

Summary of National Documents

October 2016

Papers

The state of medical education and practice in the UK report: 2016

General Medical Council | 27th October

The General Medical Council (GMC) has published The state of medical education and practice in the UK report: 2016.

The report sets out an overview of issues that feature prominently in healthcare, after a prolonged period of upheaval in the sector, with growing service and financial pressures. Many doctors are feeling the pressure, and need to be supported at all levels. This has an impact on professional standards and their own well-being. The level of dissatisfaction among doctors seems to be higher than ever before.

Full document available [here](#)

Related: How can we improve workforce morale in the NHS? | [Nuffield Trust](#)

Related news item: Doctors' low morale 'puts patients at risk' via [BBC](#)

Policy changes to implement the NHS five year forward view: a progress report

Kings Fund | 27th October

Two years on from the publication of the NHS five year forward view, this new report assesses what progress has already been made and what still needs to be done to align policies with the plan. The report focusses specifically on the policy changes called for by The Kings Fund after the publication of the Forward View and doesn't address policies and programmes in other areas – such as IT and infrastructure - or wider issues related to communities and public health. The report covers the following areas:

- How services are commissioned and paid for
- How the NHS is regulated
- How improvements in care are delivered by local leaders

- How might a transformation fund contribute?
- Where next?

Full report available [here](#)

New plans to modernise community pharmacies

Department of Health | 20th October

Plans to modernise community pharmacies, which will ensure a better quality service for patients and relieve pressure in other parts of the NHS, have been announced by the government.

This forms part of the government's ambition to modernise the community pharmacy sector and make the most of pharmacists' skills in all health care settings, including GP surgeries and care homes, to provide the highest level of care to patients.

Read more via [Department of Health](#)

Unheeded warnings: health care in crisis: The UK nursing labour market review 2016

Royal College of Nursing | 21st October

This is the 2016 report providing a review of the UK nursing labour market, looking at recent data and trends for nursing staff working in the health sector across the UK, drawing out differences, similarities and challenges across the four UK countries.

The research indicates that the nursing workforce is heading for a 'perfect storm'. Data analysed by the RCN for its Labour Market Review and evidence to the NHS Pay Review Body reveals that half of nurses are aged 45 or over and within 10 years of being eligible for early retirement.

Ten years ago just a third of the nursing workforce in England was aged 45 or over. This means the health service will be more reliant than ever on finding new staff. The research also highlights an unprecedented number of risk factors which will affect the future supply of safe staffing levels.

These include the ageing workforce, rising demand, uncoordinated workforce planning, changes to student nurse funding, real terms cuts to nurse pay and the impact of Brexit on international recruitment.

Full document available [here](#)

Every Voice Matters. Putting people at the heart of care.

Healthwatch England | 18th October

In 2015/16, the 152 local Healthwatch teams across England engaged over 380,000 people to find out their views about health and social care. Collectively they also visited more than 3,500 local hospitals, GP surgeries and care homes to find out if they are working for people, and published over 1,450 reports about what people want and need from health and care.

Full document available [here](#)

Delivering high quality, effective, compassionate care: Developing the right people with the right skills and the right values. A mandate from the government to Health Education England: 2016 to 2017

Department of Health | 14th October

The Department of Health has published A mandate from the government to Health Education England: 2016 to 2017.

The Health Education England mandate reflects strategic objectives around:

- workforce planning
- health education
- training and development

The mandate looks at how the healthcare workforce can be developed to improve care for patients through education and training.

Full document available [here](#)

Understanding patient flow in hospitals

Nuffield Trust | 11th October

This briefing lays out how greater speed through a system often requires more space. Looking at trusts that meet the four hour target and those furthest from meeting it, it estimates that at least 5.5% of beds need to be free for the standard to be met. Yet many hospitals are unable to provide this much of the time, making target breaches inevitable.

Library & Knowledge Service

The paper looks at ongoing changes driving this squeeze on bed space, including mortality, the squeeze on bed space during years of austerity, rising numbers of patients with multiple conditions, and delayed discharges.

An analysis examines how bed use and patient flow change through the course of the day, drawing on Hospital Episode Statistics which track admissions and discharges. It shows that bed occupancy does not peak at midnight, when the official census of patients is carried out, but in mid morning. Meanwhile, the highest need for patients to be moved through hospital peaks at an entirely different time of day, in the evening.

Read the summary [here](#)

Read the full report [here](#)

Related Nuffield Trust blog: [Making patient flow everybody's business](#)

Funding a healthy future: the health and care deficit diagnosed

Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accounting | 14th October

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accounting (CIPFA) and Public Finance have published Funding a healthy future: the health and care deficit diagnosed.

This collection of essays examines the future of health and social care in the face of an ageing population, financial constraints and Brexit.

This is the fourth in a series of papers designed to stimulate discussion on key public finance and policy issues.

Full document available [here](#)

Additional link: [Public Finance press release](#)

The state of health care and adult social care in England 2015/16

Care Quality Commission | 13th October

This annual report provides an overview of health and social care in England looking at trends, highlighting examples of good and outstanding care, and identifying factors that maintain high-quality care.

It finds that most services provide people with good care, but variation exists. Some care services are closing, increasing pressure on other services including GPs and hospitals. The report highlights that the sustainability of the adult social care market is approaching a tipping point.

Full report available [here](#)

Report summary available [here](#)

Additional links: [CQC press release](#) | [Health Foundation](#)

New care models: emerging innovations in governance and organisational form

Kings Fund | 11th October

The 23 vanguard sites chosen to develop the multispecialty community provider (MCP) and primary and acute care system (PACS) new care models have been working to pool budgets and integrate services more closely. Some are continuing to use informal partnerships, but others are opting for more formal governance arrangements. Commissioners are grappling with how to contract for the new systems, while providers are exploring how to work together within emerging partnerships, how to allocate funding, and how to share risk and rewards.

Key findings

- Many of the vanguard sites would like to bring together the budgets for core primary care services and other local services, but it seems unlikely that GPs will give up their core General Medical Services or Personal Medical Services contracts in the immediate future.
- Many of the sites would like to bring together the budgets and contracting for some health and social care services, but only a small number have made substantial progress in incorporating social care.
- Many commissioners plan to contract with a single provider or entity to hold the budget and oversee or deliver a broad range of services, although most are still deciding which organisation or partnership should do this.
- Commissioning and developing new care models involves risks as well as opportunities, underlining the importance of how these models are governed, their organisational form and how risks are shared.
- Building and strengthening collaborative relationships is just as important as focusing on the technical elements of integrated care.

Full report available [here](#)

New safety guidance for lone workers

Royal College of Nurses | 4th October

The Royal College of Nursing has published a new guide to support nursing staff who work alone.

Library & Knowledge Service

The guide has been produced after a 2015 survey of RCN members found almost half of nursing staff based in the community have been subjected to abuse during the last two years. In more than 11% of cases, this involved physical abuse or assault as well as verbal abuse.

As well as offering advice on personal safety, the guide also contains a checklist for RCN safety reps who work on negotiating improvements to workplace safety for members and nurse managers who manage lone working staff.

Guidance available [here](#)

[A pocket guide](#) is also available.

NHS GP Health service

NHS England | 6th October

A nationwide, NHS GP health service will be introduced in January 2017, aimed at improving access to mental health support for general practitioners and trainee GPs. The GP Induction and Refresher scheme will also be revamped to speed up the time it takes for GPs to return to practice in England.

The General Practice Forward View pledged to simplify the current Induction and Refresher (I&R) scheme, aiming to slash the time it can take doctors to return to practice, with the ambition to support at least an extra 500 doctors back into practice by 2020/21, as part of a broader plan to see an additional 5,000 doctors in general practice by 2020/21.

A working group, including Health Education England, the British Medical Association and the Royal College of General Practitioners was established this year to review the scheme and deliver a package of improvements.

Read more via NHS England [here](#)

The Future of the National Health Service

Good Governance Institute | 29th September

The Future of the National Health Service report presents the core arguments arising from the debate and explores recommendations and critical next steps required to safeguard the future sustainability of the health and care system.

The report analyses in some detail at the NHS in the midst of the most serious financial crisis since its inception and together with the wider care system, is experiencing the most austere era in its 68-year history. Both health and social care are facing a decade long funding squeeze which, it has been reported, will see spending as a share of GDP decrease leaving Britain behind many other advanced nations on this measure of spending. With an ageing population, a society in which the prevalence of long term medical conditions is ever increasing, the rising cost of care, a chronic underinvestment in

social care and a reported cumulative 2015/16 provider deficit of £2.45 billion, the health system is teetering on the edge of a full blown crisis.

Read the full overview [here](#)

Read the full report [here](#)

Reference list

The state of medical education and practice in the UK report: 2016.

http://www.gmc-uk.org/SOMEPEP_2016_Full_Report_Lo_Res.pdf_68139324.pdf

Policy changes to implement the NHS five year forward view: a progress report

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New plans to modernise community pharmacies

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-plans-to-modernise-community-pharmacies>

Unheeded warnings: health care in crisis: The UK nursing labour market review 2016

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/-/media/royal-college-of-nursing/documents/publications/2016/october/005779.pdf>

Every Voice Matters. Putting people at the heart of care.

http://www.healthwatch.co.uk/sites/healthwatch.co.uk/files/every_voice_matters_-_accessible_web.pdf

Delivering high quality, effective, compassionate care: Developing the right people with the right skills and the right values. A mandate from the government to Health Education England: 2016 to 2017

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/559940/HEE_mandate_2016-17_acc.pdf

Understanding patient flow in hospitals

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Funding a healthy future: the health and care deficit diagnosed

<http://www.publicfinance.co.uk/white-papers/2016/10/pf-perspectives-health-and-care-deficit-diagnosed>

The state of health care and adult social care in England 2015/16

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New care models: emerging innovations in governance and organisational form

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New safety guidance for lone workers

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NHS GP Health service

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2016/10/general-practice-boost/>

The Future of the National Health Service

http://www.good-governance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Finalversion_The-future-of-the-NHS_MDWWreviewed-1.pdf

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