



Finance Current Awareness Bulletin

July 2023

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, reports, research and best practice. The scope of this bulletin includes the UK economy, finance, procurement, sustainability, good working practices and digital.

Digital

House of Commons Health & Social Care Committee

[Digital transformation in the NHS](#)

This report warns that the government's ambition for digital transformation in the NHS can only succeed if ministers address mistakes of the past.

NIHR Research Collections

[Digital technology in the NHS: reducing staff pressures, improving care](#)

Using new technologies in the NHS could bring multiple benefits. They could save healthcare professionals' time, increase the number of people a skilled professional can support, and enable more sustainable workforce models.

Finance

Department of Health & Social Care

[Proposed review of the 2023 scheme to control the cost of branded health service medicines](#)

The government is proposing updates to the statutory scheme to make sure that the scheme can continue to meet its objectives from 2024 onwards, whether this is alongside a successor voluntary scheme or as a standalone scheme in the absence of this.

Frontier Economics

[The economic impact of over-the-counter products in the UK](#)

This report, commissioned by the consumer health care association Proprietary Association of Great Britain (PAGB), finds that the UK over-the-counter (OTC) sector saves the NHS £6.4 billion of prescription and appointment costs each year.



Healthcare Financial Management Association

[Creating efficiencies by optimising patient pathways: North Staffordshire Combined NHS Trust](#)

This case study outlines how the memory service at North Staffordshire Combined NHS Trust worked with the costing team to identify and address bottlenecks in the clinical pathways that were delaying access, assessment and diagnosis of patients.

House of Commons Public Accounts Committee

[PPE Medpro: awarding of contracts during the pandemic](#)

On 6 December 2022, the House of Commons debated and agreed that all papers, advice and correspondence involving ministers and special advisers relating to contracts for PPE (personal protective equipment) awarded to PPE Medpro by the DHSC should be released to the Public Accounts Committee.

House of Lords

[Economic growth, inflation and productivity](#)

Economic growth is considered important due to the role it plays in providing jobs and improving living standards. But productivity growth, a key driver of higher living standards, has slowed in the UK since 2008. With high inflation now impacting living standards, increased attention is being paid to understanding and tackling the productivity slowdown.

House of Lords Library

[NHS in England: Current performance and innovation](#)

This article surveys recent summaries of NHS performance in England and selected commentary on innovation in the health service ahead of a debate on the subject in the House of Lords.

National Audit Office

[Progress with the New Hospital Programme](#)

This report finds that the New Hospital Programme has experienced delays and is expected to deliver 32 of the intended target of 40 new hospitals by 2030.

NHS Providers

[NHS industrial action: the impact on patients, staff and performance](#)

This briefing sets out the impact industrial action is having on patients, staff and NHS performance, including the NHS' financial sustainability, productivity, and ability to tackle care backlogs.



[Stretched to the limit: tackling the NHS productivity challenge](#)

This report explores the main barriers trusts are facing as they seek to recover performance and improve productivity. It also considers the financial impact of current pressures and the scale of the efficiency ask, which is even more stretching than in 2022/23.

Nuffield Trust

[How much planned care in England is delivered and funded privately?](#)

This explainer looks at planned hospital care in England between 2019 and 2022, assesses how things vary by region and procedure, and discusses whether it has implications for the NHS's recovery after the Covid-19 crisis.

Leadership & management

CIPD

[Effective people managers: Evidence review](#)

This evidence review draws together the best available evidence to explore why people managers are important, what a good people manager looks like, and how to develop effective people managers.

[High-performing teams: Evidence review](#)

This evidence review explores how to build an effective team and the factors that employers and people managers need to draw on to create an environment in which their employees can work together successfully.

King's Fund

[The practice of collaborative leadership: across health and care services](#)

This King's Fund report shares insights and evidence about how to collaborate well to build a stronger collaborative ethos across health and care services.

National Forum for Health and Wellbeing at Work

[Financial wellbeing guide 2023: Updated strategies to support employees during the cost of living crisis](#)

This guide highlights the need to offer financial wellbeing support for employees, particularly during the cost-of-living crisis.



Miscellaneous

King's Fund

[How does the NHS compare to the health care systems of other countries?](#)

Our report, commissioned by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, determines that the NHS is 'neither a leader nor a laggard' when compared to health care systems of similar countries, though on some critical measures of resources and performance the UK is falling well below average.

Library Services

- **Current awareness:** Would you like to keep up to date with the latest evidence on topics of your choice? Sign up for a current awareness alert:
<https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/knowledgeshare-request/>
- **Literature searching:** Can't find the information you need? We can do literature searches for you: <https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/search-request/>
- **Information skills training:** 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/>
- **Finance and Accounting books can be found on our library catalogue [here](#).** If you would like to borrow a book, please register [here](#). If you are already registered to borrow books, log in to your account using your Reader ID and PIN. You can then select the books you wish to borrow. If you have forgotten your Reader ID and/or PIN please email library.lincoln@ulh.nhs.uk

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