

REFERENCES FOR 'THE NHS AT THE HEART OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE'

THE NHS PLAYS A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE IN SOCIETY AND IS A CENTRAL PILLAR OF OUR ECONOMIC STRENGTH AND STABILITY

The NHS in England...

- Provides free at the point of need care to 55million citizensⁱ
- Creates jobs for 1.3 million people", making it the country's largest employer
- Provided education and training opportunities for over 38,000 nurses, scientists, and therapists and over 50,000 doctors and dentists last year.^{III}

The NHS also plays a key role in maintaining the global competitiveness of the UK's life sciences sector, which:

- Generates £64 billion a year^{iv}
- Provides more than 233,000 UK jobs^v

THE NHS DELIVERS WORLD CLASS SERVICES

The NHS is an international leader...

- The Commonwealth Fund ranks the NHS as the world's best healthcare system, ahead of comparable systems on measures including safety and affordability^{vi}
- The NHS provides good value for money; the UK spends \$4,193 per person on healthcare each year compared to \$4,600 in France and \$5,551 in Germany vii
- 69% of the public in England report they get good healthcare, compared with 57% in France and 59% in Germany^{viii}

...providing comprehensive care to millions

- Every year, NHS trusts:
 - o manage 21 million A&E attendances and almost 118 million outpatient appointments^{ix}
 - o provide 100 million contacts in community services^x
 - o provide specialist mental health and learning disabilities services for over 1.8 million people^{xi}
- In 2014, the first NHS national waiting times targets for mental health services were introduced

And has a strong tack record on improving quality of care and supporting global competitiveness

• The NHS is a world leading research organisation, with billions invested in NHS research every year. It has been at the forefront of key medical breakthroughs, such as pioneering the first heart, lung and liver transplants^{xii}; introducing CT scans^{xiii}; and the 100,000 genomes project^{xiv}; as well as helping make the UK a global hub for the medicines and health technologies industries



• Given the right resources, NHS foundation trusts and trusts have show that they can make huge gains in improving care quality and outcomes, including heart attack^{xv} and cancer survival rates^{xvi}, reducing infections and saving money; in 2016/17 alone, NHS trusts made £3.1bn of cost improvement gains^{xvii}

BUT OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT PARLIAMENT, THE NHS FACES MAJOR, UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES

Demand is rising...

- The over-85s population has increased by almost a third since 2005 to 1.3 million^{xviii} and will double in the next 20 years^{xix}
- The prevalence of long term conditions such as diabetes, arthritis and hypertension is rising^{xx}, with people with long term conditions accounting for 77% of inpatient bed days^{xxi}
- One in four people will experience a mental health issue each year value.
- GPs delivered an estimated 370 million consultations in 2016, an increase of 70 million in five years value of 70 million in five years
- Calls to the ambulance switchboard are increasing, with staff in June 2017 handling 7% more calls than in June 2016***

...at a time when funding is not keeping pace...

- Demand for NHS services is rising by 4% each year just as per person spending on health services is falling vivi
- Demand for ambulance services is growing at an average of 5.2% a year verified by the control of the control
- An extra £10bn of investment in NHS buildings and equipment is needed to support current plans to improve local health services xxxiii
- Reductions to social care budgets mean that around 400,000 fewer people over 65 now receive social care than in 2010***
- A lack of funding, reductions in capacity and staff shortages have seen significant reductions in the numbers of beds and other services in the community***

...so putting pressure on frontline services...

- Performance against key standards is deteriorating:
 - In 2016/17, an average of 89% people were seen within the 4 hours at A&E, compared to the 95% standard^{xxxi}
 - The 92% 18-week elective surgery target has not been met since February 2016

...and strain on the NHS workforce

- 100% of trusts report difficulties in recruiting and retaining staff
- There are persistent shortages across key staff groups including nurses***** and paramedics**** and A&E doctors*****
- There remains uncertainty on the future rights and status of the 167,500 EU nationals working in health and social care in England after the UK leaves the EUxxxvi

Public concern about the future of the NHS is the highest it's been since June 2002: 57% think the NHS's ability to deliver care and services has been getting worse and will continue to decline. To sustainably meet the changing needs of our growing and ageing population, the NHS has to transform, offering more personalised care closer to home. This will take time and will also need investment and political support.



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