

Would you like to
live and work in
England?

The NHS is looking for GPs to work in the areas of
HERTFORDSHIRE AND WEST ESSEX

HEALTH SERVICES IN

HERTFORDSHIRE AND WEST ESSEX

Across Hertfordshire and West Essex there are 149 GP practices, grouped into three Clinical Commissioning Groups, that commission health services on behalf of the local population – over 1.5 million people

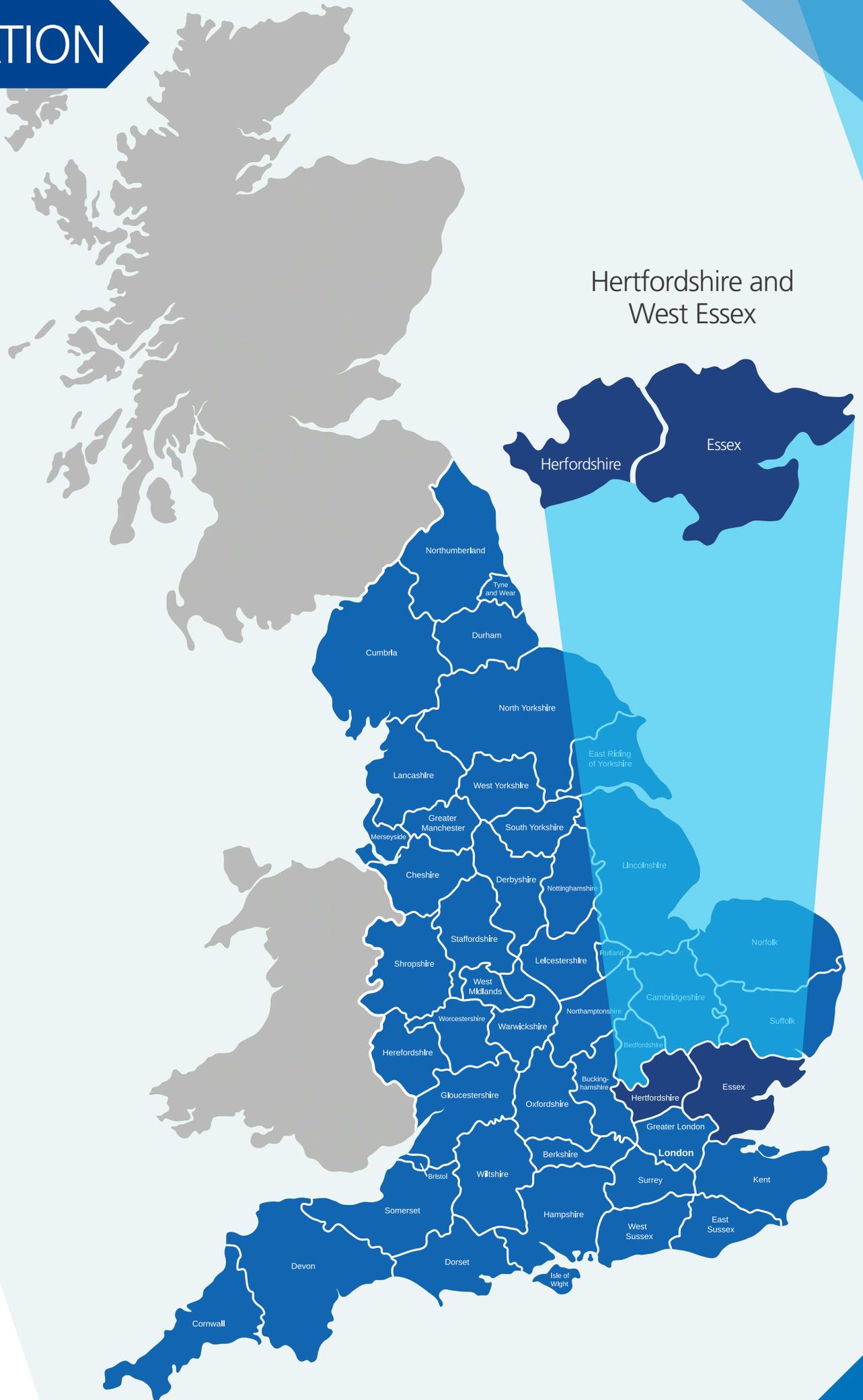
There are six major healthcare providers in the area. They are: the West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust, East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust and Princes Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust which all provide secondary care; Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust providing community services; Essex partnership University NHS Foundation Trust providing community services and mental health services; and Hertfordshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust providing mental health services.

Hertfordshire and West Essex are relatively affluent areas. Even so, pockets of significant deprivation exist, particularly in some neighbourhoods of the larger towns. On the whole, people's health is good, but there are challenges. There is an increasing demand for services from a growing and aging population.

Over the past few years, NHS organisations, local councils and voluntary groups across the regions have come together to form a sustainability and transformation partnership. It aims to join up services to improve care, support people to stay well in their own homes, encourage better lifestyle choices and make the most use of funding.



LOCATION



AREA OVERVIEW

Hertfordshire and West Essex boasts a range of towns and cities that reflect the full range of urban development in England: from Roman settlements such as St Albans; medieval market towns, such as Berkhamsted, Hitchin, Epping and Saffron Walden; Garden Cities such as Welwyn and Letchworth; through to modern new towns such as Stevenage and Harlow.

The area has excellent road, air and rail links to the rest of the country with the London orbital plus the three main north south motorways and three main north-south railways all passing through the region. Furthermore, two of London's airports are situated in Hertfordshire and West Essex.

While developed in areas, Hertfordshire and West Essex is predominantly rural with picturesque villages and farmland, together with the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which is popular with walkers, cyclists and bird watchers. It is also a much used filming location for both TV and film, including the latest Star Wars film. The region also contains extensive areas of natural woodland, from Ashridge in the west to Epping Forest, the historical hunting ground of legendary highwayman Dick Turpin, in the east.

WATFORD

Watford lies just 24km from central London. It is on the main railway line to the North-West and this helped to stimulate its industrial growth in the 19th and 20th centuries. By the 1920s, printing had become the biggest industry and Watford was the largest printing centre in the world. Today Watford is one of the two main areas for development in Hertfordshire and boasts a large indoor shopping mall with over 140 shops, restaurants and cafes. There are 43 public parks, gardens, recreation grounds and allotments in Watford. Of these, eight have been awarded a Green Flag, in recognition of their quality.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Located on the southern edge of the Chilterns, Hemel Hempstead has existed as a settlement since the 8th century and was granted its town charter by King Henry VIII in 1539. Still retaining elements of its historical centre, Hemel Hempstead was designated as a new town in the aftermath of the Second World War.

ST ALBANS

The City of St Albans was formally Roman Verulamium although it has been a settlement since the Iron Age. Before the 20th century St Albans was a rural market town; however, in 1877 it was granted city status to the borough and Cathedral status to the former Abbey Church. Since 1945, St Albans has expanded rapidly as part of the post-War redistribution of population out of Greater London and it is now also a popular tourist destination.

HITCHIN

Hitchin is a market town in north Hertfordshire with an estimated population of 33,350 and dating back to the 7th century. In the 16th and 17th centuries the town flourished on the wool trade and was a staging post for coaches coming from London.

STEVENAGE

In 1946, Stevenage was designated the United Kingdom's first New Town since when the town has expanded from 5,000 to nearly 90,000 residents and is still growing. The pedestrianized town centre was the first purpose-built traffic-free shopping zone in Britain and there are plans revealed for major regeneration of this area.

WELWYN GARDEN CITY

Welwyn Garden City was founded by Sir Ebenezer Howard in 1920 and the town is laid out along tree-lined boulevards with a neo-Georgian town centre. A shopping mall, the Howard Centre, was built in the 1980s, and the town's location makes it a convenient commuter town for London.

HERTFORD

While it is one of the smaller towns in Hertfordshire with a population of 26,000, Hertford is the county town since Saxon times. The town centre still has its medieval layout with many timber-framed buildings hidden under later frontages.

CHESHUNT

Cheshunt is another historical town which lies just 19km north of Central London and sits in the Lea Valley with access to the Ley Valley Park, a 42km long linear park running into northeast London.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD

Bishop's Stortford is located close to Stansted Airport and on the railway line from Cambridge to London.

The town dates back to Roman times; however, the centre has been recently redeveloped to include city-type apartments and penthouses on the riverside. The Rhodes Arts Complex incorporates a theatre, cinema, dance studio and conference facilities.

SAFFRON WALDEN

Saffron Walden is a market town that lies between Bishop's Stortford and London and which retains a rural appearance and some buildings of the medieval period. The town's name derives from the saffron crocus that was grown locally in the 16th and 17th centuries. On the edge of the town, Audley End House, once one of the largest mansions in England, is now in the care of English Heritage and open to the public.

HARLOW

Harlow is a former Mark One New Town in the west of Essex, developed after World War Two to ease overcrowding in London. Today it houses a population of nearly 90,000. The town is entirely surrounded by Green Belt land and also contains Harlow Town Park, one of the largest urban parks in the country.

EPPING

Epping is a small market town with underground links directly into central London; however, the town retains some elements of rurality, being surrounded by Epping Forest and working farmland. Epping has many very old buildings, some of which are Grade I and II listed buildings. It is also popular with young professionals and families.



ART AND CULTURE

In addition to a range of theatres, restaurants and open air markets within the region itself, there is easy access to the centre of London with its diverse range of cultural and entertainment opportunities. In addition to theatres in the major towns such as St Albans and Bishops Stortford, there are many other outdoor venues such as Audley end and Hatfield House that provide live entertainment. Moreover, the area also plays host to major events such as the Stortford Film Festival.

FOOD AND DRINK

There are over 30 independent breweries in Hertfordshire and West Essex and outside of the major towns, there are numerous country pubs and restaurants providing a wide range of food and drinks from staples such as fish and chips to fine dining. For something fancier, try Michelin-starred fine dining at Auberge du Lac near Welwyn.

EDUCATION

Across Hertfordshire and West Essex there is a good choice of primary and nursery schools, along with secondary school provision (for age 11 upwards), most of which are state funded, with some independent ones. Most secondary schools provide education all the way through to age 18; however, there is also a good range of colleges of further education that provide courses specifically for the 16-18 age group, either through A levels or vocational training. Hatfield is home to the University of Hertfordshire while there are a range of other Universities nearby including Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin and a wide range of London based universities.

SHOPPING

Most of the larger towns have extensive shopping centres with many offering restaurants, cafes and cinemas in addition to the major high street shops. The M25 Motorways and local rail services also provide easy access to major shopping centres such as Bluewater in Kent and Westfield in West London.

HOUSING

Property prices in Hertfordshire and West Essex are quite varied depending upon proximity to London and the major transport routes. Average prices start at approximately £300,000.

SPORT

is a great place for sport with successful football, rugby, cricket and hockey teams either located within the area or close by, including Watford Football Club who play in the Premier League, Saracens Rugby Club who were European champions in 2016 and 2017, and Essex County Cricket Club.

For those who want to participate, there are plenty of sports and leisure facilities, together with local teams and lots of woods and countryside for cycling and walking.



TRANSPORT

TRAIN: The three major railway lines to the northeast, northwest and East Anglia all run through the area with journey times into London taking 30-60 minutes. Some areas, such as Watford and Epping also have direct access to the London Underground.

CAR: Hertfordshire and West Essex is well served by motorways with the M25 London Orbital Motorways, the M1 providing access to Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds, the A1 linking to Newcastle and Scotland and the M11 which goes to Cambridge all passing through the area.

AIR: Stanstead Airport, which sits on the border between Hertfordshire and West Essex and is the fourth busiest airport in the UK, serves over 170 destinations across Europe, North Africa, Western Asia including more scheduled European destinations than any other airport in the UK. Luton Airport lies just outside of Hertfordshire and the M25 provides easy access to both Heathrow and Gatwick airports.

WEATHER

Summer temperatures can be pleasant reaching up to 22°C or more. In the winter temperatures drop to 4°C and in some parts of the counties they can be lower with snow and ice, particularly in more remote areas.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about our international recruitment programme or about living and working in **Hertfordshire and West Essex** the following websites will be useful:

Visit Herts – www.visitherts.co.uk

Visit Essex – www.visitessex.com

A Healthier Future – www.healthierfuture.org.uk

Paragona – www.paragona.com



NHS ENGLAND'S PARTNERS:



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