

EMBARGOED UNTIL 17:00 on Tuesday 24th February 2026

Press release on behalf of The 99% Organisation and Keep Our NHS Public:

NHS Privatisation by Stealth: Explosive New Report to be Launched in Parliament

Report will launch tomorrow in parliament (please RSVP to attend)

Access the EMBARGOED report *The Nature, Extent and Impact of NHS Privatisation* [HERE](#)

Tomorrow evening [Tuesday 24th February], a team of healthcare experts, strategists and experts in economics and finance will present the findings of an important new report to key policy makers (Peers and MPs) from across the political spectrum at a launch in parliament, chaired by Richard Burgon, MP [1].

The launch of *The Nature, Extent and Impact of NHS Privatisation*, with input from the 99% Organisation [2] and Keep Our NHS Public [3] aims to cut through the noise to set out the true state of NHS privatisation. The report illustrates how privatisation is far more widespread than is generally acknowledged – the figure which is often cited of around 7% and static represents only a tiny part of the whole picture: a more accurate summary would be to say that around 30% of the NHS has been privatised so far, and the figure is growing.

The event will be held in Committee Room 13 from 5:00pm – 6:30pm. Members of the press and media are invited. Please RSVP so we can manage room capacity requirements.

This event examines whether governments' denial about privatisation of the NHS is valid and whether their course of action in encouraging the private sector to deliver NHS services is a constructive move. The aim of this session is to bring much needed clarity to these very important questions regarding the NHS. The event brings together leading experts and academics to provide a strategic critique of the government's approach to privatisation in the NHS, examining its role and what implications this has for the future of a publicly owned service.

The Nature, Extent and Impact of NHS Privatisation provides the most comprehensive analysis to date of the scale, growth and consequences of private sector involvement in the NHS. Drawing on financial data, policy analysis and service delivery evidence, the report examines whether government claims that privatisation is minimal, stable, or harmless are supported by the facts. It finds that private provision within the NHS is widespread, expanding, and associated with significant risks to equity, accountability and value for money. The report concludes that current policy choices represent a structural shift away from a publicly owned and provided health service, with profound implications for patients, staff and the future sustainability of the NHS.

The event will be chaired by Richard Burgon MP and will feature an expert panel discussion with:

- Mark E Thomas – Founder of the 99% organisation. His background is mathematics and business strategy. His book 99%: Mass Impoverishment and How We Can End It was one of the Financial Times Best Books of 2019, and he is also the lead author of this report.
- Dr Tony O'Sullivan - Co-Chair of Keep Our NHS Public and retired Consultant Paediatrician
- Mark Dayan - Head of Public Affairs – Nuffield Trust
- Chris Banks - CEO of several NHS Trusts and previously Finance Director
- Dr Colin Hutchinson - Retired consultant ophthalmologist

The event will be open to cross-party MPs, Peers, selected policy makers, and members of the press. Please feel free to share this invitation with relevant colleagues. After opening remarks from the Chair, lead author Mark E Thomas will present the report's key findings, followed by a panel discussion and audience Q&A.

Mark E. Thomas, lead author of The Nature, Extent and Impact of NHS Privatisation and Founder of The 99% Organisation, says:

“Successive governments have claimed that we should not worry about NHS privatisation, first because there isn't any; secondly, if there is, it is at a low level and not increasing; and finally because patients don't suffer if we use the Private Sector. Our analysis shows that all three of these claims are false.”

Dr Tony O'Sullivan, Co-Chair of Keep Our NHS Public and retired Consultant Paediatrician, says:

“As a doctor, I have seen first-hand what happens when market logic is injected into patient care. This report shows that NHS privatisation is not a future threat but a present reality, driven forward by policy choices that fragment services, weaken accountability and put patients last. If we want a health service based on need, not profit, we must urgently change course.”

[ends]

Spokespeople are available for broadcast interview. Contact Samantha Wathen, Press Officer for Keep Our NHS Public (and acting press support for this initiative) by emailing press@keepournhspublic.com or call/WhatsApp 0777 6047472

Notes to editors

[1] The launch of The Nature, Extent and Impact of NHS Privatisation will take place in Committee room 13 of the Houses of Parliament on 24th February 2026 between 5:00pm – 6:30pm. Please RSVP as we need to understand room capacity requirements and distribute further details.

[3] The 99% Organisation is an all-volunteer organisation dedicated to protecting and strengthening the UK's social contract. <https://99-percent.org/>

[4] Keep Our NHS Public is an independent organisation campaigning for a properly funded and fully publicly owned NHS: www.keepournhspublic.com