

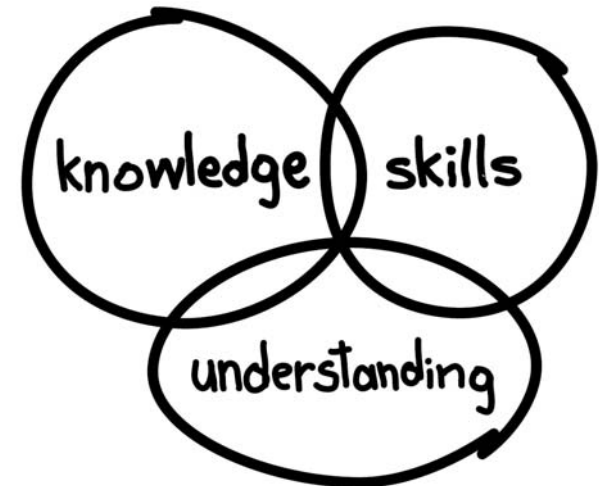


Centre for Local Economic Strategies

What do the NHS reforms mean for local communities?

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What are the key changes to the NHS?

- Clinical Commissioning
- NHS Accountability
- Public Accountability and Patient Involvement
- Choice and Competition
- Education and Training
- Responding to Local Public and Patient Concerns



Glossary

Clinical Commissioning Groups: Groups consisting of GPs, patients, carers, the public and a wide range of doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals. They will have the duty to promote integrated health and social care around the needs of the users.

HealthWatch: The aim of the HealthWatch group is to be an independent consumer 'champion' for the public – locally and nationally - and to promote better outcomes in health for all and in social care for adults

LINKs: Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) were originally set up to provide people with the opportunity to have their say in the delivery and services of health and social care. The HealthWatch organisations have been created to build upon the current work of LINKs.

Monitor: Monitor is the independent regulator of the NHS. The three key goals of the organisation are 1. Determine whether NHS trusts are ready to become NHS foundation trusts; 2. Ensure NHS foundation trusts comply with the criteria they are signed up to and 3. Support NHS foundation trusts

NHS Foundation Trusts: Non-profit public benefit organisations, created to devolve power from central governments to the local level. They have freedom therefore to decide strategies and membership, and are accountable to their local communities.

Primary Care Trusts: 'Primary care' involves services provided by a patients first port of call in the case of a health problem e.g. GPs, District Nurses and Health Visitors. Primary Care Trusts therefore are responsible for the management and planning of this area of health care within their specified geographic region.



What does this mean for our local communities?

Voluntary and community organisations

- Just under a quarter (39,340) of England's 171,000 voluntary and community organisations are currently involved in the provision of adult health and/or social care and support services.
- The statutory sector spends £3.39 billion on health services provided by voluntary and community organisations



What does this mean for our local communities?

Local needs

"The whole point of our changes, the whole reason why transparency and choice are so important, is so that patients can hold the health service to account and get the care they demand, where they want, when they want"

- What will HealthWatch do that LINKs didn't?
- Do local GPs accurately represent local needs?



What does this mean for our local communities?

The creation of a healthy workforce

- How can the NHS help stimulate local economies?
- How do the reforms fit in with the Work Programme?
- Will they contribute towards managing an aging population?



What next?

Suggestions for the Bill:

- Further consideration for the role of voluntary and community organisations.
- Demystifying the content and language used – making politics more accessible for local people.
- Greater interaction and enhanced communication with local authorities and other public bodies (e.g. Unemployment schemes).