Maternity Leadership Group and the E&NHCCG Joint Programme Board. All three parties are represented in these conversations.

Overall, the Strategy sits within the work programme of the Children and Young People's Integrated Commissioning Executive (CYPICE) and any difficulties will be discussed and resolved within this arena. CYPICE, in turn, reports in to the Health and Wellbeing Board where strategic oversight will be applied.