Autumn Budget 2017
NHS spending

- Patients will benefit from £6.3 billion of new funding for frontline NHS services and upgrades to NHS buildings and facilities.
- The government will fund pay awards for nurses and other Agenda for Change staff (including midwives and paramedics etc) – provided they are part of a deal with the unions to boost productivity.

1. The government is committed to making funding available for public services where it is needed most. That is why the government endorsed the NHS’s Five Year Forward View and funded it with £10 billion more a year for the NHS by 2020-21. However, even with that funding, the health service remains under pressure with more people than expected using NHS services each year.

2. The government is therefore providing £6.3 billion of new funding for the NHS in England. This is a significant increase to the NHS’s budget and will improve the service that patients receive in A&E, reduce waiting times for treatment after referral, and put the NHS on a stronger, more sustainable footing. Specifically, this Budget announces:

   - £2.8 billion of additional resource funding over 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 for the NHS in England for day to day spending, for example surgeries and treatments. This will help it to get back on track to meet its performance targets on waiting times in A&E and after patients are referred to treatment. It will ensure that more patients receive the care that they need more quickly

   - £3.5 billion of capital investment for buildings and facilities in the NHS in England by 2022-23, including:

     - £2.6 billion for the NHS’s Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships for improvements in facilities which will help local areas deliver more integrated care for patients, and better meet demand for services. The government is provisionally allocating the first 10% of this to the highest quality bids from Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships with the strongest potential to help them meet future demand and develop local clinical and financial accountability. Funding will be made available to the schemes listed below subject to the usual approvals processes. The remainder of the funding will be allocated in due course

     - £700 million to support turnaround plans in the trusts facing the biggest challenges, and to tackle the most urgent and critical maintenance issues – to help ensure every patient is treated in a safe environment, with the highest quality of care

     - £200 million to support efficiency programmes that will, for example, help reduce NHS energy bills, and fund technology that will allow more staff time to be directed towards treating patients
• A commitment to funding pay awards for NHS staff on the Agenda for Change contract (such as nurses, midwives, and paramedics) that are agreed as part of a deal with the unions to improve productivity. Final decisions on the level of NHS pay awards will be subject to the usual independent Pay Review Body process.

3. This funding should enable the NHS to:
   • meet the A&E four-hour target during the course of next year
   • make significant inroads into the waiting list and improve performance against waiting times targets
   • upgrade hospitals and other NHS facilities across England

Sustainability and Transformation Partnership bids selected for the first wave of provisional funding
   • Barnsley Hospital Children’s Emergency Department and Assessment Unit scheme (South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw STP)
   • Doncaster Urgent and Emergency Care scheme (South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw STP)
   • Leeds Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health Inpatient Unit scheme (West Yorkshire STP)
   • Chesterfield Urgent Care scheme (Derbyshire STP)
   • Russell’s Hall Hospital Dudley Urgent Care Centre scheme (Black Country STP)
   • Birmingham Children’s Hospital Emergency Department scheme (Birmingham and Solihull STP)
   • South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust Out of Hospital Care scheme (Coventry and Warwickshire STP)
   • Mid and South Essex Acute Hospitals reconfiguration scheme (Mid-and-South Essex STP)
   • South West London and St George’s NHS Mental Health Trust Estates Modernisation scheme (South West London STP)
   • Frimley Out of Hospital Integrated Care Hubs scheme (Frimley Health STP)
   • Bracknell Forest Heathlands scheme (Frimley Health STP)
   • Chiltern and Aylesbury Vale Primary Care Hub scheme (Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West STP)

Key facts

4. The government is committed to increasing the NHS’s budget by £8 billion in real terms over the next five years.

5. In 2016-17 the NHS:
   • saw 2.9 million more A&E patients compared to 2010
   • started cancer treatment for 57,000 more people – giving the UK its highest ever cancer survival rate
   • performed 11.9 million operations and 21.4 million diagnostic tests

6. In July, the Commonwealth Fund think tank judged the NHS the best health system overall out of 11 high-income nations, including Germany, France and Sweden.

7. The 2016 British Social Attitude Survey showed overall satisfaction with the NHS remained at historically high levels, and the 2017 GP Patient Survey showed almost 85% of respondents rated their overall experience as good.