# Health services in south east London

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in the boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark plan and organise most local NHS services across south east London. Specialised services and primary care services (and others such as prison and military healthcare services) are planned and organised (commissioned) for south east London by NHS England – London.

## NHS services in south east London:

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| **Primary care** | - 261 general practices, employing more than 1,100 GPs and 650 practice nurses  
- 242 dental practices  
- 360 community pharmacies  
- Out-of-hours care provided by the GP co-operatives Grabadoc Healthcare Society, South East London doctors Co-operative (SELDOC) & EMDOC Bromley doctors On Call. |
| **Community health services** | - For Southwark and Lambeth: Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust  
- For Greenwich and Bexley: Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust  
- For Lewisham: Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust  
- For Bromley: mainly Bromley Healthcare |
| **Mental health services** | - For Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham: mainly South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust  
- For Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich: mainly Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust. |
| **Acute services** | - Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust, operating from Darent Valley Hospital and Queen Mary’s Hospital Sidcup  
- Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust, an integrated healthcare Trust operating from University Hospitals Lewisham and Queen Elizabeth Hospital Greenwich; with some services also provided at Queen Mary’s Hospital Sidcup  
- Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust, operating from main sites at St Thomas’ Hospital (including the Evelina Children’s Hospital) and Guy’s Hospital; with some services also provided at Queen Mary’s Hospital Sidcup  
- King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, operating from Denmark Hill and from Princess Royal University Hospital in Bromley; with some services also provided at Queen Mary’s Hospital Sidcup. |
| **Ambulance services** | - London Ambulance Service NHS Trust responds to emergency calls and provides non-emergency patient transport services. |
As well as these, the NHS in south east London also:

- Works in partnership with the six local authorities who provide social care services and public health across south east London.
- Helps to fund four hospices and works with other local healthcare charitable and voluntary sector organisations.
- Is part of King’s Health Partners, an Academic Health Science Centre which brings together clinical research and NHS services.
- Links with providers of residential and community social care services in each of the six boroughs.

**People in south east London and their health**

**About 1.67million people live in south east London. This is expected to grow to about 1.87million by 2021**¹

- The number of children in south east London (aged from birth to fourteen) is expected to rise from 310,000 in 2011 to 356,000 in 2021. This is more than the expected rise in the numbers of children across London or England.
- Higher numbers of older people compared to younger people live in the outer south east London boroughs. In Bexley and Bromley, for example, nearly 7% of men and nearly 10% of women are over 75 years old.
- In the inner south east London boroughs people are also living for longer. In Lambeth, for example, men now live five years longer than they did in 1995 and women live nearly for three years longer.

**Many of these people are getting healthier, but there is still more to do:**

- In four out of the six south east London boroughs, the number of children living in poverty is one of the highest in England.
- In England, nearly 70% of people over 65 have a long term health condition.
- About 11,000 people died early across south east London between 2009 and 2011. Early deaths are higher in more deprived boroughs.
- The numbers of deaths from heart problems, lung diseases and cancer across south east London are often above the national or London averages.
- Across the country, people with severe and enduring mental health conditions sometimes die younger of physical illnesses than other people. This can be from 8 to 14.6 years earlier for men and 10 to 17.5 years for women, depending on their mental health conditions.

¹ GLA 2012 Round Demographic Projections, 2013
Across south east London the health outlook is improving, but:

- We have above average rates for admission to hospital for diseases related to alcohol and more people are dying of alcohol-related illnesses.
- Nearly one in five adults in south east London smokes - which is the biggest current direct cause of preventable illnesses and early deaths.
- In inner south east London, we have the highest levels of HIV and other sex-related infections in England.
- We have higher than the average rates of teenage pregnancies in inner south east London.
- We have rising diabetes rates like the rest of London and England.
- More and more people are getting dementia across south east London.

Quality and satisfaction in south east London health services

People are saying they are sometimes not happy with services in south east London:

- People in four out of the six boroughs are among the least satisfied in England about their experiences of primary care services.
- People in four out of the six boroughs are among the least satisfied in England about their experiences of hospital care.
- In 2013, three of the four hospital Trusts in south east London at the time scored among the lowest in England for the national Friends and Family Test.

High standards are not always being met by all the services. This does not mean they are bad, as some of them are excellent and some are improving. But we do need to look at why:

- No hospital in south east London fully meets the London standards for safety and quality in emergency care and maternity (pregnancy and birth) services.
- All hospitals in south east London failed to meet five national standards in medicine and surgery.
- No individual hospital in south east London met all the key national standards for critical care, emergency department, fractured neck of femur (broken hip) treatment, maternity services and paediatrics (children's services).
- Mental health services in south east London are delivering the best possible service in just one out of 11 outcomes that are measured nationally.
- All six south east London CCGs have lower than average access for patients to their GPs.
- Four boroughs out of the six have among the lowest rates in England for vaccinating children against serious illnesses.