

## POLICY BRIEF

Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny

16 Nov 2022



The information within this Brief is correct at the time of approval for publication and contains relevant recent announcements made by Government and its departments and regulators.

### GOVERNMENT POLICY, LEGISLATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

#### [£50 million to tackle health inequalities through research](#)

First ever investment for local authorities to research into health inequalities affecting their local area. £50 million awarded to 13 local authorities across the UK. [Plymouth City Council](#) and our academic partner, the University of Plymouth, have been awarded more than £4.7 million from The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), the research partner of the NHS, public health and social care for a Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC).

#### [The Health and Social Care Secretary sets out new plan for patients](#)

Health and Social Care Secretary announces the government's new '[Our plan for patients](#)' to improve care for patients. The plan includes:

- An expectation that anyone who needs an appointment should get one at a GP practice within 2 weeks – and patients with the most urgent needs should be seen within the same day
- Help so people get out of hospitals and into social care support, the government is launching a £500 million Adult Social Care Discharge Fund
- Plan to reflect changes to pension rules to retain more experienced senior clinicians and exploring strengthening how we use volunteers in the health service, including to support ambulance services

#### [Framework agreement between DHSC and Health Education England 2022 to 2025](#)

The framework document has been agreed between the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and Health Education England (HEE) in accordance with HM Treasury's handbook 'Managing Public Money' (MPM) (as updated from time to time) and has been approved by HM Treasury. The framework document sets out the broad governance framework within which HEE and DHSC operate. It sets out HEE's core responsibilities; describes the governance and accountability framework that applies between the roles of DHSC and HEE; and sets out how the day-to-day relationship works in practice, including in relation to governance and financial matters.

#### [NHS set to boost GP workforce ahead of winter](#)

From this month, over a thousand GP's assistants will be recruited to help reduce time GPs spend on administrative tasks. GP assistants will also be trained to do blood pressure checks, heart rate and blood tests as well as arranging appointments, referrals and follow up care for patients.

Local areas can also recruit up to 1,250 digital transformation leads across the country who will take on responsibilities such as making sure practices are using the latest technology to offer more telephone lines and offering support with the NHS app

#### [Care Quality Commission - State of Care 2021/22](#)

The State of Care is the CQC's annual assessment of health care and social care in England. The report looks at the trends, shares examples of good and outstanding care, and highlights where care needs to improve.