

How children's services will look under option 1

Under option 1, a paediatric short stay assessment unit (PSSAU) would be offered at the Friarage Hospital, providing rapid access to treatment for children.

Children who need to stay in hospital will be dealt with promptly and taken to the most appropriate place for their inpatient care. No inpatient (overnight) care would be available at the Friarage Hospital.

The first point of contact for a parent with a sick child should always be the child's GP. They can advise where the child should be treated. If a child needs medical attention when the GP surgery is closed, parents should contact NHS 111 who will refer the child to the most appropriate place for their care.

The pathway of care for children (during working hours)

- GP will assess the child over the telephone or in the surgery.
- If the child sees a GP, they will be given advice/treatment and go home, or if the GP feels they should be seen by a paediatrician or need a period of observation (four to six hours) they will be referred to the paediatric short-stay assessment unit (PSSAU) at the Friarage.
- The child will be assessed, observed and possibly investigated or treated on PSSAU.
- If the child is well enough to go home by the time the PSSAU closes, they will be discharged, possibly with a planned review the next day.

This factsheet has been produced as part of the public consultation on our proposal for maternity and children's services at the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton.

- If the child needs to stay longer than the opening times of the PSSAU - or are not well enough to go home – they will be transferred as soon as possible to another hospital. (Paediatrician to decide appropriate means of transport – parents' car or ambulance).
- If, during working hours, the GP feels the child needs to be admitted to hospital – or is very likely to need a stay of more than 4-6 hours – the child will be referred to The James Cook University Hospital or alternative large hospital. (GP will decide appropriate means of transport – parents' car or ambulance).

The pathway of care for children (out-of-hours)

- NHS 111 service may suggest out-of-hours GP assessment over the telephone or advise you to call 999.
- If a GP feels the child needs assessment by a paediatrician or a period of observation they will be referred to The James Cook University Hospital or an alternative large hospital (GP will decide appropriate means of transport – parents' car or ambulance).

