



# Finance Current Awareness Bulletin

## April 2023

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### Department of Health & Social Care

[The Hewitt Review: an independent review of integrated care systems](#)

**[Independent review]** This review set out to consider the oversight and governance of integrated care systems (ICSs). It covered ICSs in England and the NHS targets and priorities for which ICBs are accountable, including those set out in the government's mandate to NHS England. The government is now considering the recommendations made by the review.

### Financial Impacts of Covid on Care Homes (FICCH)

[Bailed out and burned out? The financial impact of Covid-19 on UK care homes for older people and their workforce](#)

**[Report]** This report reveals that government support worth more than £2 billion helped the care home sector avoid financial collapse during the peak of the pandemic. However, when the support was removed, the sector experienced a crisis due to workforce shortages, inflation and continuing infection outbreaks. Furthermore, only a small fraction of the additional government funding was spent directly on supporting the workforce even though the sector weathered the storm thanks to staff working longer hours and putting themselves on the line to continue to provide vital care services. The report offers evidence-based recommendations for policy-makers and care home providers on how to ensure the financial and operational sustainability of the sector and prepare it for future pandemics.



### **Institute for Public Policy Research**

#### [Waiting for prosperity: modelling the economic benefits of reducing elective waiting lists in the NHS](#)

**[Report]** This report finds that getting people off waiting lists would bring benefits equivalent to £73 billion between now and 2027. The case for reducing waiting lists for non-emergency hospital treatment has historically been made with reference to the human cost but the report examines for the first time the diverse economic benefits of tackling the backlog, including putting a value on non-monetary benefits not included in traditional measures of economic output (GDP).

### **The King's Fund**

#### [The hidden problems behind delayed discharges and their costs](#)

**[Blog]** In the past six months, there has been a rapid increase in the number of people experiencing delayed discharge from hospitals in England, with the number of patients remaining in hospital overnight who no longer meet the criteria to remain averaging 13,771 in February 2023. That's up from 12,589 on average in April, an increase of 9.4 per cent.

#### [Public satisfaction with the NHS and social care in 2022: results from the British Social Attitudes survey](#)

**[Survey results]** This year's survey, published by The King's Fund and Nuffield Trust, found that overall satisfaction with the NHS fell to 29 per cent – a seven percentage point decrease from 2021. This is the lowest level of satisfaction recorded since the survey began in 1983.

### **NHS England**

#### [2023-2024 financial directions to NHS England](#)

**[Policy paper]** The government's financial directions to NHS England, which sets out their budgets for 2023 to 2024.

### **NHS Providers**

#### [No More Sticking Plasters: Repairing and Transforming the NHS Estate](#)

**[Report]** This report explores the state of capital funding and allocations across the NHS provider sector and how trusts can access capital. We highlight the extent of the dilapidated estate and make the case for strategic capital investment at both the system and national level to drive productivity, improve patient care, and enable much-needed transformation across the NHS.



### **The Nuffield Trust**

#### [The decline of publicly funded social care for older adults](#)

**[Report]** The latest annual statement from QualityWatch presents a range of key statistics to show how the ability of the state to provide quality social care that older people can access is changing for the worse.

### **Royal College of Physicians**

#### [Healthcare sustainability and climate change](#)

**[Position paper]** This paper sets out the RCP's recommendations to improve the sustainability of health care and reduce the health impacts of climate change.

### **UK Parliament Committees**

#### [Urgent action needed to ensure opportunities of new health care restructure are realised, warn MPs](#)

**[Report]** The Committee's report into new partnerships aimed at delivering joined-up health and care services is calling for the Government and NHS England to address key concerns if an opportunity to deliver real change is to be realised.

### **Recently published research**

**The impact of different types of NHS expenditure on health: Marginal cost per QALY estimates for England for 2016/17.**

**Health Policy, June 2023, 132**

Highlights:

- Analysis of the causal impact of three categories of healthcare on mortality.
- Two-stage least squares regression allows for the endogenous nature of expenditure.
- At the margin, primary care is found to significantly reduce mortality.
- Secondary care is also very productive, costing £8000 per quality-adjusted life year.
- The cost per quality-adjusted life year for all NHS expenditure is between £6000 and £8000.

Click here for full access: [Health Policy](#)

**Are high-cost drug funding mechanisms fit for purpose? A retrospective study of individual funding requests in an NHS tertiary hospital.**

**British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, January 2023, 89(1), pp.11-19.**

The high rate of IFR decline signals inefficient use of resource expended in the IFR process. Gaps in access to high-cost medicines remain for patients with rare and refractory disease requiring urgent treatment, largely due to the demand for exceptionality from NHS commissioners. An outcomes-based evaluation approach to commissioning and greater transparency of previous funding decisions by commissioners may improve efficiency and equity in the IFR system.

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We can provide training on how to search healthcare databases and resources as well as showing you how to appraise the information that you find: <https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/training/>

### **Online Resources**

**BMJ Best Practice** is a clinical decision support tool that provides step-by-step guidance on diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention of a wide variety of conditions:  
<https://bestpractice.bmj.com/oafed>

**ClinicalKey** is a database which supports healthcare professionals by providing access to the latest evidence across specialties: <https://www.clinicalkey.com/>