

Dear Prime Minister,

Through our networks and activities, the NHS Confederation represents the full range of colleagues planning and delivering health services to the population, and the signatories to this letter are also drawn from front-line health leaders.

We are hugely supportive of the work commissioned from NHS England to develop the long term workforce plan for the NHS which has been published today. We have welcomed the thoughtful engagement led by Navina Evans, Amanda Pritchard and their teams and the support offered by the Secretary of State and his officials. Our members will, we know, work hard to implement the plan and to support future more regular iterations of its findings.

Your decision to invest in this plan and the people of the NHS is an enormous step forward for our services, teams and above all patients and communities. It will support new and better services and transform the way future generations are educated, work and develop. It offers hope to an exhausted workforce and it reinforces the vital contribution that the NHS makes to the health and prosperity of the nation. We look forward to the detailed implementation and funding plans and look forward to working with the Secretary of State and NHS England to ensure that the capacity and infrastructure is in place to deliver the ambitions the government has set out.

We write, however, to stress our clear concern that an equivalent plan is not under consideration for the social care workforce in England whose contribution is equally important. We urge you on behalf of NHS leaders across the country to intervene to ensure that a similar exercise is now commissioned for this vital workforce. Our motivation in seeking your urgent intervention is because our members know that social care provision is essential to the communities we serve, and because we also know that the risks faced by our colleagues in relation to their workforce are profound. A workforce plan for social care would demonstrate the value placed on working in the sector and must, in particular, address the following factors:

- Raising the status and value of careers in all social care settings and services
- Transforming staff experience, career development and productivity
- Investment in pay and conditions to both attract people to work in the sector and reduce turnover
- Enabling better service integration between social care and health

We would be pleased to discuss this further if it would be helpful, to arrange a meeting or ask any further questions, you can get in touch via [external.affairs@nhsconfed.org](mailto:external.affairs@nhsconfed.org).

**Date**

30.06.2023

**For the attention of**

The Rt. Hon Rishi Sunak

Yours sincerely,

Lord Victor Adebowale  
Chair, NHS Confederation



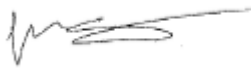
Dame Jackie Daniel  
Vice-Chair, NHS Confederation  
and Chief Executive, Newcastle  
upon Tyne NHS Foundation Trust



Prof. Joe Harrison  
Chair, NHS Employers Policy  
Board and Chief Executive, Milton  
Keynes University Hospital NHS  
Foundation Trust



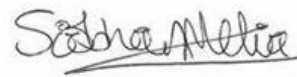
Dame Gill Morgan  
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Chair, ICS Network Board and  
ICB Chairs Network



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Cllr Tim Oliver  
Co-Chair, ICP Network and  
Chair, Surrey Heartlands ICP  
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Cllr Tim Swift  
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