



DEBATE PACK

Number CDP 2016/0075 , 11 April 2016

Report from the independent Mental Health Taskforce to the NHS in England

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Summary

MPs will debate the report from the independent Mental Health Taskforce to the NHS in England - *The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health* - on Wednesday 13 April 2016 from 2.30 to 4.00pm in Westminster Hall. James Morris, chair of the APPG on Mental Health, will lead the debate.

This House of Commons Library Debate Pack includes a briefing, press and Parliamentary coverage of the report and the issues it contains.

A House of Commons Library briefing, [Mental health policy in England](#) (CBP-7547) provides a summary of Government policy introduced under the 2010-2015 Coalition Government, and under the 2015 Conservative Government.

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The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

1. Mental Health Taskforce

[The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health: A report from the independent Mental Health Taskforce to the NHS in England](#) was published in February 2016. The Taskforce was launched by NHS England and was independently chaired by Paul Farmer, Chief Executive of Mind.

The Mental Health Taskforce made a series of recommendations for improving outcomes in mental health by 2020/21, encompassing three broad areas:

- First, the Taskforce makes a set of recommendations for the NHS arm's length bodies [NHS England, Public Health England, Care Quality Commission, NHS Improvement and Health Education England] to achieve the ambition of parity of esteem between mental and physical health for children, young people, adults and older people.
- Second, the Taskforce set out recommendations where wider action is needed. This includes cross-Government action, in areas such as employment, housing and social inclusion.
- Thirdly, the Taskforce places a particular focus on tackling inequalities, including the higher incidence of mental health problems among people living in poverty, those who are unemployed and people who already face discrimination. It also addresses inequalities in access to services among certain black and minority ethnic groups, whose first experience of mental health care often comes when they are detained under the *Mental Health Act*, frequently with police involvement.

The recommendations to be delivered by 2021 include:

- an end to the practice of sending people out of their local area for acute inpatient care
- providing mental health care to 70,000 more children and young people
- supporting 30,000 more new and expectant mothers through maternal mental health services
- new funding to ensure all acute hospitals have mental health services in emergency departments for people of all ages
- increasing access to talking therapies to reach 25% of those who need this support
- a commitment to reducing suicides by 10%

The Government has said it welcomes the report's recommendations, and will work with NHS England and other partners to establish a plan for implementing its recommendations.¹ The Minister for Community and Social Care, Alistair Burt, said:

By the end of this Parliament we will make the Taskforce's recommendations a reality.²

The *Government's Mandate to the NHS 2016-17* also contains a directive for the NHS to implement agreed actions from the Mental Health Taskforce.³

The report also called for an additional investment of £1 billion by 2020/21 to implement change in the priority areas identified by the Taskforce. In response, the Government pledged that an extra £1 billion will be invested in mental health care by 2021 and a million more people will get mental health support.⁴

The Department of Health's press release outlines its commitments to the report's recommendations:

An extra £1 billion will be invested in mental health care by 2021 and a million more people will get mental health support.

The announcement follows the publication of a [report by the Mental Health Taskforce](#), chaired by Paul Farmer, Chief Executive of Mind. The taskforce has reviewed mental health care and has set out its vision for preventative, holistic mental health care and making sure that care is always available for people experiencing a crisis.

The recommendations to be delivered by 2021 include:

- an end to the practice of sending people out of their local area for acute inpatient care
- providing mental health care to 70,000 more children and young people
- supporting 30,000 more new and expectant mothers through maternal mental health services
- new funding to ensure all acute hospitals have mental health services in emergency departments for people of all ages
- increasing access to talking therapies to reach 25% of those who need this support
- a commitment to reducing suicides by 10%

Responding to the report, Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt said:

"We have made monumental strides in the way we treat mental illness in this country — but we must go even further.

"Our shared vision of a 7 day mental health service means people will get the care they need, when they need it, and will help prevent mental illness in the first place.

One in 4 people will experience a mental health problem and the cost of mental ill health to the economy, the NHS and society as a whole is £105 billion a year.

² [PO 28310 \[on Mental Health Services: Finance\], 29 February 2016](#)

³ Department of Health, [The Government's mandate to NHS England for 2016-17](#), page 18

⁴ Department of Health, [New investment in mental health services](#), 16 February 2016

This announcement will accelerate the progress that has already been made, including:

increasing the money put into mental health every year since 2010, giving the NHS a record £11.7 billion last year

introducing the first ever access and waiting time standards for mental health, meaning people will get the care they need when they need it

investing £1.4 billion to transform young people's mental health services

Alistair Burt, minister for mental health, said:

"Today's report gives a fantastic boost to changes in mental health services, with more care available close to people's homes. I particularly welcome the fact that young people and new and expectant mums will get the mental health care they need. For our part, we are investing more than ever before in mental health and will make sure the NHS delivers on this plan.⁵

Health Minister, Alistair Burt, made a statement on the Government's response to the Mental Health Taskforce on 23 February 2016:

The Minister for Community and Social Care (Alistair

Burt): Achieving parity of esteem for mental and physical health remains a priority for this Government. I appreciate the hon. Lady's raising of the urgent question this afternoon. We welcomed the independent Mental Health Taskforce launched by NHS England last year, with its remit to explore the variation in the availability of mental health services across England, to look at the outcomes for people who are using services, and to identify key priorities for improvement.

The taskforce, chaired by Paul Farmer, chief executive of Mind—I thank him, the vice-chair, Jacqui Dyer, and the whole team for the remarkable work they did—also considered ways of promoting positive mental health and wellbeing, ways of improving the physical health of people with mental health problems, and whether we are spending money and time on the right things.

The publication of the taskforce's report earlier this month marked the first time a national strategy has been designed in partnership with all the health-related arm's length bodies in order to deliver change across the system. This also demonstrated the remarkable way in which society, the NHS and this House now regard mental health and how it should be seen and approached.

This Government have made great strides in the way we think about and treat mental health in this country. We have given the NHS more money than ever before and are introducing access and waiting-time targets for the first time. We have made it clear that local NHS services must follow our lead by increasing the amount they spend on mental health and making sure that beds are always available. Despite those improvements, however—and I referred earlier to the way in which we view these matters—the taskforce pulled no punches. It produced a frank assessment of the state of current mental health care throughout the NHS, pointing out that one in four people would experience a mental health problem during their lifetime, and that the cost of mental

⁵ Department of Health, [New investment in mental health services](#), 16 February 2016

ill health to the economy, the NHS and society was £105 billion a year.

We can all agree that the human and financial cost of inadequate care is unacceptable. The Department of Health therefore welcomes the report's publication, and will work with NHS England and other partners to establish a plan for implementing its recommendations. To make those recommendations a reality, we will spend an extra £1 billion by 2020-21 to improve access to mental health services, so that people can receive the right care in the right place when they need it most. That will mean increasing the number of people completing talking therapies by nearly three quarters, from 468,000 to 800,000; more than doubling the number of pregnant women or new mothers receiving mental health support, from 12,000 to 42,000 a year; training about 1,700 new therapists; and helping 29,000 more people to find or stay in work through individual placement support and talking therapies.

I assure all Members that they will have ample opportunities to ask questions and debate issues as we work together to implement the taskforce's recommendations.⁶

The report follows the Government's [Future in Mind](#) report, published in March 2015, which looked at children and young people's mental health services. The report was published by the Department of Health and NHS England, following the work of the Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Taskforce. It set out key proposals to transform the design and delivery of a local offer of services for children and young people with mental health needs.

⁶ [HC Deb 23 February 2016 c153-4](#)

2. Press articles

The Independent, 2 April 2016

[Britain's top psychiatrist Simon Wessely challenges Government to ring-fence mental health spending](#)

The Guardian, 19 February, 2016

[Funding is welcome, but root causes of mental illness are growing](#)

Rise in rough sleepers, children living with an alcoholic parent and prison suicides show that more money is just the start

The Guardian, 17 February 2016

[Approach mental health like cancer care: prevention is key](#)

The Guardian, 15 February, 2016

[NHS vows to transform mental health services with extra £1bn a year](#)

Health Service Journal, 15 February 2016

[Taskforce delivers blueprint for future of mental healthcare](#)

The BMJ, 15 February 2016

[Government promises £1bn a year more to “transform” mental health in England](#)

The Guardian, 26 January 2016

[Spike in mental health patient deaths shows NHS 'struggling to cope'](#)

Health Service Journal, 11 January 2016

[No new money as Cameron sets out mental health priorities](#)

The Independent, 10 January 2016

[Pregnant women and new mothers to receive specialist care as part of mental health shake-up](#)

£290m set aside from NHS budget to provide mental health care attached to maternity units and community services

The Observer, 5 December 2015

[2,000 people a month sent far from home for NHS mental health care](#)

Former health minister Norman Lamb attacks 'discrimination at heart of NHS' that in [bed shortage prioritises](#) patients with physical over mental health problems

Health Service Journal, 6 November 2015

[Why recovery in mental health is so important](#)

For full texts and help in accessing articles please contact the Library.

3. Press releases and blogs

Department of Health

[New investment in mental health services](#)

15 February 2016

An extra £1 billion will be invested in mental health care by 2021 and a million more people will get mental health support.

The announcement follows the publication of a [report by the Mental Health Taskforce](#), chaired by Paul Farmer, Chief Executive of Mind. The taskforce has reviewed mental health care and has set out its vision for preventative, holistic mental health care and making sure that care is always available for people experiencing a crisis.

The recommendations to be delivered by 2021 include:

- an end to the practice of sending people out of their local area for acute inpatient care
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Responding to the report, Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt said:

We have made monumental strides in the way we treat mental illness in this country — but we must go even further.

Our shared vision of a 7 day mental health service means people will get the care they need, when they need it, and will help prevent mental illness in the first place.

One in 4 people will experience a mental health problem and the cost of mental ill health to the economy, the NHS and society as a whole is £105 billion a year.

This announcement will accelerate the progress that has already been made, including:

- increasing the money put into mental health every year since 2010, giving the NHS a record £11.7 billion last year
- introducing the first ever access and waiting time standards for mental health, meaning people will get the care they need when they need it
- investing £1.4 billion to transform young people's mental health services

Alistair Burt, minister for mental health, said:

Today's report gives a fantastic boost to changes in mental health services, with more care available close to people's homes. I particularly

welcome the fact that young people and new and expectant mums will get the mental health care they need. For our part, we are investing more than ever before in mental health and will make sure the NHS delivers on this plan.

NHS England

Mental Health Taskforce

Formed in March 2015, the independent Mental Health Taskforce has brought together health and care leaders, people using services and experts in the field to create a [Five Year Forward View for Mental Health for the NHS in England](#). This [national strategy, which covers care and support for all ages, was published in February 2016](#) and signifies the first time there has been a strategic approach to improving mental health outcomes across the health and care system, in partnership with the health arm's length bodies.

The taskforce was chaired by Paul Farmer, Chief Executive of [Mind](#). The vice chair was Jacqui Dyer who is an expert-by-experience and a carer. It included members from partner arm's length bodies who hold critical responsibilities related to the planning and delivery of care, as well as representatives from the voluntary sector and professional bodies. Members of the taskforce were responsible for ensuring that there was cross-system commitment and alignment when developing actions within the national strategy and that continued partnership, working effectively and meaningfully, enables the strategy to be delivered.

In order to develop the strategy, the taskforce explored the variation in access to and quality of care and support across England; looked at outcomes for people who are and aren't able to access these and also considered ways to tackle the prevention of mental health problems. The views of people with mental health problems and their families and carers were vital to this, as were the views of NHS staff.

During the development of the strategy, the taskforce sought the expert input of people with personal experience of mental health problems, families, carers and professionals as well as reviewing clinical and economic evidence. People gave their assessments of what works well, what doesn't and suggested how to tackle some of the challenges – including the stigma that too frequently prevents people going to get the help they need. Over 20,000 people responded to the taskforce – an unprecedented level of feedback which clearly demonstrates that people are passionate about improving mental health care and support across the NHS. This feedback has directly shaped the Five Year Forward View for Mental Health.

In September 2015, the [taskforce published a report into the findings of their engagement work](#). Improvements in access to high quality services, choice of interventions, integrated physical and mental health care, prevention initiatives, funding and challenging stigma were people's top priorities as to how the system needs to change by 2020.

Following publication of the strategy, the taskforce continues to work with the organisations responsible for health and care services to ensure that clear implementation plans are developed and that real transformation happens on the ground. The taskforce can be contacted via their mailbox at england.mhtaskforce@nhs.net.

- Download an easy read version of [Five Year Forward View for Mental Health](#)
- Download the taskforce's [Terms of Reference](#).

Blogs

- [Five Year Mental Health plan will be our legacy – Jacqui Dyer](#)
- [This is the dawn of a new age for mental health care – Paul Farmer](#)
- [Jacqui Dyer's blog about her role on the taskforce and her personal experience of mental health services.](#)
- [Paul Farmer's blog about the astonishing response to the taskforce's online survey and the common themes emerging from the responses.](#)
- [Paul Farmer writing about setting up the taskforce and working across the health and care landscape to design a mental health service responsive to all ages.](#)

Case studies

Find out more about how mental health care across the NHS is changing and developing to better meet people's needs with our [case studies](#).

The King's Fund

[Will the Mental Health Taskforce report make it off the shelves?](#)

17 February 2016

Dubbed 'The five year forward view for mental health', the [much-awaited report](#) from the independent Mental Health Taskforce chaired by Paul Farmer is an important document.

It gives an honest diagnosis of current shortcomings in mental health care in England, and a detailed analysis of how best to target available resources in the future. It follows hot on the heels of last week's report from the [Commission on Acute Adult Psychiatric Care](#), which gave a similarly frank assessment of the need for improvement.

A particularly encouraging message in the taskforce report is the call for mental health care to be embedded much more deeply within the wider health care system. There are welcome proposals for investment in liaison psychiatry, perinatal mental health services, physical health screening for people with mental health problems, and trialling of other service models that straddle the boundary between mental and physical health. Our forthcoming research and conference on [integration of mental and physical health care](#) will provide further evidence on the importance of this and examples of how it can be achieved in practice.

Inevitably, much of the commentary on the taskforce report has centred on one question: is it realistic? My view is that most or all of the recommendations could be achievable if the government and NHS leaders have the will to make this a priority. But it certainly won't be easy, and one of the most significant challenges will, of course, be the money.

As has been widely remarked, the commitment to increase spending on mental health by £1 billion a year by 2020/21 comes from funding already allocated to the NHS in last year's [Spending Review](#). In effect, the commitment made by NHS England is that mental health services should expect to receive a proportionate share of the £8 billion pledged by the government in their 2015 election manifesto (the NHS currently spends around £1 in every £8 on mental health).

There are three significant issues that might prevent this commitment from being delivered in practice. First, in 2016/17 (and quite possibly beyond) much of the increase in NHS England's budget will be needed to stabilise services in the short term and cover rising deficits among NHS providers (predominantly in acute trusts rather than mental health providers). This raises the prospect of most of the new money for transforming mental health services being phased in later in this parliament. It is worth remembering that the £8 billion requested by the NHS was the minimum required, leaving little headroom for investment in new service improvements.

Second, the [detail behind the Spending Review settlement](#) reveals that the £8 billion increase in the funding received by NHS England by 2020/21 will be partially paid for by reduced spending elsewhere in the health system, particularly public health, education and training. The recommendations made by the taskforce put significant emphasis on increasing investment in preventing mental illness and promoting mental health, and on placing greater priority on preventing physical ill health among people with mental health problems. There are also important recommendations for professional education and training. It is not clear how much capacity there will be to act on these recommendations in parts of the system that are set to see their budgets fall in real terms over the next four years.

Third, there is the question of whether adequate forms of oversight exist to ensure that the money gets to where it's needed, and to hold local commissioners to account for achieving the vision that the taskforce describes. It has always been notoriously difficult to track spending on mental health services with any degree of precision, and even harder to measure outcomes. Proposals made by the taskforce for increased transparency in relation to spending by clinical commissioning groups, accompanied by a 'data revolution' in mental health, are therefore an indispensable part of the plan.

The last of the 58 recommendations made by the taskforce is that by summer of this year, NHS England, the Department of Health and the Cabinet Office should 'confirm what governance arrangements will be put in place to support the delivery of this strategy', including

'arrangements for reporting publicly on how progress is being made'. If the work of the taskforce is to make it off the shelves and into practice, that final recommendation is arguably the most important one to watch.

- [Find out more about our work on integrating physical and mental health](#)

Mental Health Foundation

With a strong focus on prevention, the Mental Health Foundation commends "pivotal" Mental Health Taskforce Report

15 February 2016

NHS England has today published the [Five Year Forward View for Mental Health](#), a report by the Mental Health Taskforce. Jenny Edwards CBE, Chief Executive of the Mental Health Foundation says:

"The publication of The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health by NHS England is a pivotal moment in the fight for a mentally healthier nation. The Mental Health Foundation has been calling for a [greater focus](#) on prevention and we are delighted that this is clearly reflected in the report. Prevention was the key priority to come out of the [public engagement consultation](#) that fed into the report. We specifically welcome the creation of a Prevention Concordat to drive forward change, and the increased emphasis on strategic leadership by people with lived experience of mental health problems.

"We unequivocally endorse the Taskforce report when it states that "prevention matters – it's the only way that change can be achieved". Beyond the economic cost of £105 billion a year, poor mental health is destroying lives. The report acknowledges that we need to do far more to ensure good mental health for all and this means stepping in at the first opportunity. At present, too little is done to prevent mental ill health both with the population at large and with at risk groups. Providing the right range of support, including prevention, has enabled us to become a physically healthier nation. This must now be replicated in mental health. The report, if acted on, provides a once in a generation opportunity to achieve this.

"The Mental Health Foundation looks forward to working with other charities and the leading public bodies, including the NHS and Public Health England, to deliver real change. For the sake of people now and those, who without effective prevention, will develop mental health problems in the future we need to move support upstream. Today represents a turning point in thinking about mental health, we recognise it is something we all have. With the support of the right Government policies we will have the best chance of keeping ourselves mentally well."

In November 2015 the Foundation set out the evidence base for a focus on prevention in a [landscape paper](#).

Key recommendations in the Mental Health Taskforce report include:

- 30,000 more women per year to receive perinatal mental health support
- 70,000 more children and young people to receive mental health care when they need it
- the creation of a national Prevention Concordat programme that will enable all Health and Wellbeing Boards to support local needs and produce mental health Prevention Plans
- the appointment of an equalities champion to tackle mental health inequalities across the health system and through cross-government action
- the prioritisation of mental health support for people with long term physical health conditions
- the publication a 10 year strategy for mental health research by 2017 and to increase funding
- the championing of digital innovations to improve access and choice to mental health support
- an emphasis on the mental health and wellbeing of staff across the NHS and all those working with people with mental health problems.

Prevention is the only way lasting change can be achieved

- Blog by Iris Elliott Head of Policy and Research, Mental Health Foundation, 17 February 2016

Prevention was the public's number one priority for NHS England's Mental Health Taskforce in its [public engagement stage](#). In this and a series of blogs, I will be analysing how far the Taskforce report – [The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health](#) – delivers, and where there are opportunities to drive prevention over the next five years.

[In our first response to the report](#), we have highlighted recommendations for:

- a prevention concordat and local mental health prevention plans
- a 10-year mental health research strategy
- an equalities champion across health and social care systems and government
- strategic leadership for people with lived experience through co-production.

Concordats and alliances

Public Health England is to lead the development of a prevention concordat. This will draw on learning from the [Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat](#), but needs to have a different approach. Concordats bring together a range of stakeholders to agree what change needs to be achieved and then gets the main players to sign up to deliver specific actions.

Often, we look to the health sector to resource and have all the solutions around mental health. However, as the Taskforce makes clear, 75% of people experiencing mental health problems are not using health services. This may be due to stigma, inadequate provision and people using their own resources to manage their mental health.

The causes, impacts and solutions around mental health issues are to be found outside of the health sector: in schools, workplaces, communities and housing. Prevention in these settings can support people who are struggling, and support them earlier. The Prevention Alliance was convened by Public Health England last year. Its membership embodies the diverse range of organisations we need to work together to advance prevention – most of whom are outside of the traditional mental health sector. Involving people with lived experience of mental health problems and communities is crucial as they often know what will make a real difference. We look forward to contributing to the development of the Prevention Concordat and the evolution of the Prevention Alliance.

The focus on creating mentally healthy communities could be ground breaking. Health and wellbeing boards will address mental health in their Joint strategic needs assessments (JSNAs) using locally sourced information (advanced through a five-year data plan) so that they tailor prevention to the mental health priorities and assets of their communities. The JSNAs will be used to develop local mental health prevention plans to drive commissioning for prevention.

Innovation in devolution areas, particularly those that are prioritising mental health, will be crucial. Likewise, the innovation of voluntary and communities groups needs to be at the heart of this prevention agenda, resourced to scale within health and social care. The work of the [Mental Health Providers Forum](#) illustrates the scope of contribution. There is a focus on digital innovation to deliver effective mental health interventions and increase accessibility and choice, which I'm particularly interested in given the Mental Health Foundation's early adoption of e-mental health through [Be Mindful](#).

The forthcoming [mental health summit](#) organised by the Local Government Association and Public Health England in March will be an important moment to advance local action on prevention. Public Health England commissioned the Mental Health Foundation to draw together evidence of what works in prevention, which we will publish at the summit.

10-year research strategy

The intention to develop a 10-year mental health research strategy by next year is an exciting prospect. I'm pleased that the credible [Roadmap for Mental Health Research in Europe study](#) (ROAMER) will underpin the strategy. I'll be advocating for public mental health research to be a discrete and substantial component, and prevention a cross-cutting theme.

Maternal mental health

As a member of the [Maternal Mental Health Alliance](#), supporting the [Everyone's Business](#) campaign, the investment in evidence-based specialist maternal mental health services is a huge win. Let's take a moment to celebrate!

But as well as specialist clinical services we need to innovate peer support and self-management approaches for mothers and their

families such as the Mental Health Foundation's [Mums and Babies in Mind](#), [Young Mums Together](#) and [Creating Connections](#) programmes.

Challenging mental health inequalities

Likewise, we have long campaigned for inequalities, discrimination and stigma to be addressed. Commitments to promote equality and equity run throughout the Taskforce report. There is a welcome recognition that mental health problems disproportionately affect people living in poverty, those who are unemployed and who already face discrimination.

Given the Mental Health Foundation's work on [later life, dementia](#) and [learning disability](#) we are disappointed that these equality issues are amongst the weakest aspects of the report. There must be an early appointment of the new equalities champion by the Department of Health and a clear programme of work with measurable deliverables.

We want this champion to not only to address the populations that are covered by the Equality Act 2010, but also people experiencing poverty and people who have complex needs such as homeless people.

Physical health needs

The physical health needs of people with mental health problems, particularly those diagnosed with serious mental illness receive substantial attention. The scandal of early death due to so-called co- and multiple-morbidities will finally be addressed.

Likewise the mental health needs of people with long-term conditions are a welcome focus in the Taskforce report. Both of these are major prevention agendas and so I will be keeping an eye on how prevention is integrated into the new care pathways (timetabled in the report).

Employment

A lot of the Taskforce's employment focus is on supporting people with mental health problems into sustained work. This includes investment in individual placement and support services, psychological therapies; and recognition of the need to address the many failings of the work programme for claimants with mental health problems within the next tendering process.

However, I'm particularly interested in the Taskforce's comments on supporting people who are already employed to remain in work and return to work after sick leave.

Creating a mentally healthy workplace for all staff working across the NHS is on the table with plans to support and measure progress. These plans must be drawn together to develop psychologically informed environments using a whole workplace approach.

Healthy relationships

The Mental Health Foundation has outlined a clear agenda for prevention in our strategy, [A New Way Forward](#). There is a strong evidence base for preventing mental health problems as illustrated by our [overview of the public mental health research landscape](#).

There are promising approaches at all stages of the life course: family formation, children and young people, working age and later life. Like us, the Taskforce recognises that mentally healthy relationships across the life course are what we all want: in our families, communities, schools, workplaces and services. [This will be the theme of the next Mental Health Awareness Week running 16-22 May.](#)

The Taskforce describes its work as the start of a 10-year agenda. After many months waiting for publication, it is great to have the report published. I am keen to get going on implementation and in the coming weeks I will be blogging on key aspects of the Taskforce report.

I believe in the transformative power of prevention for people with mental health problems and our whole society. We all need to advocate for prevention to be fully integrated into *The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health*.

Royal College of Psychiatrists

[Mental Health Taskforce and strategy](#)

- [Read our briefing on the findings of the independent Mental Health Taskforce and the implications for psychiatrists and the wider NHS workforce](#)

The Mental Health Taskforce, launched in March 2015, has been responsible for creating and publishing a new five-year, all-age national strategy for mental health to 2020, aligned to the [Five Year Forward View](#) (link opens in new window).

Prof Sir Simon Wessely, President of RCPsych and Dr Adrian James, Registrar, with the support of the Policy Unit, have played a pivotal role in its development, working alongside the Chair, Paul Farmer, Co-chair, Jacqui Dyer and other members of the Taskforce.

- [Terms of reference and full list of Taskforce membership.](#)
(Opens in new window)

The approach used by the Taskforce has been one of co-production, involving people with lived experience of mental health problems, carers, professionals, providers, voluntary organisations and the component parts of the NHS throughout the process. The Policy Unit worked closely with all Faculties and Sections of the College to ensure that the views of people working across all psychiatric specialties were incorporated.

- [Read the public engagement findings with priority actions for mental health.](#)
(Opens in new window)

Today, we welcome the publication of the [final report](#), which marks the first time a shared national ambition for mental health in the NHS has been set for the arm's-length bodies, across the life course. The findings will have implications for service users, carers and families as well as the NHS workforce, NHS providers and commissioners.

Furthermore, the NHS in England has committed to the biggest transformation of mental health care across the NHS in a generation, **pledging to help more than a million extra people and investing more than a billion pounds a year by 2020/21**. This investment is in addition to the previously announced new funding for children, young people and perinatal mental health care.

The RCPsych will play its part in making these outcomes a reality through our policy and public affairs efforts, as well as through other projects relevant to the delivery of the Five Year Forward View. This includes, but not limited to, our work on the [New Care Models programme](#).

4. Parliamentary questions

[Mental Health Services](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps Public Health England has taken in conjunction with the National Public Health Workforce Advisory Group to implement the public mental health leadership and workforce development framework, published in March 2015.

Answering member: Jane Ellison

Since publication, Public Health England (PHE) has worked with national partners and with local authorities to co-ordinate implementation of the public mental health leadership and workforce development (PMHLWD) framework. Twenty national partners have signed the Call to Action to implement the framework.

PHE is working closely with Health Education England (HEE) to incorporate the PMHLWD framework into the forthcoming Mental Health Skills and Knowledge Framework (commissioned by the Department). It has been cited in the Mental Health Task Force report and PHE will continue to work with HEE to implement the PMHLWD framework's priorities via the Task Force and Future in Mind working groups.

PHE has incorporated the PMHLWD framework into the revised Public Health Skills and Knowledge Framework, the review of the future workforce and its wider workforce programme. This has included integrating mental health and wellbeing into the Making Every Contact Count programme.

PHE has supported delivery via local public mental health networks joint commissioning of training, collating examples of training programmes, developing e-learning modules and delivering local workshops and presentations.

24 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 32036

[Physical and Mental Health Services: Parity of Esteem](#)

Asked by: Alex Chalk (Cheltenham) (Con)

What progress the Government has made on achieving parity of esteem for physical and mental health services.

Answering member: The Minister for Community and Social Care (Alistair Burt)

We remain committed to achieving parity of esteem between mental and physical health, and we are investing more than ever in mental health. We welcomed the publication of the Mental Health Taskforce report last month and will work to embed its recommendations in our policies.

22 Mar 2016 | Oral answers to questions | 607 c1366

[Future in Mind Strategy](#)

Mr Gavin Shuker (Luton South) (Lab/Co-op): What improvements have been made to child and adolescent mental health services since the publication of the Government's strategy, "Future in mind", in March 2015. [904257]

The Minister for Community and Social Care (Alistair Burt): Progress has been made on many of the key ambitions set out in "Future in mind". Of greatest significance is the development of local transformation plans that cover the full spectrum of children and young people's mental health issues, from prevention to intervention for emerging or existing mental health problems, for every clinical commissioning group in the country.

Mr Shuker: This month, the Mental Health Network, representing NHS providers, said that very little, if any, of the money promised for child and adolescent mental health has yet materialised and that some services are experiencing cuts in-year. The Minister must accept, despite his assurances to my hon. Friend the Member for Liverpool, Wavertree (Luciana Berger), that the Department's efforts in getting this money out the door has been woeful. What will he change?

Alistair Burt: I do not necessarily, despite the energy of the hon. Member for Liverpool, Wavertree, accept everything that she says. I gave a list of where the money is being spent. However, I think I can help both the hon. Gentleman and the hon. Lady. Much more is being done to ensure that CCGs deliver what they need to deliver in relation to mental health. This year's figures will show that, whereas there has been a 3.7% uplift for CCGs, there has been an uplift of 5.4% in mental health spending. With more transparency and more determination by the NHS on CCG spending, hopefully what people are saying and feeling will become less the case in the future.

22 Mar 2016 | Oral questions - Lead | 904257 | 607 cc1367-8

[NHS: Mental Health Services](#)

Asked by: Baroness Tyler of Enfield

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to publish data regularly on the availability and quality of NHS-funded mental health services across the country.

Answering member: The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Lord Prior of Brampton) (Con)

My Lords, data on mental health have been a bit like a black hole. We are working with the Mental Health Data and Information Board to improve the data, as recommended by the Mental Health Taskforce. A new mental health dataset will be online by April this year. Starting with early intervention in psychosis, it will comprise data on waiting times,

availability and outcomes. We will expand the dataset to other pathways once data become more robust.

Asked by: Baroness Tyler of Enfield (LD)

I thank the Minister for his Answer. The Mental Health Taskforce which he alluded to called for a data and transparency revolution in mental health services, specifically in their availability and the spending on mental health. Its actual words were "absolute transparency on spending". What steps are the Government taking to ensure that the data on spending come into the public domain and how quickly will that happen? Specifically, how does the department intend to respond to the call last week from the Mental Health Commissioners Network for money for children and young people's services to be ring-fenced so that it is not syphoned off elsewhere?

Answered by: Lord Prior of Brampton

We agree entirely with the recommendations in the task force report regarding the need for a revolution in transparency of information about mental health, and that will include spending. Even when adjusted for need, I think that there is almost a twofold variation in the spending on mental health from one CCG to another, so we entirely accept the recommendations.

14 Mar 2016 | House of Lords | 769 c1575

[Mental Health Services: Older People](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what estimate he has made of the (a) number and (b) proportion of clinical commissioning groups that commission mental health services specifically for older adults.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

No estimate has been made of the number and proportion of clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) that commission mental health services specifically for older adults. All CCGs will have a cohort of older adults for whom there is mental health services provision. In recent years there has been a trend towards ageless mental health services.

However, one of the recommendations in the Mental Health Taskforce report **The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health** published by NHS England in February this year is that bespoke older adult services should be the preferred model until such time that general adult mental health services can be shown to provide age-appropriate care.

11 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 30264

[Mental Health Services: Ethnic Groups](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, in how many areas the NHS provides mental health services that are targeted at black men; and what types of service provision are so targeted.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

The information is not held centrally.

We are committed to ensuring fair and equitable mental health care services for all, which includes all black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. NHS England published The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health report by the independent Mental Health Taskforce last month, which clearly outlines action to be taken nationally, regionally, and locally to help improve mental health services for BME communities in England.

08 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 29751

[Mental Health Services: Children and Young People](#)

Asked by: Lamb, Norman

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what overlap there is between the £1.4 billion funding for improving children and young people's mental health services referenced in the Answer of 10 February 2016 to Question 25482, the £600 million funding for mental health services referenced in paragraph 1.99 of the Autumn Statement and Spending Review 2015, the almost £1 billion funding to enhance mental health services made in the announcement by the Prime Minister, Prime Minister pledges a revolution in mental health treatment, published on 11 January 2016, and the commitment to spend an extra £1 billion by 2020-21 to improve access to mental health services made in response to the report of the Mental Health Taskforce, 23 February 2016, Official Report, column 153.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

The £1.4 billion funding for improving children and young people's mental health services was announced by the previous Coalition Government and consists of £30 million per year for five years announced in the 2014 Autumn Statement to develop community-based eating disorder services and £1.25 billion over five years announced by the then Deputy Prime Minister on 14 March 2015 and included in the Spring Budget for 2015.

The subsequent announcements of funding represent additional money on top of that £1.4 billion.

All of the Taskforce recommendations are funded from the overall envelope agreed in the Spending Review.

The £600 million set out by the Chancellor set the foundation for the Taskforce by establishing the minimum amount of additional new money that would need to be spent to transform mental health services.

This was underpinned by an understanding that improving mental health services will improve how the wider NHS functions and generate savings that can be reinvested into services.

The Prime Minister announced investment for mental health on 11 January comprising:

- £290 million to provide specialist care to mothers before and after having their babies;
- £247 million for mental health services in hospital emergency departments; and
- over £400 million to enable 24/7 treatment in communities as a safe and effective alternative to hospital.

The figures in the Prime Minister's announcement represent the total amount that we anticipate will be invested in these three priority areas over the five-year period from 2016/17 to 2020/21.

The £1 billion in 2020/21 announced on 23 February 2016 will fund all of the priority recommendations for the National Health Service set out in the Mental Health Taskforce report. It includes the anticipated costs in the year 2020/21 of the three priority areas that the Prime Minister announced.

08 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 28862

[Mental Health: Disadvantaged](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the foreword of the NHS Mental Health Taskforce report, The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health, published in February 2016, what steps he is taking to ensure that tackling poverty and inequalities are a core part of his Department's mental health strategy.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

We welcome the publication of the independent Mental Health Taskforce report and we will work with NHS England and other health bodies to embed the recommendations into our work programmes. We recognise the inequalities that may be experienced by people from lower socio-economic groups both in terms of exposure to risk factors for poor mental health and accessing mental health services and their experiences of mental health services when they do access care.

We will be working with stakeholders to ensure we are addressing inequalities issues including those identified in the Mental Health Taskforce report.

04 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 29274

Mental Illness: Carers

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will estimate the monetary value of (a) unpaid care provided to people with mental health issues and (b) the support to these carers by the NHS in each of the last five years.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health, the report of the independent Mental Health Taskforce, was published by NHS England on 15 February 2016. The report includes details of an analysis commissioned by NHS England which found that the national cost of dedicated mental health support and services totals £34 billion. It also noted that if all hours of care provided by unpaid carers to people with mental health issues were instead provided by paid staff, the cost would be approximately £14 billion (this is included in the £34 billion total).

The Taskforce report is available at:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/mentalhealth/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2015/09/fyfv-mental-hlth-taskforce.pdf>

Separately, a 2013 report by the Office of National Statistics valued informal care provided in the United Kingdom at £61.7 billion per year (as an output of household production), although it is not possible to identify within this unpaid care specifically provided to people with mental health issues.

The Government recognises the invaluable contribution made by unpaid carers and the importance of supporting them in their caring roles. We have also made an additional £400 million available to the National Health Service between 2011 and 2015 to provide carers with breaks from their caring responsibilities to sustain them in their caring role. The equivalent annual allocation of £130 million for carers breaks is now included in the Better Care Fund.

In May 2014, NHS England published its action plan **NHS England – Commitment to carers**, it includes a series of commitments around eight priorities. NHS England launched new commissioning guidelines in December 2014 entitled Commissioning for Carers: Principles and resources to support effective commissioning for adult and young carers.

NHS support represents only one form of Government support for carers. We continue to support the improved rights for carers enshrined in the Care Act 2014. This includes a right to an assessment on the appearance of needs for support that will look at a carer's wellbeing in their own right and what support they may need in their caring role. The Department has provided £104 million of funding to local authorities for these rights in 2015/16.

The Department is also leading the development of a new cross-Government National Carers Strategy that will look at what more we can do to support existing carers and those of the future.

04 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 29233

[Mental Health Services](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps he is taking to improve transparency of (a) spending and (b) outcomes in the NHS on mental health.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

The report of the independent Mental Health Taskforce acknowledged the need for increased transparency on mental health spending and the quality of care that people receive.

We are moving forward the data and transparency agenda and a new dataset for mental health will be published by April this year.

NHS England has already set a principal commitment to achieving mental health parity of esteem. Through its assurance process NHS England will hold individual commissioners to account for increasing spend on mental health in line with their increase in allocations, taking account of the mental health funding that has been received.

We have welcomed the Taskforce's recommendations for government in the report and will be considering how best to integrate them into our current work programme, as well as new policies as they develop.

03 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 28899

[Mental Health Services: Finance](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana | **Party:** Labour Party · Cooperative Party

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to paragraph 3 on page 5 of the Five Year Forward View Mental Health Task Force report, published on 15 February 2016, if he will make it his policy to provide equal funding for mental health services.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

We are committed to achieving parity of esteem between mental health and physical health. The Mental Health Taskforce estimates that the priority recommendations for the National Health Service set out in their report will cost an additional £1 billion annually by the year 2020/21. By the end of this Parliament we will make the Taskforce's recommendations a reality.

This builds on the £1.4 billion over this Parliament that has been previously announced for transforming children and young people's mental health and improving support for eating disorders.

All of the Taskforce report recommendations are funded from within the overall envelope agreed in the Spending Review. All of the £1 billion announced with the Taskforce report represents additional investment over and above what was allocated to the NHS in 2015/16.

We are already spending more money on mental health than ever before – an estimated £11.7 billion last year. This shows our commitment to achieving an equal status between mental and physical health services. We have been clear that commissioners must continue to increase investment in mental health services each year at a level which at least matches their overall expenditure increase.

We will monitor this closely to ensure this happens and know that clinical commissioning group spend is on track to increase as expected.

29 Feb 2016 | Written questions | 28310

[Mental Health](#)

Asked by: Godsiff, Mr Roger

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps he plans to take to implement the recommendations of the Mental Health Taskforce's report, The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health, published in February 2016.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

The Government welcomes and accepts the recommendations from the Five Year Forward View for Mental Health. The Taskforce estimates that the priority recommendations for the National Health Service set out in their report will cost an additional £1 billion annually by the year 2020/21: by the end of this Parliament we will make the Taskforce's recommendations a reality.

Investment in mental health rose to its highest ever level, an estimated £11.7 billion, in 2014/15. The £1 billion of additional investment announced by the Prime Minister last month will be in place by 2020/21 and builds on the £280 million per year of new funding for children and young people's mental health announced last year. This funding will make an important contribution to plugging the gap and fulfilling the Taskforce's recommendations, helping one million additional children, young people and adults to access high quality care by 2020/21.

How new investment for NHS priority recommendations is identified and implemented will be for NHS England to determine as part of the planning and allocations process. We anticipate that the majority of commitments outlined in this report will be delivered through clinical commissioning groups.

Further guidance will be issued shortly as part of the new Sustainability and Transformation Planning process: this will set expectations for how funding will be invested to deliver on the Taskforce recommendations for the NHS and how areas will be supported to deliver them over the following four years.

29 Feb 2016 | Written questions | 27471

[Health Services: Children and Young People](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to ensure NHS England is working with (a) clinical commissioning groups, (b) local authorities and (c) other partners to develop and trial a new model of acute in-patient care for young adults aged 16 to 25.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

Trialling acute inpatient care models for 16-25 year olds was a specific recommendation from **Five Year Forward View for Mental Health** (FYFV for Mental Health), a report from the independent Mental Health Taskforce to the NHS in England, published in February 2016. NHS England has accepted in full the recommendations of the Taskforce and is considering how to take each of the recommendations forward.

The FYFV for Mental Health states:

“NHS England should work with CCGs, local authorities and other partners to develop and trial a new model of acute inpatient care for young adults aged 16–25 in 2016, working with Vanguard sites. This should evaluate: developmentally and age-appropriate inpatient services for this group; supporting young people in an environment that maximises opportunities for rehabilitation and return to education, training or employment; viewing the young person within their social context; and enlisting the support of families or carers. This should build on the existing trials of new models of ‘transitional’ services for those aged 0–25.”

26 Feb 2016 | Written questions | 28084

[Mental Health Services: Children and Young People](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps he plans to take to ensure that the expansion of parenting programmes will be integrated with local transformation plans for children and young people's mental health services.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

The Government has accepted the recommendation in the Five Year Forward View for Mental Health, published February 2016, to review the best way to ensure the expansion of the parenting programme announced by the Prime Minister in his Life Chances speech. The Department for Work and Pensions is currently considering how to implement this and further thought will be given as to how it fits with local plans for the transformation of children's and young people's mental health services.

It is for local areas to consider and commission services based on the needs of their local population. In general, family support is the responsibility of local government. Local Transformation Plans produced in each area of the country set out how they plan to meet the full

spectrum of needs of children and young people with mental health problems, and what services should be put in place to address these. The Children and Young Peoples Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Programme, which is being expanded to cover the whole country and extended into other clinical areas including meeting the needs of children aged 0-5, already includes parenting programmes for children with conduct disorders.

26 Feb 2016 | Written questions | 28083

[Mental Health Task Force](#)

Asked by: Berger, Luciana

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether it is his policy to accept and implement the (a) 25 recommendations made to NHS England and (b) 21 recommendations made to his Department by the Mental Health Taskforce in its report published in February 2016.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

We welcome the publication of the independent Mental Health Taskforce report and accept its recommendations for the National Health Service and the Department. We will work with other Government Departments, NHS England and other health arm's length bodies to work to embed the recommendations into our work programmes.

02 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 28759

[Community Care: Mental Illness](#)

Asked by: Pennycook, Matthew

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what support and guidance his Department has provided to clinical commissioning groups and NHS mental health trusts to support innovative home treatment and specialist nursing in the community for patients requiring mental health treatment.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

The majority of mental health commissioning is the responsibility of clinical commissioning groups (CCGs). The specialised commissioning teams within NHS England work with CCGs and providers to ensure that the impact of any changes to community based services and specialised services upon the whole care pathway are handled in a coordinated way.

The planning guidance for the National Health Service for 2016/17 includes a requirement for CCGs, with their mental health provider, to have in place a service development and improvement plan for the development of local Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment Teams with a particular focus on ensuring that they are able to offer intensive home treatment with frequent visits to patients' homes.

The recently published report of the independent Mental Health Taskforce sets out plans for expanding crisis resolution home treatment teams across England to ensure that each is available to deliver 24/7 treatment to support 12,000 more adults by 2020. This will be backed by over £400 million investment, as announced by the Prime Minister on 11 January, to enable 24/7 treatment in communities as a safe and effective alternative to hospital.

22 Feb 2016 | Written questions | 26721

[Mental Health Services: Pregnant Women](#)

Asked by: Reynolds, Emma

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what plans his Department has to improve the identification and treatment of perinatal mental health issues; and how this will be monitored.

Answering member: Alistair Burt

This Government is committed to improving access to perinatal mental health services for women during pregnancy and in the first postnatal year. In January 2016 the Government set out that an additional £290 million will be made available over the next five years to 2020/21, over and above the money identified in the Spring Budget, to invest in perinatal mental health services. This is funded from within the Department's overall Spending Review settlement and means that in total from 2015/16 to 2020/21 £365 million will be invested in perinatal mental health services.

We are aware that there is unacceptable variation in the levels of access to high quality, NICE-recommended specialist perinatal mental health care for women across England. A 2014 census identified that 40% of women in England have no access to specialist perinatal mental health services and that is why we have confirmed this additional investment. The funding should enable significant progress towards closing this gap and will help to enable women across the country to access evidence-based specialist support, in the community or through inpatient mother and baby services, closer to their home, when they need it. It is anticipated that, by 2020/21, around 30,000 more women should be able to access appropriate specialist support.

This new funding, together with the recommendations of the forthcoming report of the independent Mental Health Taskforce, will enable NHS England to work with partners to design a longer-term transformation programme to build capacity and capability in specialist perinatal mental health services over the next five years. This will include setting detailed plans for how the additional investment will be targeted over the period to 2020/21 and setting clear outcome measures and metrics to monitor the impact of the funding on perinatal mental health provision.

In 2015/16 work is already underway to lay the foundations for this longer-term work programme through targeted funding of activities to build capacity in specialist services. This will include, for example, a £1

million investment in strengthening clinical networks across the country. It is also expected to include the provision of national and regional benchmarking data and analytical support to regions, and work to develop clinical leadership capacity. Work will also continue to support the development of specialist mother and baby units in the regions identified as most in need of new services.

To ensure the workforce are available and appropriately trained, NHS England is working closely with Health Education England and key stakeholders to better understand the future workforce commissioning requirements and how it is best to meet multi professional education and training needs.

01 Feb 2016 | Written questions | 24404

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