

GENERAL ELECTION 2017

What will it mean for our NHS and healthcare system?



Introduction

On the 8th June 2017 the country faces, yet another, big political decision – who will lead our nation in the next government?

Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Conservatives, have all unveiled their manifestos and, unsurprisingly, the NHS and the UK's healthcare system are a focal part of all three, with several common threads evident throughout in terms of the party's plans, goals and visions.

We are publishing a series of articles that provide a summary of each of the leading party's key policies and promises in relation to the NHS and UK's healthcare system.

Today's article focuses on the NHS.

THE NHS

1. Access, waiting times and treatment

Labour	Liberal Democrats	Conservatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Access to treatment within 18 weeks. ▶ A&E waiting times reduced to 4 hours. ▶ End mix-sex wards and unsafe levels of bed occupancy. ▶ Reduce ambulance response times. ▶ Increase funding for GP services and end "postcode lotteries". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Make PrEP vaccination available on the NHS. ▶ Extend GP weekend and evening opening hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Invest in buildings and technology – digitally book appointments, order repeat prescriptions and access/update care records. ▶ Retain maximum 18 week waiting time for elective care. ▶ Pilot live publication of A&E waiting times and retain the 95% A&E target.

- ▶ Cancer Strategy for England by 2020.
- ▶ Complete trial programme for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in NHS England - roll out treatment to high risk groups to help reduce HIV infection.

- ▶ Upgrade cancer screening and major radiotherapy equipment - by 2020 definitive diagnosis within 28 days.

2. Employees and pay

Labour

- ▶ Abolish NHS pay cap – independent pay review body put in place.
- ▶ Support NHS whistle-blowers.
- ▶ Legislate - safe staffing levels and make it an aggravated criminal offence to attack NHS staff.
- ▶ Bursary and funding for health-related degrees.
- ▶ Guarantee rights of EU nationals working within the health and care services.

Liberal Democrats

- ▶ Guarantee right to stay in the UK to all EU nationals working in the NHS or social care sector.
- ▶ Abolish public sector pay freeze for NHS workers.
- ▶ Better protection for NHS whistle-blowers.
- ▶ Bursaries for student nurses.

Conservatives

- ▶ Protection of rights of EU nationals working in the NHS is to be a priority in the Brexit negotiations.
- ▶ Stop reliance on recruiting staff from non-UK countries - improve training provided to UK students.
- ▶ Develop NHS career pathways.

3. Funding and regulation

Labour

- ▶ Extra £30 billion for NHS by increasing income tax for the highest 5%, increasing tax on private medical insurance and halving the fees paid to management consultants.
- ▶ Free parking in NHS England.
- ▶ Create Office for Budget Responsibility for Health – oversee and scrutinise health spending.
- ▶ Repeal the Health and Social Care Act.

Liberal Democrats

- ▶ Immediate 1 pence rise on the income tax rates for basic, higher and additional rate payers - raise £6 billion and ring-fence for the NHS and social care services.
- ▶ In the long term, replace 1 pence income tax rise with a Health and Care Tax.

Conservatives

- ▶ Increase spending on NHS by at least £8 billion over the next five years.
- ▶ Recover cost of medical treatment from non-UK residents - increase Immigration Health Surcharge to £600 for migrant workers and £450 for international students.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Create "NHS Excellence" – a new regulator. ▶ Overall responsibility for NHS back with the Secretary of State for Health. ▶ Review the "Sustainability and Transformation Plans". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Create statutory independent budget monitoring agency for health and care. ▶ Establish a cross-party health and social care convention. ▶ Overall vision is for a seamless service bringing together the NHS and social care that by 2020 has pooled, single-placed budgets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Remove barriers to integrated care through non-legislative changes by the start of the 2018 financial year. ▶ Legislative change to registration and regulation of healthcare professionals. ▶ Create Independent healthcare safety investigations body and broaden scope of the CQC.
--	--	---

10-10677156-1

addleshawgoddard.com

Aberdeen, Doha, Dubai, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hong Kong, Leeds, London, Manchester, Muscat, Singapore and Tokyo*

*a formal alliance with Hashidate Law Office

© 2017 Addleshaw Goddard LLP. All rights reserved. Extracts may be copied with prior permission and provided their source is acknowledged. This document is for general information only. It is not legal advice and should not be acted or relied on as being so, accordingly Addleshaw Goddard disclaims any responsibility. It does not create a solicitor-client relationship between Addleshaw Goddard and any other person. Legal advice should be taken before applying any information in this document to any facts and circumstances. Addleshaw Goddard is an international legal practice carried on by Addleshaw Goddard LLP (a limited liability partnership registered in England & Wales and authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Law Society of Scotland) and its affiliated undertakings. Addleshaw Goddard operates in the Dubai International Financial Centre through Addleshaw Goddard (Middle East) LLP (registered with and regulated by the DFSA), in the Qatar Financial Centre through Addleshaw Goddard (GCC) LLP (licensed by the QFCA), in Oman through Addleshaw Goddard (Middle East) LLP in association with Nasser Al Habsi & Saif Al Mamari Law Firm (licensed by the Oman Ministry of Justice) and in Hong Kong through Addleshaw Goddard (Hong Kong) LLP, a Hong Kong limited liability partnership pursuant to the Legal Practitioners Ordinance and regulated by the Law Society of Hong Kong. In Tokyo, legal services are offered through Addleshaw Goddard's formal alliance with Hashidate Law Office. A list of members/principals for each firm will be provided upon request. The term partner refers to any individual who is a member of any Addleshaw Goddard entity or association or an employee or consultant with equivalent standing and qualifications. If you prefer not to receive promotional material from us, please email us at unsubscribe@addleshawgoddard.com. For further information please consult our website www.addleshawgoddard.com or www.aglaw.com.