

Proposals for the future location of very specialist cancer treatment services for children who live in south London and much of south east England.

We are holding a public consultation about these changes. It launched on 26 September 2023 and will run for 12 weeks until 18 December 2023.

[Have your say – fill in this questionnaire.](#)

Please return your completed questionnaire in an envelope addressed to FREEPOST CHILDRENS CANCER CENTRE.

There is no need to buy a stamp – the postage is free.

For more information, please visit our website:

<https://www.transformationpartnersinhealthandcare.nhs.uk/childrenscancercentre/>

You can also call our consultation phoneline (this is free to call) on 0800 135 7971 or email england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net with questions.

If you or someone you know needs this consultation document in a different language, please contact us at england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

Dacă dumneavoastră sau cineva pe care îl cunoașteți aveți nevoie de acest document de consultare într-un alt format sau limbă, vă rugăm să ne contactați la england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

Si usted o alguien que conoce necesita este documento de consulta en un formato o idioma distinto, contáctenos en england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

Se você ou alguém que você conhece precisa deste documento de consulta num formato ou idioma diferente, entre em contato conosco através do england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

Jeśli Ty lub ktoś, kogo znasz, potrzebuje tego dokumentu konsultacyjnego w innym formacie lub języku, skontaktuj się z nami pod numerem england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

如果閣下或者任何人士需要另一種方式或者語言閱讀此諮詢文件，請電郵至

england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

यदि तपाईं वा तपाईंले चिन्ने व्यक्तिलाई यो परामर्श कागजात फरक ढाँचा वा भाषामा चाहिन्छ भने, कृपया हामीलाई [फोन नम्बर] वा england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net मा सम्पर्क गर्नुहोस्।

உங்களுக்கோ அல்லது உங்களுக்குத் தெரிந்தவருக்கோ இந்த ஆலோசனை ஆவணம் வேறு வடிவத்தில் அல்லது மொழியில் தேவைப்பட்டால், எங்களை [தொலைபேசி எண்] அல்லது england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net இல் தொடர்பு கொள்ளவும்.

Siz veya tanıdığınız birinin bu danışma belgesinin farklı bir formatta veya dilde olması gerekiyorsa, lütfen england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net adresinden bizimle iletişime geçin.

As NHS England (London and South East regions), we are working with NHS and other partners on proposed changes to very specialist cancer treatment services for children who live in south London and much of south east England. These services are provided as part of the Principal Treatment Centre for children's cancer for Brighton and Hove, East Sussex, Kent, Medway, south London and most of Surrey.

[The change we are consulting on](#)

The current children's cancer centre is provided in partnership between The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The service the Principal Treatment Centre provides is safe and high quality. The teams on the two sites work very hard to make sure children with cancer get safe, joined-up care.

But very specialist cancer treatment services for children, like those at The Royal Marsden, are now required to be on the same site as a children's intensive care unit that can give life support to the most unwell children. This is because children being treated for cancer are sometimes at risk of needing urgent intensive care. With future, cutting-edge treatments being developed for children with cancer, intensive care and other specialist children's services will increasingly be required to be on the same site.

As a specialist cancer hospital, The Royal Marsden does not have a children's intensive care unit. They are always on sites used by tens of thousands of children every year because intensive care teams need to see high volumes of very sick children to maintain their specialist skills and expertise. This wouldn't be possible at The Royal Marsden due to the smaller number of children who need treatment there.

Specialist cancer services for children currently provided at The Royal Marsden therefore need to move to a hospital which has a children's intensive care unit and other specialist children's services on site. It is a national clinical requirement.

This consultation will help to answer the question: "Where should the proposed future children's cancer centre be?"

The options

We are consulting on two options for the future Principal Treatment Centre. Both already have a children's intensive care unit and other specialist children's services, which are rated outstanding. Under both options, all conventional radiotherapy services for the future children's cancer centre (instead of some, as now) would be provided by University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

The options we are consulting on are that the future centre is either:

- at Evelina London Children's Hospital, which is part of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, and is in Lambeth, south London, with conventional radiotherapy services at University College Hospital
- or
- at St George's Hospital, which is part of St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and is in Tooting, south London, with conventional radiotherapy services at University College Hospital.

Under both options, children's cancer services would relocate from The Royal Marsden to the chosen site. Depending on the decision, some specialist children's cancer services currently provided by St George's Hospital might move too.

There will be no sudden changes to how children and young people receive care. The future children's cancer centre would not be ready until at least 2026. The move would be carefully planned with the full involvement of current teams and clear information for parents and families.

Our consultation

We are holding a public consultation about these changes. It launched on 26 September 2023 and will run for 12 weeks until 18 December 2023. Our website has lots of information about our proposals. This includes our consultation document and summary. There is also information aimed at children and young people.

To hear more, ask questions and share feedback, anyone can join one of our events on the following dates:

- Thursday 2 November
- Monday 20 November
- Monday 4 December



For consultation information, including to register for one of our events, please visit our website using the address below or scanning our QR code to the left.

www.transformationpartnersinhealthandcare.nhs.uk/childrenscancercentre

You can also call our consultation phoneline (this is free to call) on **0800 135 7971** or email england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net

Have your say

Please tell us what you think about our proposals. We really want to know your thoughts about the good points and drawbacks of each option, as well as your ideas for making these proposed changes go smoothly. We also welcome your views, questions and any additional information you think we should know. A public consultation is not a vote or referendum. It is a chance to tell us what you think.

NHS England leaders who will take the decision will consider all the feedback and additional evidence that comes forward during the consultation, as well as other relevant information.

They will:

- decide which option is taken forward
- identify what, if any, improvements are needed to the proposed changes and/or find solutions for any concerns.

Please return your completed questionnaire in an envelope addressed to FREEPOST CHILDRENS CANCER CENTRE.

There is no need to buy a stamp – the postage is free.

Section 1: About you

We, NHS England (London and South East regions), want to make sure everyone has the chance to participate in this consultation. By completing the following section, you will help us to understand who we are reaching so that we can improve our engagement work.

Your answers will help us understand the impacts of our proposals to change the location of very specialist cancer treatment services for children who live in south London and much of south east England. These are part of the children's cancer Principal Treatment Centre which is currently provided by The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and St George's NHS University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Throughout the questionnaire, please avoid adding further personal or identifiable information beyond the details we are requesting. Although we would be grateful if you completed all of the questions, please skip any questions that make you feel uncomfortable, or that you feel don't apply.

Please tick one option for each question. All responses will remain anonymous.

<p>1. A) Please tell us about you and tick one box.</p> <p>I am a...</p>	<p>A) Child or young person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> who is currently having treatment for cancer<input type="checkbox"/> who has previously been treated for cancer<input type="checkbox"/> who has never had cancer <p>B) Parent, carer or advocate for a child or young person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> who is currently having treatment for cancer<input type="checkbox"/> who has previously been treated for cancer<input type="checkbox"/> who has never had cancer <p>C) Sibling/ other relative or a friend of a child or young person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> who is currently having treatment for cancer<input type="checkbox"/> who has previously been treated for cancer<input type="checkbox"/> who has never had cancer
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- D) Children's cancer charity
- E) Member of the public
- F) Voluntary organisation
- G) Member of NHS staff
- who currently works for the Principal Treatment Centre at The Royal Marsden Hospital
 - who currently works for the Principal Treatment Centre at St. George's Hospital
 - who currently works for Evelina London
 - who works for a Paediatric Oncology Shared Care Unit in London or the south east
 - who works for the Paediatric Operational Delivery Network
 - who works for another part of the NHS (for example, other NHS trust, primary, community or mental health provider, commissioner of services etc)
 - Other members of staff supporting children's services
- H) Member of research organisation such as The Institute of Cancer Research
- I) Other public body/stakeholder/political representative (please state)
-
- J) Other (please state)
-
- K) Prefer not to say

<p>1. B) If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, which organisation do you represent?</p> <p><i>Please give us the name of the organisation and any specific group or department.</i></p>	
<p>2. A) Please tell us where you live</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Brighton and Hove</p> <p>East Sussex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Eastbourne<input type="checkbox"/> Hastings<input type="checkbox"/> Lewes<input type="checkbox"/> Rother<input type="checkbox"/> Wealden <p>Kent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Ashford<input type="checkbox"/> Canterbury<input type="checkbox"/> Dartford<input type="checkbox"/> Dover<input type="checkbox"/> Gravesham<input type="checkbox"/> Maidstone<input type="checkbox"/> Sevenoaks<input type="checkbox"/> Shepway<input type="checkbox"/> Swale<input type="checkbox"/> Thanet<input type="checkbox"/> Tonbridge and Malling<input type="checkbox"/> Tunbridge Wells

Medway

South east London

- Bexley
- Bromley
- Greenwich
- Lambeth
- Lewisham
- Southwark

South west London

- Croydon
- Kingston
- Merton
- Sutton
- Richmond
- Wandsworth

Surrey

- Elmbridge
- Epsom and Ewell
- Guildford
- Mole Valley
- Reigate and Banstead
- Runnymede
- Spelthorne
- Surrey Heath
- Tandridge
- Waverley
- Woking

	<p>West Sussex</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adur</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Arun</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chichester</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Crawley</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Horsham</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mid Sussex</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Worthing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Somewhere else (please state)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
<p>2. B) Please tell us the first part of your postcode:</p> <p>This will help us see where, geographically, we are getting responses from. We won't use it to identify where you live.</p>	
<p>3. If you are a parent or carer, has your child ever had cancer?</p> <p>If you are a young person, have you ever had cancer?</p>	<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> No (if no, please move to Section 2)</p>
<p>4. Was part or all of that care at the Principal Treatment Centre at The Royal Marsden or St George's Hospital?</p>	<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> No (if no, please move to Section 2)</p>

5. How long ago did you, or the child you are connected to, have cancer care?

- a. Currently having cancer care
- b. Had cancer care 1-2 years ago
- c. Have not had cancer care in the last 2 years
- d. First had care more than 2 years ago but now require cancer care again
- e. Other (please state):

Section 2: Our proposals

If you haven't done so already, we recommend reading our consultation document before completing the following section. This will help you understand why this change is needed (see pages 12-13 of the full document, 8-9 of the summary) and what the two options are (see pages 41-47 of the full document, 19-23 of the summary).

Often, children go to 'Paediatric Oncology Shared Care Units' as part of their cancer journey. These are hospitals that provide some cancer care for children with cancer and are usually more local to home. They are different to the Principal Treatment Centre and are not a part of this consultation.

<p>6. In a future Principal Treatment Centre, what would you value most?</p> <p><i>This might include things about:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the service itself</i>• <i>children, young people and family experience</i>• <i>things that help the service to run well</i>• <i>research</i>	
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We have heard, through feedback from parents and carers, that travelling with sick children on public transport can at times be difficult, and that travel by car also can be challenging but for different reasons. We want to understand more about travel and access challenges to help us consider what additional support might be needed. People entitled to hospital transport would continue to receive this under these proposals. You can read more on our website about getting to the different hospital sites and what support is on offer.

7. How important are the following aspects of your travel?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is not at all important, 3 is neither important nor unimportant, and 5 is very important.

	1 Not at all important	2	3 Neither important nor unimportant	4	5 Very important	Don't know or not sure
A. Parking availability on the hospital site						
B. Public transport availability in close proximity to the hospital site						
C. The ability to get help with parking and travel costs (such as Ultra Low Emission Zone and the London congestion charges)						
D. Public transport cost						
E. Family accommodation nearby so we don't have to travel as much						
F. Something else. Tell us more						

8. For staff or patients connected to the current Principal Treatment Centre service...

How important will it be to put in place the following types of support and information, to make the move easier?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is not at all important, 3 is neither important nor unimportant, and 5 is very important.

	1 Not at all important	2	3 Neither important nor unimportant	4	5 Very important	Don't know or not sure
A. Being reassured about when and how the move will happen.						
B. Additional support and information for those who need it, such as a dedicated point of contact during the move.						
C. Understanding which staff will still be involved in on-going care.						
D. Being able to see where the service will physically be located in the future.						
E. Having information about how to travel to the site safely.						

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is not at all important, 3 is neither important nor unimportant, and 5 is very important.

	1 Not at all important	2	3 Neither important nor unimportant	4	5 Very important	Don't know or not sure
F. Having information about how to get help with travel.						
G. Understanding how any on-going research trials will be impacted.						
H. Being involved in how the new location looks and feels.						
I. Please tell us if other types of support or information might be needed, to make the change easier for staff and families.						

Thinking about Evelina London ...

<p>Having read about the option for the future children's cancer centre to be at Evelina London...</p> <p>9. Please share your views on the good points of this option (including anything we may have missed)</p>	
<p>10. Please share your views on potential challenges of this option (including those we may have missed)</p>	
<p>11. What suggestions do you have to improve the things you've identified as potential challenges?</p>	

Thinking about St George's Hospital...

<p>Having read about the option for the future children's cancer centre to be at St George's Hospital ...</p> <p>12. Please share your views on the good points of this option (including anything we may have missed)</p>	
<p>13. Please share your views on potential challenges of this option (including those we may have missed)</p>	
<p>14. What suggestions do you have to improve the things you've identified as potential challenges?</p>	

Other changes

Under both options, conventional radiotherapy would move from The Royal Marsden to University College Hospital where it would be delivered as part of a larger service alongside proton beam and other radiotherapy services.

15. Please tell us what you think about this part of our proposal, including the effect it might have

16. Do you have any other thoughts or ideas you want to share?

Section 3: Demographic information

If you are responding as an individual, please answer the questions below...

The NHS has a duty to promote equality in relation to age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, and religion and belief. We want to make sure that we include all parts of the community in our consultation, but these questions are optional. We will take all consultation responses fully into account when making decisions, regardless of whether you provide your personal details.

<p>17. How old are you?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Under 15 <input type="checkbox"/> 16-18 <input type="checkbox"/> 19-25 <input type="checkbox"/> 26-40</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 41-65 <input type="checkbox"/> 66-74 <input type="checkbox"/> 75 or over <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say</p>
<p>18. What is your gender?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binary</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say</p>
<p>Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?</p> <p>Your gender identity is how you perceive yourself and how you refer to yourself. Your gender identity can be the same or different from the you sex registered at birth.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say</p>
<p>19. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term'</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say</p>

<p>negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.</p>	<p>If yes, please provide more information about your condition, if you wish to do so.</p> <div data-bbox="627 311 1362 613" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 135px; width: 461px;"></div>
<p>20. Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual <input type="checkbox"/> Straight <input type="checkbox"/> Gay <input type="checkbox"/> Lesbian <input type="checkbox"/> Bisexual <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say </p>
<p>21. What is your ethnic group?</p>	<p>White</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Welsh <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Scottish <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Irish <input type="checkbox"/> British <input type="checkbox"/> Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Irish Traveller <input type="checkbox"/> Any other White background (please state) </p> <div data-bbox="622 1115 1358 1229" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 51px; width: 461px;"></div> <p>Mixed</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black African <input type="checkbox"/> White and Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Any other mixed background (please state) </p> <div data-bbox="622 1554 1358 1668" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 51px; width: 461px;"></div> <p>Asian or Asian British</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Any other Asian background (please state) </p> <div data-bbox="622 1935 1358 2049" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 51px; width: 461px;"></div>

	<p>Black or Black British</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> African</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Any other Black background (please state)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other ethnic group (please state)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say</p>
<p>22. What is your religion or belief?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No religion <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhist <input type="checkbox"/> Christian <input type="checkbox"/> Hindu</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jewish <input type="checkbox"/> Muslim <input type="checkbox"/> Sikh <input type="checkbox"/> Atheist <input type="checkbox"/> Agnostic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Any other religion (please state)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say</p>
<p>23. Do you or anyone in your household currently receive any of the following? (Please tick all that apply)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Income Support</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jobseeker's Allowance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Employment and Support Allowance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pension Credit Guarantee Credit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Universal Credit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are named on, or entitled to, a valid NHS tax credit exemption certificate</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am not currently receiving benefits</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Would prefer not to say</p>

24. Which ONE of the following categories best describes the employment status of the main income earner in your household? (before retirement if now retired)

- Semi or unskilled manual worker (such as caretaker, non-HGV driver, shop assistant etc.)
- Skilled manual worker (such as bricklayer, carpenter, plumber, HGV driver etc.)
- Supervisory or clerical/ junior managerial/ professional/ administrative (such as office worker, student doctor, salesperson etc.)
- Intermediate managerial/ professional/ administrative (such as foundation doctor, solicitor, board director of a small organisation, middle manager in large organisation etc.)
- Higher managerial/ professional/ administrative (such as registrar or experienced doctor, solicitor, board director in a large organisation, top level civil servant etc.)
- Student
- Casual worker – not in permanent employment
- House husband/ housewife/ homemaker
- Unemployed or not working due to long-term sickness
- Full-time carer of other household member
- Would rather not say

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Once our consultation closes on 18 December 2023, all responses will be independently analysed by Explain Market Research. Views and feedback will be presented as part of the evidence and data to inform the decision on the location of the future Principal Treatment Centre for children with cancer in south London and much of south east England. We hope to make this decision in early 2024.

Please visit <https://www.transformationpartnersinhealthandcare.nhs.uk/childrenscancercentre/> email us at england.childrenscancercentre@nhs.net or call us on 0800 135 7971 for more information about this programme and other ways to have your say.

If you would like to keep up to date with what is happening with this programme, or find out about other ways you can stay involved as the changes are implemented once a decision has been made on the location of the future children’s cancer centre, please share your email address and we will be in touch.

We will not use your contact details for any other purposes.

Now please return your completed questionnaire in an envelope addressed to FREEPOST CHILDRENS CANCER CENTRE.

There is no need to buy a stamp – the postage is free.

Your response must reach us by midnight on 18 December 2023 – that is when the consultation closes.