

# Prospectus

## Nottinghamshire Children’s Integrated Commissioning Hub

### Background

The Children’s Integrated Commissioning Hub (ICH) provides a single point of coordination for commissioning relating to children’s health and wellbeing. Set up in September 2013, we work on behalf of the six Nottinghamshire clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and Nottinghamshire County Council, including Children’s and Public Health services.

Our essential aim is to streamline the complexity that exists around the planning of countywide children’s health services. We do this by working on your behalf with key stakeholders on a countywide level, such as Children’s Social Care, while retaining an understanding of your local priorities and decision-making processes.

*In our first year, we have made good progress in **reducing duplication**, enabling **whole system** planning and promoting **effective engagement**. We believe we have already had a positive impact on the planning of local services for children and young people.*

Over the past year, we have worked hard to reduce the fragmentation that exists in the commissioning of health services for children. Improved outcomes can only be achieved if agencies work together to deliver integrated services around children’s health needs.

We have built the necessary foundations to drive improvement through innovative and specialised commissioning practice. Against

the current backdrop of increasingly limited resources, we also provide a more focused approach to maximising value for money.

### Our Service Offer

Through us, you can be confident that your responsibilities are managed by skilled and knowledgeable children’s commissioning professionals. We understand the local, regional and national picture. We deliver the full commissioning package, including:

- Needs assessment
- Service review and redesign
- Commissioning strategy
- Consultation and engagement
- Network and partnership coordination
- Market management
- Capacity planning
- Procurement processes
- Contract management
- Provider relationship management
- Performance and quality monitoring

### ICH Portfolio



*“Holistic commissioning for children & young people”*

We also offer advanced project management support in facilitating clinical pathway design and implementation, from service specification development to post-procurement mobilisation.

In addition, we have developed commercially sound relationships with providers based on value for money and continuous improvement. We are applying new rigour to future investment and will recommend ceasing contracts with providers where they do not deliver for you.

## Why Work With Us?

We have built a team which is professional, experienced and proactive. We have already added value by establishing a consistent approach to commissioning<sup>1</sup> and embedding conformity within many of the contracts that we inherited.

We are well placed to develop localised health services to make them more responsive to need and have invaluable insight into the health and wellbeing challenges faced by Nottinghamshire children.

*Expertise in the ICH team is drawn from clinical, commercial, public health, education and local government backgrounds. Our people offer advanced project management, planning, participation, performance and contracting skills, alongside a passion for improving outcomes for children.*

Backed by CCGs, the County Council and NHS England, we offer one point of contact and are therefore in a unique position to build upon the positive public sector partnerships that already exist locally. We strive to foster good relationships across health, social care, education and voluntary/community sector interfaces, because trust is the essence of successful commissioning.

<sup>1</sup> Full details can be found in our Commissioning Framework

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/caring/yourhealth/developing-health-services/childrenscommissioning/>

## Our Key Achievements in One Year

### Embedding integrated commissioning arrangements for children's health services

- We have mapped and improved multiple inherited service specifications and reporting schedules
- We have published a thorough commissioning framework
- We have developed a robust contract and performance monitoring process
- We have established a presence on key strategic groups, including regionally

### Actively engaging children, young people and families

- We have engaged with children, young people and families in a variety of contexts
- We have run a major young people's mystery shopper inspection of healthcare settings
- We have launched a pioneering health and wellbeing survey of school pupils
- We have ensured children and young people's views have informed Public Health procurement processes

### Reviewing and redesigning services

- We have reviewed CAMHS and proposed a new operating model
- We have reviewed maternity services and developed new specifications and quality improvement plans
- We have reviewed the School Nursing Service and the Healthy Schools Programme and are planning next steps
- We have commissioned new services, such as the Breastfeeding Support Service

### Commissioning integrated services for children with complex needs or disabilities

- We have launched Phase Two of the Integrated Community Children & Young People's Healthcare Programme
- We have designed a whole systems approach to speech, language & communication needs
- We have developed the Education, Health & Care Plan Pathway and plans for its implementation
- We have ensured that CCG statutory duties under the Children & Families Act 2014 are being met

## What's Next?

We are pleased with the distance we have travelled in one year and believe we have begun to deliver commissioning solutions based on a detailed understanding of your priorities. However, there is still much to be done.

We need to build greater sustainability to meet the challenges facing us. These include the complexity of working across a shifting political landscape, wide variation in governance and accountability across CCGs and increased demand with significantly dwindling resources.

We plan to refine further our interface between CCGs, schools and Local Authority services to harness the benefits that this will bring. We know we need to raise our profile and encourage a better understanding of what the ICH does among all of our stakeholders, so that roles are clearer and duplication is eliminated.

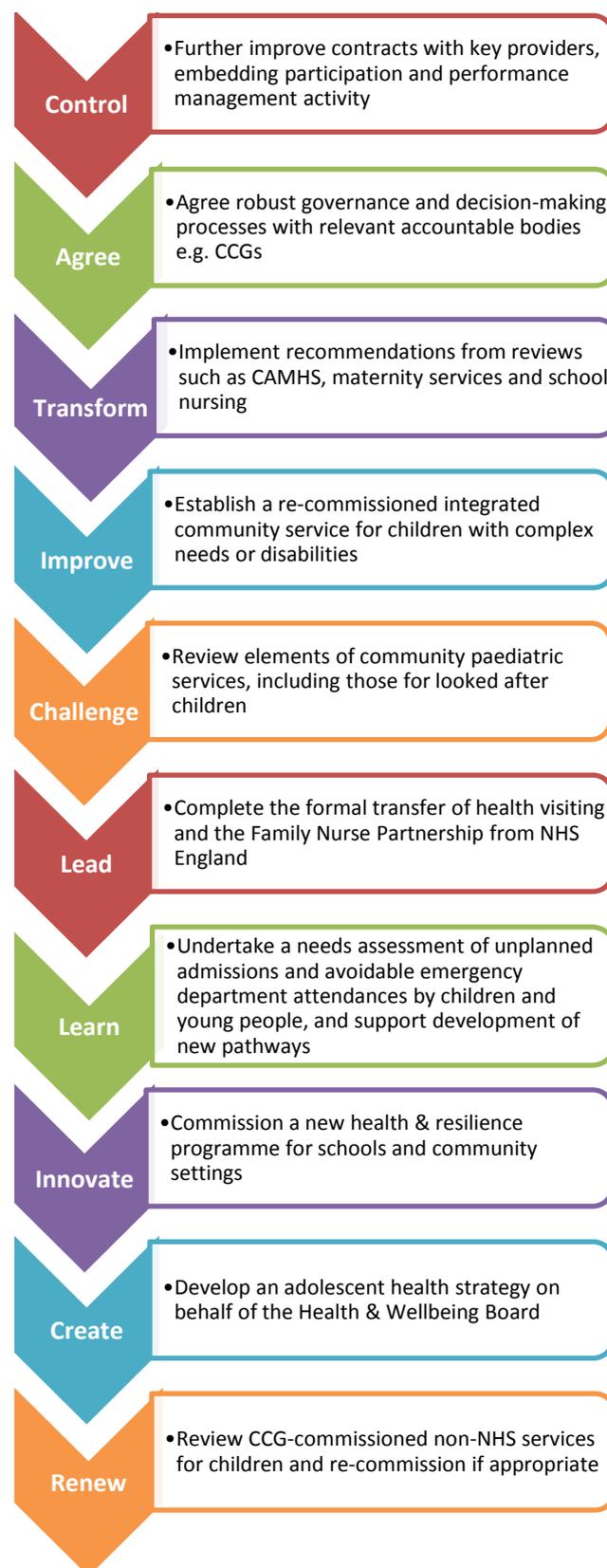
*Amidst the rapid pace of change in the NHS, the ICH can provide a **sustainable** solution to the commissioning of services for children in the coming years. This includes **specialist support** around the full commissioning cycle, a **value-driven** focus on improved outcomes and a **robust commercial approach**.*

In our role as advocates for children's health services in an increasingly older people focused commissioning landscape, we want to ensure that children and their families are fully engaged in the commissioning of services, as well as providing feedback on those services.

And most of all, under the direction you give us, we want to see our holistic commissioning processes make a tangible difference to

health outcomes for children in Nottinghamshire.

Key areas of focus for us during 2015/16 are:



"As a clinical safeguarding advisor to both the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board and the ICH, I have seen a significant shift in the commissioning and provision of children's services across the local NHS as a result of the new commissioning arrangements. Artificial barriers to services and organisational silos are being challenged and there is a determination to drive integration of care and collaboration between services to best meet the needs of children and their families. This will result in the most vulnerable children receiving help at the earliest opportunity to improve their life chances. More importantly, views and experiences of children are being captured to influence developments. This is a challenging and exciting journey and I am privileged to be able to support this initiative."

**Val Simnett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, NHS Newark & Sherwood, Mansfield & Ashfield, Nottingham West, Nottingham North & East and Rushcliffe CCGs**

"From my perspective as a commissioner for adult mental health and learning disabilities, the establishment of the ICH has provided a welcome focus on CAMHS across Nottinghamshire County CCGs. The team has been able to engage with all key stakeholders and identify improvements that need to be made to the CAMHS pathway, ensuring that children and young people going forward have an effective service offer. There is positive liaison with myself and a commitment to effective joint working on a range of projects. Going forward this will include the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat."

**Karon Glynn, Assistant Director Mental Health and Learning Disabilities, NHS Newark and Sherwood CCG**

"The ICH has been a key partner in the recent obesity prevention and weight management tender to ensure that the needs of pregnant women, children and young people are met by the new service. In addition, it has provided contract management support for the National Child Measurement Programme, a mandated Public Health function."

**Anne Pridgeon, Senior Public Health Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council**

"The ICH infrastructure enables us to have a focused and dedicated discussion about the current and future service needs for children and young people. As a provider, discussions and focus on the provision and commissioning for children and young people always got pushed down the priority list. This year this has changed and things have already improved, we now have the opportunity to meet regularly with a dedicated focus on children and young people."

**Luba Hayes, Head of Planning & Performance, Health Partnerships**

"As a provider organisation, we have found it really helpful to have a central point of contact for children's commissioning queries for the County patches. The team are approachable and knowledgeable and seem to be working to a clear work plan. They demonstrate a desire to work collaboratively with providers to improve pathways for children and young people within their patch."

**Vicky Holden, Assistant General Manager, Nottingham Children's Hospital**