



**Making care better for children
and young people
with learning disabilities and
mental health needs**

Making care happen close to home



In 2012 a big review happened to change the way learning disability care happens.

Bad things had happened to people with learning disabilities in a place called **Winterbourne View.**



The review found that people with learning disabilities

- ✓ should be cared for more in the community
- x not go to hospitals far away from where they live



A new NHS policy

We want young people with learning disabilities and mental health to get more care outside hospitals.

This stops people from being kept in a hospital which is often far from home.

Doing this helps people to

- ✓ get care in their community
- ✓ be close to family and friends
- ✓ give families more power to get involved



A new NHS policy



The new policy has helped to keep children and young people out of hospital.



But we want to look at how services happen for children and young people.

We want to make sure they get the right care, at the right time and in the right place.



We also need to spend our money on this in the right way.

What is Crystal House



Crystal House is a small 5-bed hospital in Brent, North West London.

Crystal House gives care to young people aged 13 to 18 years old who have

- Severe learning disabilities
- Complex behaviours
- Mental Health
- Autism



Crystal House takes young people from across London and beyond.

Crystal House opened in 2019 to give **specialist care**.



Only **22 young people** have stayed here.

What is Crystal House

This is because people stay a lot longer than they should.

This is because it is hard to find the right care outside Crystal House.

The young people who go to Crystal House are in crisis. This means they are very unwell and need specialist help.

After their crisis gets better they should move to

- a specialist home where they live
- their community where they usually live

More about Crystal House



Young people at Crystal House get care from

- ✓ Clinical specialists
- ✓ Psychologists
- ✓ Nurses
- ✓ Occupational therapists
- ✓ Social workers



This service helps young people with their mental health by



- ✓ teaching them skills to cope
- ✓ getting help with **positive behaviours**
- ✓ giving support to go back into the community.

There are only **5 beds** at Crystal House.
Running this service costs **£2.5 million** a year.

Why this needs to change



Children and young people are getting more care at home.

This means Crystal House isn't needed as much. Sometimes there are no patients.



But some young people are staying too long at Crystal House.

It can be hard to find care outside.

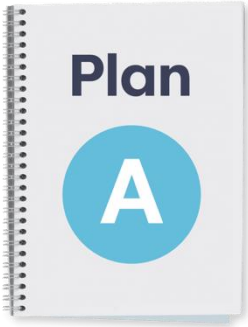
But this doesn't help young people to get better. Staying at Crystal House too long can make it worse.



We want to spend money on care in the community.

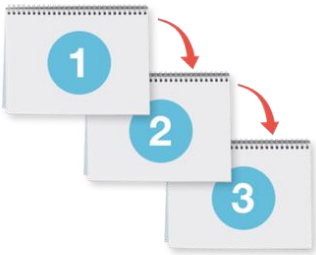
This means many more people can get support closer to home.

Our proposed new plan



Our proposed plan will have

- teams in the community
- flexible hours for care
- easier ways to have more care or less care – we call this **step-up and step-down care**
- more partners working together



We can see that care in the community works well.



It means we can give care earlier to young people who need it.

This will stop people having a crisis.

Changing Crystal House

We have also looked at changing the way Crystal House works.



But we think this would limit the care we can give to patients.



We decided this wasn't a good plan.

We think we should think about closing Crystal House. We can use the money we spend here on more care in the community.

Doing this would help us give better care in different way.



We think this would be good for everyone.

But we do want to know what you think about this idea.

What happens next



We are talking to families and our staff to find out what everyone thinks about our plans.

We want to make these specialist services are good as we can.



We will find out as much as we can before we make a decision.