

# How children's services will look under option 2

Option 2 does not include the development of a paediatric short-stay assessment unit (PSSAU). Instead an urgent clinic would be developed for assessing children who are unwell and need outpatient assessment only as there will be no observation area for children.

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 on the telephone or in the surgery.
- If the child is seen in the surgery, they may be given advice or treatment and go home.
- If the GP feels the child needs to be seen by a paediatrician, but is unlikely to need a period of observation, they will request a same-day outpatient appointment at Friarage Hospital.
- If the GP feels the child needs to be seen by a paediatrician – and requires a period of assessment – they will be referred to The James Cook University Hospital or

alternative large hospital (GP to decide appropriate means of transport – parents' car or ambulance).

- If the GP feels the child needs to be admitted to hospital they will be referred to The James Cook University Hospital or an alternative large hospital (again the GP will decide appropriate means of transport – parents' car or ambulance).
- If the child is transferred to another hospital, they will be assessed and/or treated. If they are well enough to go home, arrangements may be made to see them the following day in outpatients at the Friarage.

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

- The NHS 111 service may suggest assessment on the telephone, in the out-of-hours centre or may advise calling 999.
- If a child is seen by a GP and they feel they need to be seen 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).

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.

