



Finance bulletin

January 2025

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, reports, research and best practice.

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Can this government really recover NHS performance standards within a single parliament? And what are the costs of trying?

This [long read from The King's Fund](#) calls for the government to conduct a full review of performance targets, if it is serious about driving through reforms to the health care service.

Counting what matters: how to classify, account and track spending for prevention

Demos has been making the case for a fundamental shift in the purpose of government away from firefighting in public services towards preventing problems arriving. However, this approach raises concerns about both the feasibility of measuring preventive spending accurately and appropriately, but also that ring-fencing alone may not lead to the desired improvements in outcomes and value for money. [This paper, written with The Health Foundation](#), explores the challenge of measurement and makes a series of recommendations to show how this could be appropriately achieved.

Department of Health & Social Care

- [Evidence for the NHS Pay Review Body \(NHSPRB\): pay round 2025 to 2026](#)
- [Evidence to the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration \(DDRB\) for the pay round 2025 to 2026](#)
- [Evidence to the Senior Salaries Review Body \(SSRB\) for the pay round 2025 to 2026](#)
- [Supplementary evidence to pay review bodies: hospital and community health sector 2025 to 2026](#)

Fairer funding for general practice in England: what's the problem, why is it so hard to fix, and what should the government do?

This [briefing from the Nuffield Trust](#) outlines how general practice funding is inequitable. It concludes that the Carr-Hill formula, which decides the distribution of funding, is outdated and fails to take account of socio-economic deprivation. The briefing proposes replacing Carr-Hill with a modern, needs-based formula.

Get Britain Working White Paper

[This White Paper](#) sets out plans to reform employment, health and skills support to tackle rising economic inactivity levels, support people into good work, and create an inclusive labour market in which everybody can participate and progress in



work.

You might also like:

- [Get Britain Working White Paper: what you need to know](#)
Summary of the government's plans to reform employment support from NHS Confederation

NHS performance leading into winter

A [look at whether the NHS is in a better position](#) going into this winter than in previous years from NHS Confederation

Policy levers for a net zero NHS: four priorities for the future

This [long read from The Health Foundation](#) assesses how national policy levers are currently being used in relation to net zero health care, where the gaps are, and what could be changed to make faster progress. As the government develops its 10-year health plan – a new long-term reform agenda for the NHS in England – The Health Foundation identifies four priorities for policy-makers to ensure that progress on net zero is maintained.

What the recent ERIC data tells us about the state of NHS buildings

This [blog post from the King's Fund](#) asks what the recent ERIC data can tell us about the state of NHS buildings. The release of the [ERIC \(Estates Returns Information Collection\) data](#) recently has provided us with the annual check-in on the condition of NHS hospital buildings and equipment.