NHS Long Term Plan

top-down disruption for NHS

No to NHS cuts!
No to NHS privatisation!
No to sell-off of NHS sites!

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Keep our NHS public

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Unfunded
The Government and NHS England have published the ‘NHS Long Term Plan’. It contains 60 promises completely uncosted – yet which they claim will improve healthcare.

The reality is very different:
• two-thirds of acute NHS trusts are in the red
• cancer waiting times are the worst on record
• A&E is in crisis
• average waits for GP appointments are up 30% to two weeks

15,000 hospital beds have been cut. There are disastrous shortages of doctors, nurses and other health professionals and no funds for crumbling buildings and equipment. Changes are driven by cost cutting – most will reduce, not improve, services.

Undemocratic – dangerous new legal changes
Local communities will not be able to hold their local NHS to account as they do at present.

• Local clinical commissioning groups are being forced to merge, to cut spending
• 7,500 GP practices are being reduced down to just 1,500 super practices, reducing patient access

West Yorkshire’s 11 CCGs will be merged into one. SW London’s new hospital reconfiguration plan can now be pushed through. Both examples show how the NHS Long Term Plan removes local accountability.

Integrated Care Providers (ICPs)
Legal changes will be made to allow private tenders for Integrated Care Provider contracts.

• NHS bodies in each of 44 areas must create an Integrated Care System (ICS) by 2020.
• Each ICS will form a new Integrated Care Provider (ICP) organisation – as NHS or joint NHS/private partnership – likely competing for the contract with private companies.
• How providers perform to contracts is not accountable to public scrutiny.
• Many private healthcare companies, including in the USA, already specialise in limiting eligibility to healthcare.

If commercial organisations start winning long-term, multi-billion contracts, we face full-scale financialisation and rationing of healthcare.

Unfair and unsafe – cost cutting a priority
Maximising private revenue and reducing public costs to healthcare will mean:

• cutting access to a wide range of health treatments in drastically fewer settings
• enforcing charges for migrants and others deemed ineligible for free NHS
• NHS trusts told to increase income through private health and other routes
• fire sales of NHS properties and land to fund deficits

We say:
• Carillion and PFI show that a financialised NHS will be disastrous.
• SAY NO to commercial contracts running our NHS and to Integrated Care Providers (ICPs).
• YES to a publicly funded, publicly provided and publicly accountable NHS.
• YES to the NHS Bill which will end privatisation and financialisation of the NHS.

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