



Notice of Acceptance

Merger of South-West Essex's provider services arm and North East London NHS Foundation Trust

The Cooperation and Competition Panel (CCP) has decided that the proposed merger between South- West Essex PCT's provider services arm (Community Health Services) and North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT) meets the CCP's acceptance criteria for a merger reference. That is:

- i. the proposed arrangement falls within the scope of Principles 9 and 10 of the Principles and Rules for Cooperation and Competition;
- ii. the CCP is the most appropriate body to consider this matter;
- iii. the parties have made available the relevant and applicable information on the case to the CCP; and
- iv. the turnover threshold is satisfied as the combined entities will exceed the relevant threshold of £35 million.

As a result, the CCP is accepting this case with its investigation starting from the date of this notice, with Phase I to be completed by 20 September 2010 and Phase II, if required, by 13 January 2011.

Andrew Taylor
Director, Cooperation and Competition Panel
23 July 2010