

GPs Announce Enhanced Urgent Care Centre at Princess Royal University Hospital November 2013

Local GPs from the Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have announced that from 20 November 2013, the Urgent Care Centre at The Princess Royal University Hospital will be expanded. It will ramp-up its services from that date and will be open 24 hours, seven days a week from the end of January 2014. It will also have a larger clinical team including more GPs and expert nurses who will have access to a range of diagnostic services.

Bromley CCG has appointed as preferred bidder, Greenbrook Healthcare, a primary care provider, to manage and provide the clinical services in the expanded Urgent Care Centre.

Greenbrook Healthcare already successfully runs other Urgent Care Centres in partnership with NHS organisations across London at Northwick Park, West Middlesex and Hillingdon Hospitals. Greenbrook Healthcare will be working closely with both Bromley CCG and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust – who have taken over the management of the Princess Royal University Hospital – to deliver an enhanced service to patients.

Dr Mark Essop, from the Bromley CCG said:

“As a local GP and the Urgent Care Lead for Bromley CCG, I know that our patients need comprehensive Urgent Care Centre that will cater for their emergency needs 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“The Centre will treat people who need to see a clinician, but who have a condition which they cannot manage themselves and that is not serious enough to be treated in an Emergency Department. They will also advise on self care and how to make the most appropriate use of the range of other NHS services available to them including pharmacists and GP's. This will enable the Princess Royal University Hospital's highly specialised A&E doctors and nurses to focus on patients with the most serious injuries and illnesses.

“The provider we have selected as preferred bidder already successfully runs Urgent Care Centres in London and we are confident their clinical expertise and experience will mean local residents will receive excellent and safe care.”

The selection was made by a panel who rigorously assessed each bid against a set of objective criteria that will deliver high quality care. This panel involved a local GP, and a GP from outside the area, a lay representative, and a HealthWatch member. Greenbrook Healthcare was assessed to be the best bid against these criteria.

Dr Sally Johnson, Medical Director of Greenbrook Healthcare said:

“We are delighted to have been selected to run the Urgent Care Centre. We are looking forward to bringing our expertise and experience to the Princess Royal University Hospital, to deliver a high quality service for local people.”