

24 hours to Vote Labour and save the NHS

With

polls opening in 24 hours, Labour is promising to breathe life back into the NHS after years of the Conservatives starving it of funds, running down our health workers and opening the door to full-scale privatisation.

Since

Theresa May became Prime Minister in 2016, almost two million people have waited longer than four hours in A&E, almost 450,000 have waited longer than four hours on trolleys and nearly 70,000 more people on waiting lists.

The

Conservatives have no plan to support our NHS, with a manifesto that fails to provide any additional funding for the NHS.

If

the Conservatives have five more years running our NHS, private provision of healthcare in our NHS will balloon to £18.4 billion by 2021/22.

Labour

will restore the NHS to be the envy of the world by:

- Giving the NHS an extra £37 billion over the course of the next Parliament, including £10 billion of capital funding for NHS buildings and IT systems.
- Taking one million people off NHS waiting lists by the end of the Parliament, by guaranteeing access to treatment within 18 weeks.
- Guaranteeing patients can be seen in A&E within four hours.
- Creating a new £500 million Winter Pressures Fund to help ensure patients never have to experience a winter crisis like the one of recent months.
- Scrapping the public sector pay cap that has cut nurses' pay by 14% in real terms since 2010, forcing some to need food banks to get by.

Jeremy

Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party said:

“The

Conservatives have spent the last seven years running down our NHS, our proudest national institution. Our NHS cannot afford five more years of underfunding, understaffing and privatisation.

“Labour will give our NHS the resources it needs to deliver the best possible care for patients, and end the Conservatives’ attacks on our hardworking health workers, who care for us all.

“The Conservatives have already cut our NHS, our schools, our police and our social care services – and their manifesto is a plan for five more years of cuts to services according to the IFS.

“We have just 24 hours to change course and save our NHS, schools, social care and police services by electing a Labour government that will invest to transform Britain for the many, not the few.”

ENDS

**Notes
to Editors**

**The
Conservatives have not given the NHS the money it needs**

- In their 2015 manifesto the Tories said they would give the NHS £8 billion by 2020.

- *“We will...spend at least an additional £8 billion by 2020 over and above inflation to fund and support the NHS’s own action plan for the next five years.”*
Conservative Party Manifesto 2015,
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- Theresa May initially claimed that the NHS had been given an extra £10 billion, which she said was more than it asked for.

“Simon Stevens was asked to come forward with a five year plan for the NHS. He did that, so that’s been generated by the NHS itself. He said that it needed £8bn extra – the government has not just given him £8bn extra, we’ve given him £10bn extra.” Theresa May, Interview with Manchester Evening News, 17 October 2016,
<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/theresa-came-manchester-asked-three-12039565>

- However, she has been called out by Simon Stevens, Chief Executive of NHS England, who said it would be “stretching it”

to

say this.

"I think it would be stretching it to say that the NHS has got more than it has asked for." Simon Stevens, Public Accounts Committee, Oral evidence: Financial Sustainability of the NHS,

11 January 2017,

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/public-accounts-committee/the-financial-sustainability-of-the-nhs/oral/45122.html>

- The House of Commons Health Select Committee has disputed the figures, putting the increase at £4.5 billion.

"If the spending review period is considered–2015–16 to 2020–21–that increase is £4.5 billion."

House of Commons, Health Select Committee Report, Impact of the Spending Review on health and social care, 19 July 2016

https://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmhealth/139/13904.htm#_idTextAnchor008

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more years of privatisation

- Around one third of NHS contracts since the 2012 Health and Social Care Act have gone to private sector providers

(Source: Iacobucci G (2014). A third of NHS contracts awarded since health act have gone to private sector, BMA investigation shows. BMJ 2014;349:g7606)

- At current growth rates, private provision of healthcare in NHS England will increase to £18.4bn by the end of 2021/22.
Since the last full year of the previous Labour government, private provision of healthcare in NHS England has more than doubled, from £4.1bn in 2009/10 to £8.7bn in 2015/16

(Sources: House of Lords Answer to PQ 5389, 11 March 2015; DH Annual Report and Accounts, Table 10, p 40, 21 July 2016)

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more years of cuts

- The Tories spending plans increase NHS spending by an average of 1.2 per cent per year between 2015/16 and 2022/23, compared with Labour's spending plans that will increase NHS spending by an

average
of 2.3 per cent per year.

"The NHS needs an average of 1.2 per cent to just keep pace with age-adjusted population growth, the Tories plans means the NHS will get this, but nothing more."

IFS, General Election 2017: IFS manifesto analysis, 26 May 2017

- Under the Tories the UK would face the lowest period of spending increases in NHS history.

"A real increase of £8 billion over the next five years would extend what is easily the lowest period of spending increases in NHS history to 12 years"

IFS, General Election 2017: IFS manifesto analysis, 26 May 2017

- This has resulted in the IFS saying that Conservative plans for the NHS may well be undeliverable.

"Conservative plans for NHS spending look very tight indeed and may well be undeliverable."

Institute for Fiscal Studies, Press Release, 26 May 2017 – <https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/9259>

- While the influential health charity, the King's Fund says that cuts are having an impact on frontline care.

"The budget for NHS England is projected to rise by more than £8 billion in real terms between 2015/16 and 2020/21, technically meeting the manifesto commitment to fund the implementation of the NHS five year forward view. However, the budget for the Department of Health – the definition used by previous governments to measure health spending – will increase by only £4.6 billion over this period. Cuts in areas of health spending that have not been protected are having an impact on frontline care."

The King's Fund, 12 May 2017, <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/articles/government-pledge-nhs-funding>

Funding

- Funding for Labour's New Deal for NHS Patients will be met from Income Tax on the top five per cent of earners with additional funding from Corporation Tax, higher rate insurance premium tax on

private

medical insurance and Labour's National Transformation Fund of capital expenditure.

- The lifting of the public sector pay cap, will be funded from a proportion of our previously announced gradual increases in Corporation Tax.
- As part of Labour's National Transformation Fund, £10 billion across the course of the Parliament will be used for capital investment in the NHS, matching the estimated need identified by NHS Providers.
- In total this represents a cash boost of £37 billion for the English NHS across the course of the Parliament.