NHS Providers

NHS PROVIDERS
DELIVERING IN CHALLENGING TIMES

Demographic changes and widening health inequalities over recent years mean demand for all health and care services has risen. There remains a need to focus on safety culture and improvement. At the same time, investment in the capacity of health and care services, and in prevention and early intervention has been constrained. Against this backdrop of sustained pressure, we must not underestimate how hard NHS trusts are working to innovate and improve health and care services.

Providing comprehensive care to millions

In the last year trusts...

Managed **24.4 million A&E attendances** and over **122 million outpatient appointments**

Managed increasing demand, with ambulance trusts responding to a **record number of the most serious calls**

Provided **95 million contacts** in community services

Had **20 million people** in contact with specialist mental health and learning disabilities services

Recovering services and tackling care backlogs

- In March 2023 the NHS delivered **more diagnostic tests than ever before**.
- In March 2023, **81% of Urgent Community Response referrals met** the new two-hour standard.
- Mental health services in England **received 4.6 million referrals** during 2022 (up 22% from 2019).
- Trusts **virtually eliminated 104-week waits** for scans, checks, surgical procedures and other routine treatment by July 2022.

Contributing to local communities

Benefiting local economies

The NHS **spends £27bn in England every year on goods and services**, with many trusts working to support local supply chains and businesses.

Widening access to work

The NHS is **England's largest employer**, creating jobs for 1.43 million people, with thousands of non-clinical staff supporting over 133,000 doctors and 333,000 nurses. Trusts are linking up with local colleges to create career pathways for young people and supporting their employees to make healthier choices.

Improving the health of populations

Trusts are making progress on becoming institutions that not only treat illness, but also improve the health of their communities, **helping to support people with long term conditions in the community**, avoiding inpatient admissions and keeping people as well as possible.

Driving economic growth

We all need support and treatment when we are unwell to live full lives – **every £1 spent on healthcare returns £4 in increased productivity** and employment.

World leading research

The NHS has been at the **forefront of key medical breakthroughs** and had the research focus, capacity, and expertise to run enormous Covid-19 trials while under unprecedented pressure, and the genomic capabilities to track the spread of and variations in the virus.

All statistics and references available on our website

More information about our work is available at www.nhsproviders.org

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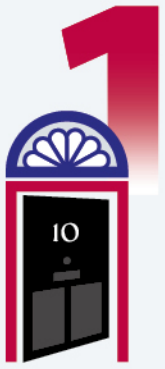
WHAT NHS PROVIDERS NEED FROM THE NEXT GOVERNMENT

The NHS we want to see offers...

To enable the NHS to reach its full potential to support the nation's wellbeing and lifelong health, the government needs to take responsibility not just for treatment when we are sick, but for whole population health.

To achieve this vision of an NHS fit for the future and a healthy nation, it is vital to...



Make population health a whole-government responsibility

- Health should be embedded in the work of each government department, recognising the impact of the wider determinants of health.
- Social care needs to be reformed and adequately funded.

Set the NHS up for success by prioritising and supporting its people

- Along with a fully funded long-term workforce plan, there needs to be investment in workforce wellbeing and a culture of improvement.
- Investment in capital is needed to support productivity and improve the safety and experience of staff and patients.

Robustly evaluate progress in improving the nation's health

- We need to be clear on our ambitions for national health, and robustly, honestly and openly evaluate progress, adjusting the approach over time to reflect what we've learnt and achieved.

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