



→ **Emergency** 

# **GENERAL PRACTICE MELTDOWN**

**SITUATION CRITICAL ON HUNT'S WATCH**

**Unsafe workload**

**Lack of GPs**

**Hugely underfunded NHS**

**Rising indemnity costs**

**Politicians who just give lip service to GPs**



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## **Unsafe**

Many GPs work 12-14 hour non-stop days. Often they deal with 60-70 contacts a day and they feel unsafe doing this. The BMA and RCGP are calling for safe limits to be implemented. It is time for the Government to act. Jeremy Hunt must listen to us.

## **Lack of GPs**

There are fewer full-time equivalent GPs now than there were in September 2015. We are short of thousands of GPs and nurses, leaving surgeries struggling to cope. Jeremy Hunt has made little effort to act on warnings given him by our profession for years.

## **Hugely underfunded Primary Care (including GPs)**

Spending on primary care has fallen from 9.6% of the NHS budget in 2006 to 7.9% today – a lower proportion of a total NHS budget, itself severely challenged since 2009 – and this is why general practice is on its knees. This funding situation is a political decision. We are not a poor country – our politicians have chosen not to fund the NHS properly even though we can afford to do so.

## **Hugely underfunded NHS**

Hunt is not keen on evidence: he repeats widely discredited government rhetoric about giving the NHS an “extra” £8 billion. We remind him that the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) confirmed average real terms rise for the NHS to be just 0.9% per year 2010-2015 compared to 4% real terms annual cost pressures – which means an annual 3% deficit is planned to continue to 2020. NHS funding per person is falling for the first time:

*‘English DH [Dept of Health] spending [per capita] in 2019–20 will be slightly below 2009–10 levels after taking into account the growth and ageing of the population.’ (IFS)*

The Nuffield Trust calculates that the NHS budget needs to be at least £150bn by 2022 [2017/18 prices] to enable NHS spending once again to manage the needs of rising population and cost pressures. This is £18 billion more than recent Government promises and £22bn above existing plans.

## **Rising indemnity costs**

GPs are now paying sky high fees for their indemnity. Some pay over £10,000 and it is driving GPs away from the profession. Hunt must act to stop this catastrophic situation which will see more and more GPs walk away.

## **Jeremy Hunt**

Jeremy Hunt is a smooth talker and tries to sound like he is on our side – but he isn't. He hasn't delivered for the NHS or general practice. The Government's *GP Forward View* has been a failure and funding hasn't reached the front line.

**We must work together to try and save our profession.**

**It's time for the Government to act**

**It's time for GPs to speak out**

**Join us and support our work**

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