

Dear Applicant

We apologise for the delay in responding to this request.
The request has been considered and the information is provided below.

FOI Reference Number:	FOI210310
Subject:	Children's palliative care



NHS East and North Hertfordshire CCG's response is:

1. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification? (Yes/No). If so, please attach a copy to your response to this request.

Response: Yes, the specification for Keech Hospice that provides palliative care for children and young people is attached.

2. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their parents or carers should have opportunities to be involved in developing an advance care plan? (Yes/No)

Response: Yes, the inpatient unit and community support for children will deliver to ensure all children and young people have access to Advance Care Planning (ACP) if not already in place

3. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition should have a named medical specialist who leads and coordinates their care?

Response: No – the service specification states a key worker will be identified for each child and young person who will co-ordinate and plan care, delegating where appropriate and supervising the care delivered. The service will be provided by a team of qualified and unqualified practitioners and will complement the children's community nursing service, Continuing Healthcare (where applicable) and other voluntary service providers to ensure seamless holistic nursing care.

4. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their parents or carers should be given information about emotional and psychological support, including how to access it?

Response: Yes

The specification states that the Provider will evidence support and information provided to services users and carers, focused on the following:-

Information to signpost children and young people and parents/carers to :

- **Access to web based Macmillan national children's cancer information**
- **1:1 counselling sessions and pre bereavement support.**
- **After death bereavement support to parents/carers and siblings**

5. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition should be cared for by a

multidisciplinary team that includes members of the specialist paediatric palliative care team? (Yes/No)

Response: Yes

6. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that parents or carers of infants, children and young people approaching the end of life should be offered support for grief and loss when their child is nearing the end of their life and after their death?

Response: Yes – as above Q4.

7. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people approaching the end of life and being cared for at home should have 24-hour access to both children's nursing care and advice from a consultant in paediatric palliative care?

Response: Yes – the in-patient unit will operate on a 24/7 basis with full nursing care cover and medical support to safely and appropriately to meet the needs of CYP in the in-patient unit

8. Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their families should have access regular short breaks for respite? (Yes/No)

Response: No

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If you are dissatisfied with this response or wish to appeal, you may write to:

Company Secretary
Governance & Corporate Affairs
NHS East and North Hertfordshire CCG
Charter House
Parkway
Welwyn Garden City
AL8 6JL.

Alternatively, you may appeal to the Information Commissioner whose contact details are available at <http://www.ico.org.uk>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Lead