

# CB-NSG POLICY PAPER: Health and Social Care

## NHS England

In March it was announced that NHS England – the executive body that is responsible for oversight and commissioning within the NHS in England – would be abolished. NHS England’s functions and workforce are due to be integrated into the Department of Health and Social Care over the next two years. It is expected that across NHS England and the Department of Health and Social Care, there will be an approximately 50% reduction in the number of staff. ICBs have also been asked to make 50% cuts to their operating costs by October 2025.

The King’s Fund have produced a short blog setting out the history of NHS England, the functions it currently carries out, and what some of the impacts may be, which you can read [here](#).

NHS England is currently responsible for the NHSE Learning Disability and Autism Programme. Some of the initiatives within this programme include:

- Annual Health Checks for people with a learning disability (also proposed to be rolled out for autistic people)
- The [Learning from Lives and Deaths – people with a learning disability and autistic people](#) (LeDeR) programme
- The NHS capital grant funding programme for housing for people with a learning disability and autistic people
- Stopping Over-Medication of People with a Learning Disability, Autism, or Both and Supporting Treatment and Appropriate Medication in Paediatrics ([STOMP/STAMP](#))
- The [residential special schools eyesight, hearing and dental checks](#) programme
- The [Small Supports](#) programme, which promotes the development of small, local organisations that support people with complex needs, who are either currently or at risk of being detained in long-stay hospitals
- The [Children and Young People’s Keyworker](#) programme
- The [Learning Disability Services Monthly Statistics](#) publications, including the Assuring Transformation dataset

It is not currently clear which of these functions will be integrated into the Department of Health and Social Care/other bodies. The CBF, alongside a number of individuals and organisations, have written to Sir Jim Mackey (the interim CEO of NHS England, who is responsible for overseeing this transition phase) to raise the need for this to work to continue.

## 10-Year Health Plan

In October 2024, the Government announced a national consultation on the future of the NHS. The 10 Year Health Plan will focus on three shifts:

- From hospitals to communities
- From analogue to digital
- From sickness to prevention

The 10 Year Plan is expected to be published in June.

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## Casey Commission on Adult Social Care

In January it was announced that Baroness Louise Casey had been appointed to lead an independent commission on adult social care, which will make recommendations for how the adult social care system can be reformed. The Commission officially launched in April.

The first report – covering the key issues facing adult social care currently, and recommendations for effective reform/medium-term improvement – is due to be published end of 2026. The second report, which will make longer-term recommendations, is due to report by 2028.

A key goal of this commission is to build cross-party support for reforms which will form part of a National Care Service – one of Labour’s manifesto commitments.

The CBF, alongside a range of other organisations, have written to Baroness Casey to offer our support in ensuring that the Commission addresses the issues faced by adults with a learning disability.

## Law Commission Review of Disabled Children’s Social Care

The Law Commission are in the process of reviewing the legal framework governing disabled children’s social care. This is because currently the law around disabled children’s social care (specifically, around family-based care, rather than deprivations of liberty or secure accommodation) is complicated, with rights and responsibilities split across different pieces of legislation. The aim of this work is to make the laws around providing social care support to disabled children simpler and more modern.

The consultation period of this work closed in January 2025. The Law Commission have not stated when they will be making their final recommendations to the Government.

## Upcoming Reports and Resources

- We are expecting the Down Syndrome Act guidance to be published in the summer.
- The Health and Social Care Committee has been conducting an inquiry into ‘Adult social care reform: the cost of inaction’. The final evidence session was held in March, and we are awaiting publication of the inquiry’s report.