



Notice of Acceptance

Transfer of Buckinghamshire PCT's provider services arm to Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust

The Cooperation and Competition Panel (CCP) has decided that the proposed transfer of the provider services arm of Buckinghamshire PCT (Community Health Buckinghamshire) to Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust 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 of 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 for mergers involving a community services provider of £35 million.

As a result, the CCP is accepting this case with its investigation starting from the date of this notice, with Phase 1 to be completed by 14 April 2010 and Phase 2, if required, to be completed by 6 August 2010.¹

Andrew Taylor
Director, Cooperation and Competition Panel

15 February 2010

¹ NB. This timetable will be updated as required during the course of the inquiry.