

Policy Briefing: General Practice Forward View

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Original Document <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/gpfv.pdf>

Purpose of document

General practice is currently facing various challenges. Services are under enormous pressure and action is needed if the UK is to have an NHS fit for the future. NHS England, together with Health Education England, and in discussion with the Royal College of GPs and other representatives have developed a plan of support for general practice over the next five years to attempt to address many of the problems that have troubled GPs in recent years, and to stabilise and transform general practice.

Summary of contents

The report sets out the specific, practical and funded steps to transform general practice. This is divided into five areas:

- *Investment* - funding for primary care to support GP services.
- *Workforce* - changes to the GP and wider primary care workforce.
- *Workload* - pressures on GPs and burden on practices.
- *Practice infrastructure* - development of the primary care estate.
- *Care redesign* - strengthening and redesigning of general practice services.

Summary of outcomes

The report recognises the value of general practice for patients and the NHS, and acknowledges the lack of investment and neglect of general practice over the past decade. In order to address the problems and pressures, the report has provided a comprehensive plan of support to general practice, both in the short term and long term. This has been backed by a multi-billion pound investment to support general practice services and the wider primary care staffing by significantly increasing the amount of the health service budget spend on general practice to more than 10% by 2020/2021.

Summary of recommendations

- Double the rate of growth of the workforce by introducing new and better ways to recruit, retain, educate and develop both clinical and non-clinical staff.
- Take immediate action to reduce the practice/GP workload and help improve the relationship between hospitals and general practice, beginning with changes to the requirements in the NHS Standard Contract from April 2016.
- Increase the level of investment in primary care to develop the primary care estate and infrastructure, and introduce methods to speed up the development of premises.
- Support the redesign of general practice to include better integration of general practice with community services and wider health services.

Further information and resources

Five Year Forward View - Full and Easy Read Versions

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/5yfv-web.pdf>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/5yfv-easy-read.pdf>

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