

## Reports

### [Public satisfaction with the NHS and social care in 2023 - Results of the British Social Attitudes survey](#)

Top three findings from the BSA survey 2023

- The 2023 survey recorded the lowest levels of satisfaction since the survey began in 1983 – [only 24% of the public are satisfied with the NHS, and only 13% are satisfied with social care.](#)
- Despite low levels of public satisfaction, [a large majority of the public still support the principles of the NHS.](#)
- 48% of the public would [support the government increasing taxes](#) and spending more on the NHS.

### [The impact of non-economic and economic disadvantage in pre-school children in England](#)

Gaps in cognitive and socio-emotional outcomes between disadvantaged children and their peers emerge early and persist. While research has mainly focused on economic disadvantage, other factors like family dysfunction, the quality of the parent-child relationship and the home learning environment may also contribute to developmental gaps in the earliest years of life.

## Guidance

### [Final guidance on visiting and accompanying in care homes, hospitals and hospices](#)

Following consultation earlier this year, we have now published final guidance to help providers understand and meet the new fundamental standard on visiting and accompanying in care homes, hospitals, and hospices.

## Policy Papers

### [2023 to 2025 Better Care Fund policy framework](#)

This policy framework confirms the conditions and funding for the Better Care Fund (BCF) for 2023 to 2025. Since 2015, the BCF has been crucial in supporting people to live healthy, independent and dignified lives, through joining up health, social care and housing services seamlessly around the person.

## Publications

### [The economic and social costs of mental ill health](#)

Mental ill health has a devastating impact on people's lives. This report seeks to calculate the costs of mental ill health on individuals, society and the economy.

## Blogs

### [What is happening to young people's mental health?](#)

Today's young people have the poorest mental health of any age group in the UK, whereas two decades ago the reverse was true. Now, one in three (34%) people aged 18–24 are reporting symptoms of 'common mental disorders' (eg anxiety and/or depression). This figure rises to 41% for young women.

### [What does new NHS Planning Guidance mean for mental health services?](#)

Last Thursday, NHS England published its long-awaited 2024/25 Priorities and Operational Planning Guidance. This document is produced annually as NHS England's 'instructions' to integrated care boards about what they should prioritise in the coming year. What is, and what isn't, included in this document has a big effect on how decisions are made across the country about how limited resources are used.



## News

### [Life Sciences Vision Missions](#)

Bringing together industry, academia, the third sector and the NHS to tackle healthcare challenges such as dementia, cancer, mental health, obesity and addiction.

### [New campaign to tackle the negative impact shame has on people with mental illness](#)

See Me, Scotland's programme to end mental health stigma and discrimination, has launched a new campaign to tackle the negative impact that shame has on those living with a mental illness. "It's okay to not be okay" is one of the most famous lines in mental health campaigning, but for many people struggling with a complex and long-term mental illness, it doesn't feel like it is okay.

### [NHS MMR catch up campaign successfully boosts uptake](#)

New operational figures published today show the success of the NHS MMR catch-up campaign, with tens of thousands more vaccinations delivered in the first three months of this year compared to the same period in 2023.

### [New powers for dental and pharmacy staff to free up appointments](#)

The move will streamline processes within dental and pharmacy settings and improve patient experiences.

### [NHS prescription charges from 1 May 2024](#)

Charges for NHS prescriptions, wigs and fabric supports will increase on 1 May 2024.

### [New partnership for community-led approaches to health and wellbeing in neighbourhoods](#)

A new partnership between healthcare leaders and community champions will promote and test community-led approaches to health and wellbeing in some of England's most deprived neighbourhoods. Local Trust which delivers the radical Big Local programme in 150 communities, has teamed up with the NHS Confederation which is the membership organisation that brings together, supports and speaks for the whole healthcare system in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.