



## Department of Health & Social Care

### DHSC Update to NHBST Public Board, 26 November 2024

- Budget – 2024/5 and 2025/6

The Chancellor confirmed the overall size of the spending envelope across Government for this Parliament at Autumn Budget 2024, on the 30th October. The Department is now working through how the top level figure of just over £200bn (around a 2% real terms increase) will be distributed across priority areas. We hope to be able to invite further detailed collaboration in the coming weeks and will be working closely with NHBST as it considers how best to use its allocated funds in the coming weeks and months. The second part of the current Spending Review, due to occur in Spring 2025, will consider funding for 26/27 and beyond. We will continue to work closely with NHS BT to refine and update existing bids to support its aims.

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- 10-year plan

Continuing to look ahead, the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care launched the NHS 10 Year Health Plan engagement exercise on 21 October, which follows the report published by Lord Darzi on his assessment of the NHS. The exercise is seeking views and suggestions for change across three big shifts to transform the health service to be fit for the future:

- 1) Moving more care from hospitals to communities;**
- 2) Making better use of technology;**
- 3) Preventing sickness, not just treating it.**

We want this to be the biggest conversation in the NHS's history. Input is being sought from those within the system as well as those working with it, those using it and groups supporting users. The experiences and ideas of people will shape immediate steps and long-term changes to reform the health service.

You are encouraged to register at [change.nhs.uk](https://change.nhs.uk) to feed in ideas and learn more. In the first few weeks since the launch, there were 57,000 registrations on the portal, 900 organisations registered and 8,000 ideas for change.

Key dates to note are:

**November 2024 to February 2025:** a series of in person deliberation events, timed to avoid peak winter pressures, as well as wide online engagement

**2 December 2024:** initial organisation deadline to respond to portal

**Spring 2025:** Finalise and publish the 10-Year Health Plan

- Implementation Steering Group for Organ Utilisation

**UK Heart and Lung services report:** To support NHSE to deliver recommendation 5 of the Organ Utilisation Group, to review cardiothoracic transplant services, DHSC led an information collation exercise in Spring, bringing together views from patients and clinicians via online surveys, as well as face to face sessions with leaders of transplant centres and patients. This, along with collated published data from NHSBT, informed a series of considerations from three international experts on how the current system could be strengthened. These considerations and supporting evidence were published in a report and data pack on 24 October. The report has been welcomed by patients and considerations have been fed into the ongoing NHSE transformation programme.

**Commissioning symposium:** DHSC brought together delegates from ICBs, transplant centres, Trust Executives, transplant clinicians, NHS BT, NHSE and patient representatives on 6 November to discuss how to best approach joint commissioning for transplant to utilise the most donor organs for life-saving transplants. This was a direct response to recommendation 12 of the Organ Utilisation Group.

DHSC will now produce a report with key themes and findings from the day; this will be shared with NHSBT, NHSE and others.

**Sub-groups:** Many of the Organ Utilisation Group recommendations are being taken forward by sub-groups to the central Implementation Steering Group. Some of these are nearing conclusion and will pass their findings to those responsible for delivery (i.e. NHSE and NHSBT, amongst others). Those due to report shortly include the Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics sub-group, the Assessment and Recovery Centre sub-group. The Trust Engagement, Patient Engagement and Xenotransplantation sub-groups will share findings with the central Implementation Steering Group during Q4 2024/25.

- Infected Blood Inquiry

At time of writing this report, a debate is scheduled to take place in the House of Commons on 19 November, around the Infected Blood Inquiry report findings and recommendations. This had been delayed since May, following the announcement of the General Election.

We are continuing work to provide an initial response to DHSC recommendations in the report, led by Cabinet Office, by the end of this year.