

NHS England: General Practice Forward View

The purpose of this document is to summarise the commitments made in the General Practice Forward View which was published in April 2016.

Investment	
Ref	The General Practice Forward View (GP Forward View) commits NHS England to increasing investment in primary care. This includes:
A1	£2.4 billion a year by 2021 into general practice services, meaning that investment will rise to more than £12 billion a year by 2021.
A2	Investment is likely to grow more as clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) build community services and New Care Models in line with the Five Year Forward View. The latest guidance to Sustainability and Transformation areas is that between 15 per cent and 20 per cent of their allocation should be spent on investments to support general practice and in addition, there will be more money distributed nationally over the next five years to ensure that the commitments in the GP Forward View are met.
A3	Practices will be informed about additional investments, at both national and STP level in the next version of the finance guidance to STPs and allocations for primary medical care have already been published. Some of the money is for non-recurrent investments as set out in the GP Forward View and the bulk of these will be announced as separate streams as with the recent announcements on the General Practice Resilience Programme and changes to the GP retainer scheme.
A4	Capital investment is included – this will amount to £900 million over the next five years.
A5	A Sustainability and Transformation package of more than £500 million over the next five years will support struggling practices, develop the workforce, tackle workload and encourage care redesign.
A6	A new funding formula will better reflect practice workload, including deprivation and rurality.
A7	Work is underway to look at ways to tackle the issue of rising indemnity costs. So far, this has included a new GP indemnity support scheme started in 2016/17 to provide a special payment to practices, linked to workload, to offset average indemnity inflation. A Winter Indemnity Scheme is also being ran to support GPs who are able to carry out more out of hours sessions, to specifically address winter pressures.
A8	New guidance for commissioners of atypical practices has been produced. These are practices that are demographically different, with workload challenges that are not always recognised in the practice's existing contract/s or its funding allocation

Workforce	
Ref	The General Practice Forward View committed to strengthening the general practice workforce. Working with Health Education England (HEE), the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the British Medical Association (BMA), we will:
B1	Increase the number of doctors in general practice by a minimum of 5,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing GP training places - A range of ways to retain our GPs - Supporting GPs to return to practice - International GP Recruitment Programme.
B2	Increase the number of other health professionals by at least 5,000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1,500 more pharmacists - 3,000 more mental health therapists - 1,000 more physician associates.
B3	Strengthen the general practice nursing workforce.
B4	This will enable bigger teams of staff providing a wider range of care options for patients and freeing up time for GPs to focus on patients with more complex needs.

Workload	
Ref	Support for general practice with the management of demand, diversion of unnecessary work, an overall reduction in bureaucracy and more integration with the wider health and care system including:
C1	Major £30 million 'Releasing Time for Patients' development programme to help release capacity within general practice (see also Chapter 5).
C2	New standard contract measures for hospitals to stop work shifting at the hospital/general practice interface.
C3	New four year £40 million practice resilience programme, starting in 2016.
C4	Move to maximum interval of five yearly CQC inspections for good and outstanding practices.
C5	Introduction of a simplified system across NHS England, CQC and GMC.
C6	Streamlining of payment processes for practices, and automation of common tasks.

Practice Infrastructure	
Ref	The General Practice Forward View (GP Forward View) proposes:
D1	Investment through the multi-million pound Estates and Technology Transformation Fund (ETTF) to accelerate the development of infrastructure to enable the improvement and expansion of joined-up out of hospital care for patients. Additional capital will also be invested in general practice beyond the ETTF which means that the overall total investment in capital assets up to 2020/21 will be £900 million.
D2	New proposals to allow up to 100 per cent reimbursement of premises developments
D3	New offer for practices who are tenants of NHS Property Services for NHS England to include funding Stamp Duty Land Tax for practices until end of October 2017.
D4	Direct practice investment in technology to support better online tools and appointment, consultation and workload management systems.
D5	Better record sharing to support teamwork across practices.
D6	Wi-Fi services in GP practices for staff and patients. Funding will be made available to cover the hardware, implementation and service costs from April 2017.
D7	NHS Digital is leading the roll out of access to the Summary Care Record to all community pharmacies.

Care Redesign	
Ref	The General Practice Forward View (GP Forward View) commits to a major programme of improvement support to practices. Support to strengthen and redesign general practice, including delivering extended access in primary care by:
E1	The GP Forward View also identifies support for personalised care and support planning via self care and social prescribing as two of the 10 High Impact Actions which will release capacity within general practice. We believe that everyone with long-term conditions should be offered a personalised care plan and recommend a set of principles to help ensure that the process is truly person-centred.
E2	Commissioning and funding of services to provide extra capacity across England
E3	Integrating extended access with out-of-hours and urgent care services, including 111 and local clinical hubs.
E4	Introducing a new voluntary Multispeciality Community Provider contract to integrate general practice services, community services and wider healthcare services.
E5	A new national General Practice Development Programme aimed as responding to opportunities and challenges identified within the GP Forward View and building capacity for improvement.