



RE: IMPORTANT changes to the Camden and Islington Young People's Sexual Health Network, including services provided by Brook Euston, Brandon Centre, and Pulse (Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust); January 2022

Dear Young Person,

Islington and Camden Councils are currently developing a new Young People's Sexual Health Service because the current contracts are coming to an end. The new service is being developed following consultation with young people and others, including current service providers (Brook, Brandon Centre and Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust who run Pulse services) and councillors, and will be operational from spring/summer 2022. To make sure your sexual health care continues with minimal interruption, your records may need to be transferred to the new service.

Why is this happening?

This current sexual health service contract which the Camden and Islington Councils hold with our current service providers Brook, Brandon Centre and Homerton is coming to an end in spring/summer 2022, and the Councils need to follow a legal set of rules, which includes a procurement process, before awarding new contracts to the next service providers.

What is a procurement process?

It's a bit like applying for a job. The Councils publish a 'specification', which is essentially a description of the different services we need to offer for young people. Interested providers, including the organisations running the current service, can write an application to describe how they would provide the service in the future, and how they will work with young people in developing and delivering the service if they are successful. The Councils have worked with YP across the boroughs to develop the 'specification' and have involved young people to assess the applications to ensure their input is considered as a valuable and meaningful part of this process.

What does this mean for you?

Please don't worry, we are at the start of this process and will be keeping you fully informed via our clinics. We can assure you that:

- Your treatment at your current sexual health service will stay the same until spring/summer 2022.
- Your treatment will continue uninterrupted when the new sexual health service starts in spring/summer 2022.
- Whichever organisation is successful will work with existing sexual health services to make sure the handover is seamless.
- Meeting your needs will remain the top priority in setting up the new sexual health service and disruption to your normal services will be kept to an absolute minimum.
- Records held by your current sexual health service provider may need to be transferred to the new service provider

**What does transferring my records mean?**

You do not need to worry; all your records will remain confidential and protected by law.

If a different sexual health service provider to your current one becomes responsible for the new service, your records will remain confidential under the Data Protection Act 2018.

Objections to transferring your records.

The current sexual health service providers may be required to transfer young people's records to the new service provider to make sure that you continue to get the best care you need. If this worries you or you have any questions, you can speak to us, and we will be happy to discuss the transfer with you.

Your current sexual health service provider will be able answer any of your queries about this process, but if you want to contact the council about this please email SexualHealthCommissioning@islington.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Nancy Padwick
Commissioning Manager
Sexual and Reproductive Health
Camden and Islington Public Health

Brook
Brandon Centre
Pulse (Homerton University Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust)