

**Ref: CCG October 008 2016**

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NHS Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group  
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31<sup>st</sup> October 2016,

Thank you for your email that we received on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2016, with regards to Children's Centres Services. Whilst we are happy to provide a response within the 20-day time limit, I would like to highlight that your request does not fall within the scope of the freedom of information act as it does not relate to published/written material, rather it is asking for CCG views on aspects of commissioning.

We have picked out the three questions from your email and we will answer each point in turn.

1. If and probably when the number of Children's Centres in the City is significantly reduced in 2017, bearing in mind the contribution made by these programmes to the stated aims of the Healthy Liverpool draft strategic plan, would the CCG wish to see provision of these services continue?

The potential reduction in the number of children's centres is a decision that is yet to be made by Liverpool City Council (LCC). If and when such a decision is made by LCC a detailed assessment of every health related service line would need to be undertaken to assess value for money (effectiveness), impact and outcomes relating to life chances. This would be in line with typical quality and performance monitoring for commissioned services. Should LCC wish to reduce the number of buildings that the services currently operate from, then the CCG would look to utilise existing NHS estate for the continued provision. Pending routine performance review, the CCG currently has no plans to decommission any of the service lines we commission delivered via the children's centres. I cannot comment on services not commissioned by the CCG, and in this regard can I suggest that you redirect this element of your request to LCC and NHSE.

2. If so, bearing in mind the ongoing severe pressures on GP practices, from which bodies would these services be sought to be commissioned? Would it be anticipated that they would be delivered by existing staff? What approximate budgetary provision would the CCG anticipate would need to be set aside to maintain provision of these services?

As stated above, the CCG currently has no plans to cease investment in the services it commissions for delivery within the children's centres.

3. If it would not be the intention of the CCG to continue provision of some or all of these services, please indicate how this would support the strategic aims of the Healthy Liverpool plan and whether it would be logical to conclude that the CCG attaches little or no importance to these services or the health outcomes of young people.

The CCG attaches huge importance to the health and wellbeing of children and families; as evidenced by the multi-agency partnership approach to the development of The Liverpool Children and Families Trust; The Children's Transformation Board and the development of a single overarching strategy. As stated above, the CCG had no plan to disinvest in the services we commission delivered from children's centres.

Should you require any further information please contact me on the above address.

Yours sincerely,

**Katherine Sheerin**  
**Chief Officer**