

**Press release on behalf of Keep Our NHS Public - for IMMEDIATE use**

## **Keep Our NHS Public: Startling NHS Satisfaction Collapse is a Direct Result of Political Neglect**

The latest British Social Attitudes Survey on the NHS [1] exposes a devastating truth: public satisfaction with the NHS has plummeted to its lowest level since records began. Keep Our NHS Public [2] believe that this is the result of deliberate political choices that have left the health service starved of resources, understaffed, and pushed to breaking point.

**Dr Tony O'Sullivan, Co-Chair of Keep Our NHS Public and retired consultant paediatrician, said:**

*"The collapse in public satisfaction with the NHS should shock the Government into action. But let's be clear – this is not a failure of the NHS model; this is the direct consequence of years of underfunding, staff shortages, and creeping privatisation. Staff are overstretched, services are collapsing, and patients are paying the price with worsening health outcomes and avoidable suffering and death. Successive governments have starved our NHS of funding and staff. 90% of the public still believe in the NHS's founding principles – free, universal, publicly funded healthcare. But what they don't believe in is governments that have abandoned these values. Investment in private health companies is no solution – it is a disaster. It drains resources, poaches staff, and leaves patients at risk. The public know this. They remember when the NHS was properly funded and world-leading. And they know exactly who to blame for its decline. Labour must act now. If they fail to invest in NHS recovery, they will own this crisis. People are suffering; many are dying. The time for excuses is over – we need urgent action to save our NHS."*

The survey finds that 59% of the public are now dissatisfied with the NHS, a record high, while satisfaction has dropped to just 21%. Specific services such as GP access, A&E, and NHS dentistry have reached new lows, with frustration over waiting times soaring. Despite this grim picture, the public's faith in the core principles of the NHS remains unwavering. The survey shows overwhelming support for a fully funded, publicly owned health service, with 90% of respondents backing its status as free at the point of use.

**Keep Our NHS Public calls on the Government to:**

- Immediately increase NHS funding to meet the growing demand and reduce waiting times.
- Restore and expand NHS staffing levels to ensure safe and sustainable patient care.
- End the damaging privatisation that is siphoning resources away from patient care.
- Rebuild the NHS as a fully public service, accountable to the people, not private profit.

**[ends]**

Spokespeople are available for broadcast interview. Contact Samantha Wathen, Press Officer for Keep Our NHS Public [press@keepournhspublic.com](mailto:press@keepournhspublic.com) or Call/WhatsApp: 0777 6047472

**Notes to editors**

1. <https://natcen.ac.uk/publications/public-attitudes-nhs-and-social-care>
2. Keep Our NHS Public is an independent organisation campaigning for a properly funded and fully publicly owned NHS: [www.keepournhspublic.com](http://www.keepournhspublic.com)