

Reports

[Independent investigation of the NHS in England: Lord Darzi's report on the state of the National Health Service in England](#)

In July 2024, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care commissioned Lord Darzi to conduct an immediate and independent investigation of the NHS.

Lord Darzi's report provides an expert understanding of the current performance of the NHS across England and the challenges facing the healthcare system. Lord Darzi has considered the available data and intelligence to assess:

- patient access to healthcare
- the quality of healthcare being provided
- the overall performance of the health system

[Hearts Need More: a call for a Heart Disease Action Plan](#)

Our report highlights the need for a comprehensive Heart Disease Action Plan from the Government. It outlines the bold steps required to better prevent, treat and find innovative cures for cardiovascular disease.

[Space to grow](#)

There is growing evidence that being in nature is good for our mental health. But communities who are more likely to experience poor mental health as a result of poverty and racism tend to have less access to green space. Space to grow explores the early impacts of a new community garden in Markfield Park, Tottenham, in north London.

Speeches

[PM speech on the NHS: 12 September 2024](#)

Prime Minister Keir Starmer delivers a speech on the NHS at the King's Fund today.

Briefings

[The Darzi investigation: what you need to know](#)

Summary and analysis of Lord Darzi's independent investigation of the NHS in England.

Guidance

[Management of incidents and outbreaks of communicable disease in secure settings](#)

Multi-agency plan for the management of incidents and outbreaks of communicable disease in secure settings in England.

Consultations

[Introducing further advertising restrictions on TV and online for less healthy food and drink: internet protocol television \(IPTV\)](#)

This consultation seeks views on an aspect of the 2022 consultation on draft secondary legislation relating to the application of the advertising restrictions on less healthy food and drinks to internet protocol television (IPTV) services, which deliver television and advertising live over the internet.



Podcasts

[Black Maternity Matters is a ground-breaking collaboration tackling the inequitable maternity outcomes faced by black mothers and their babies.](#)

In the UK, black mothers are up to four times more likely to die during pregnancy or in the postnatal period (six weeks after childbirth) than white women. The systemic biases and structural racism behind the figures is an area where improvement has the potential to make real impact.

Blogs

[The Darzi Review and its implications for mental health](#)

Last week saw the publication of what could be a landmark report in the recent history of the NHS in England. Lord Darzi's investigation, commissioned by the new Government, laid bare the current challenges, and some of the strengths, of the NHS at the current time. It was produced as a precursor to a proposed ten-year plan for the NHS next spring. So its findings and conclusions will have a major bearing on the priorities for that plan, which will likely determine the levels of investment and therefore ambition in mental health services for the decade to come.

[Bridging the gap in digital health inequality](#)

Dr Sabine van der Veer, Senior Lecturer in Health Informatics at the University of Manchester, discusses how the adoption of digital tools in healthcare can impact health inequalities.

[Supporting self management to improve people's experiences of waiting for and receiving care](#)

In a recent article, we argued that a dominant theme in patient's contemporary experiences of care is waiting – and that interventions should focus on enabling people to self manage their conditions whilst they wait. This blog is the second in a four-part series discussing how the health service could provide a new 'offer' of support for self management.

[A digital approach to managing mental health demand](#)

Dr Tayo Kufeji explains how supporting primary care staff with their own mental health led to improvements in patients' mental health.

[Blog: Striking the balance with the National Child Measurement Programme](#)

The Obesity Health Alliance is hosting a series of expert blogs in support of the launch of their Local Government Position Statement. Fifth, we hear from Nicola Calder RNutr., Food Active Programme Lead, Health Equalities Group, on the need for well supported and delivered, consistent, population-wide child measurement.

[What are unpaid carers, who are they and how often do they provide care?](#)

Unpaid carers or informal carers – anyone who provides care, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction and cannot cope without their support – play a key role in the health and care system. Here we unpack who is likely to be an unpaid carer, how often care is provided, who people care for and how care is funded.

News

[Lord Darzi's review and the need to invest in the health of our children](#)

The review from Lord Darzi on the deteriorating health of children and young people makes for grim reading. With headlines including falling vaccinations, significant A&E waits for infants and huge rises in hospital admissions for young people with eating disorders. It also highlights that children from the most deprived backgrounds are now twice as likely to be obese by age five, and one in three children is obese by 11 in the poorest communities.



[RCPsych responds to Darzi review of NHS England](#)

Lord Darzi has published a report outlining the results of his investigation into the National Health Service in England.

[Mind responds to Darzi review of the NHS](#)

A new report has revealed the full scale of the challenges facing the health service. Commissioned by health secretary Wes Streeting and overseen by former health minister Lord Darzi, the report comes ahead of annual NHS statistics on the Mental Health Act showing more than 52,000 people were sectioned in the last year. The review, which Mind welcomed the chance to contribute to, has identified gaps in nearly every part of the NHS' ability to function.

[NHS announces plans to prepare for busy winter period](#)

The NHS is upgrading its 24-hour live data centres to manage demand, strengthening same day emergency care and offering more falls services for older people, as part of actions set out today to prepare for this winter.

[Parents urged to get children MMR jab as one in six not fully vaccinated](#)

Parents are being urged to get their children vaccinated as new NHS figures show nearly one in six had not received both doses of the MMR vaccine by the age of five.

[NHS booking opens for life-saving flu and COVID-19 vaccinations](#)

Millions of people in England can book flu and COVID-19 vaccinations from today (Monday, 23 September) as the NHS rolls out additional protection for those most at risk ahead of winter. Anyone eligible can book their vaccinations from 9am via the NHS website, by downloading the NHS App, or by calling 119 for free if they can't get online.

[Vaccine update: issue 349, September 2024, flu special](#)

This issue includes:

- flu vaccination for health and social care workers
- children's flu programme
- resources and promotional materials for the autumn vaccination programme
- routine and non-routine vaccine supply

[Action needed now to prevent harm in maternity services becoming 'normalised'](#)

A programme of inspections by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) has found continued concerns about the quality of NHS hospital maternity services with common issues impacting on safety at services across the country.

[New data on use of Mental Health Act shows urgent need for reform, says Centre for Mental Health](#)

New figures on the Mental Health Act in 2023/24 underline the need for whole-system reforms to address its unequal use, Centre for Mental Health said today.

[Obesity Health Alliance Urges Prime Minister to Enable Healthier Communities](#)

In support of the launch of our new Local Government Position Statement, the Obesity Health Alliance (OHA), in collaboration with 88 leading health charities, campaign groups, medical royal colleges, local organisations and the thousands of healthcare professionals, patients, and citizens they represent, has today issued an open letter to the Prime Minister. We are calling for full delivery of the proposed planning system reforms to empower local councils to reduce health inequalities and make the places they represent healthier.

[Response to The Telegraph's "The mental health con is bankrupting Britain" article](#)

On 18 September, The Telegraph published an article by Annabel Denham titled "The mental health con is bankrupting Britain". This is our letter to the editor in response.



[RCN said nursing staff were shut out from pandemic response, as we gave evidence about the inadequate provision of PPE and infection prevention and control guidance.](#)

The RCN has today (10 September) told the COVID-19 Inquiry that those representing the profession were effectively shut out from contributing to the pandemic response and key decision-making. Our repeated warnings about the spread of the virus and opportunities to protect nursing staff were either ignored or dismissed. We said there was a serious lack of critical thinking and engagement by the UK government and its agencies to consider the evidence around the airborne transmission of COVID-19.

[XEC: what you need to know about the new COVID variant](#)

A new COVID variant is spreading rapidly and could soon become the dominant variant around the globe. The variant, called XEC, was first detected in Germany in August and appears to have a growth advantage over other circulating variants – but it is not a radically different variant.

[Why has there been a sharp rise in health-related benefits claims in Britain but not in similar countries? Expert Q&A](#)

Since 2019, real-terms spending on health-related benefits in Britain has increased by £12 billion and is set to continue growing, according to a new report from the Institute for Fiscal Studies. However, comparable countries, such as France, Australia and the US, have not experienced similar increases in spending.